



FOR RELEASE:
EMBARGOED until 5:00 p.m.
July 18, 2006

CONTACT: Olivia Silva Maiser

INAUGURAL REMARKS BY LAURA DOUD
*City Auditor Lays Plan for the Future – Remarks Made
At Swearing In Ceremony
City Council Chambers, Long Beach City Hall
July 18, 2006*

Thank you to Judge Garner. He and his family have been close friends of our family's my whole life. I am happy that his wife Shellie is also here with us tonight.

I am grateful for the privilege to take this oath to support and defend our United States Constitution and our California State Constitution. I am grateful for the freedoms we enjoy, especially one that brings us together tonight - the freedom and privilege it is to vote and choose our leaders.

Thank you for being here tonight.

Anyone who has participated in a campaign knows what a team effort it really is. This was truly a team victory, and I would like to express gratitude and appreciation to a few of the many people who helped.

My family - my husband Jim and daughter Kelly, my parents Zoe and Bob Wilson and Florence and Bill Doud. Also, many thanks to Jon Meyer, Rick and Joanne Davis, Olivia Maiser, Sara Myers, and Randy Terrell, Alan and Cheryl Fox, Ryan Alsop, Randal and Lynn Hernandez

To be able to thank everyone would take way too much time. Suffice it to say, once again, thank you to all.

I am very excited about the great team of professionals who will be working with me - who are very knowledgeable about our city and who are truly committed to public service and honest government. I welcome them and am excited to be teaming up with them: Alex Cherin, Olivia Silva Maiser and Janet Day-Anselmo.

Page two

Remarks by City Auditor Laura Doud

July 18, 2006

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the confidence and trust that you, the citizens of Long Beach have placed in me to serve as City Auditor of our great city.

My campaign platform was what I sincerely meant, what I stand for, and is what I plan to implement.

Independence - To be an independent auditor, to represent the people and to be a voice for the people of Long Beach.

Information - To provide information to taxpayers on where their tax dollars are going, and to ensure that they are being spent wisely. Further, to provide timely information to our elected leadership to assist them in making good decisions.

Although the City Auditor is tasked with identifying problems and making recommendations for improvement, we also plan to highlight the exemplary work that our city staff, departments, and commissions do on a daily basis for all of us.

Initiative - we will take the initiative to identify and capture all revenue due to the city. It is critical that all money due to the city is received, to provide funding necessary for important city services.

Innovation - we also plan to be innovative on ways we can cut costs and make Long Beach government work more efficiently and cost-effectively for everyone. We will look for ways to exceed expectations, raise the bar, and go the extra mile for Long Beach residents. We look forward to working together with Mayor Foster, the City Attorney, the City Prosecutor, the City Council, the City Manager, all the professional staff here in the City, and of course with all the citizens of Long Beach.

Integrity - and to promote integrity and honesty in government

During the campaign as I walked the neighborhoods of Long Beach, I had the opportunity to speak face to face with many of our fellow citizens. I found many who really care about our community, and who are serving faithfully in many different capacities.

The input I received was invaluable, and I look forward to enhancing the lines of communication with all citizens.

Recently, I was reading an article about our majestic California Redwood Trees, and what an awe-inspiring experience it is to walk through its forest. It reminded me of our special community of Long Beach.

Page three

Remarks by City Auditor Laura Doud

July 18, 2006

The article stated that our Redwood trees sometimes live to be over 2,000 years old, and even though the trees grow up to heights of 300 feet and can weigh more than one million pounds, amazing to me was that their root systems only go down three to six feet.

So what holds these trees up? They hold each other up. They grow close together, and their roots, instead of growing down, spread out several hundred feet. As their roots extend out, they intertwine with their neighboring trees. This intertwining of roots creates support and is actually the secret of their strength.

This reminds me of our strong community and how so many have linked together to support and strengthen Long Beach. The strength of our city is truly in the people. By continuing to serve we can grow strong together.

I love our beautiful City of Long Beach. Long Beach is my home. Long Beach is where I was born, and is where I have lived all my life. Long Beach is where I met my husband Jim, and is where Jim and I are now raising our daughter Kelly. We love our city.

Long Beach has so much going for it. Despite the challenges we face, I can't think of a better time to be serving in Long Beach. Much progress has been made and we will build on that progress and continue to move the city forward.

I am honored to have been entrusted with this important stewardship, and I am eager to serve with all my heart this great city I love.

Thank you.