

An Introduction to the San Mateo County Attorney's Office

DAVID SILBERMAN

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Outline



1. WHO WE ARE



2. WHAT WE DO



3. QUESTIONS

Who are we?



[John D. Nibbelin](#)





Who we are (cont.)?

33 Attorneys

19 non-Attorney staff members

- Legal Secretaries
- Paralegals
- Legal Office Assistants
- Administrative managers

Who are we (cont.)?

All experienced attorneys and a Michael P. Murphy Fellow

We come from:

- DA's Office
- AG's Offices (state and federal)
- Private Law Firms
- Non-profit agencies
- Former law enforcement and military

Purposes

The Office of the County Attorney provides quality and timely legal services to the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive's Office, elected County officials, all County departments, and boards and commissions. We also provide services to school districts, special districts, and other public agencies operating within the county, allowing them to carry out their responsibilities in a manner fully consistent with the law.



What do we
do?

General Counsel to:



Board of Supervisors



County Departments



Elected Officials



School Districts



Special Districts



Joint Powers Authorities



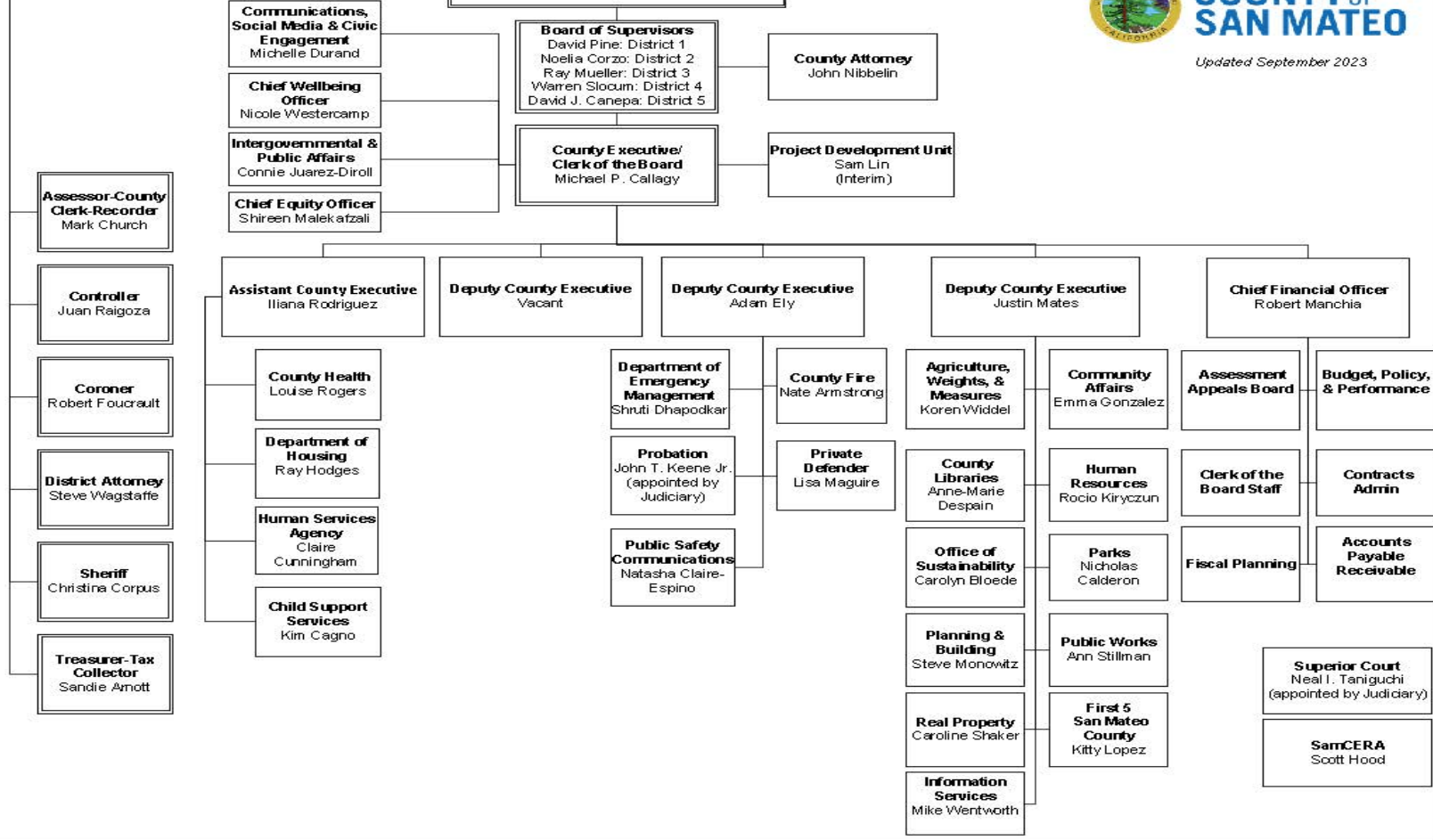
Miscellaneous other public entities



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Updated September 2023

SAN MATEO COUNTY RESIDENTS



2023 Board of Supervisors



District 1
Dave Pine
President

Represents:
Burlingame, Hillsborough, Millbrae, San Bruno (east of Interstate 280 and areas west of 280 and south of Sneath Lane), South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and south of Hickey and Hillside Boulevards).
Unincorporated Areas:
Burlingame Hills, Highlands/Baywood Park, San Francisco Airport.



District 2
Noelia Corzo

Represents:
Belmont (excluding southeast portion), Foster City, San Mateo



District 3
Ray Mueller

Represents:
Atherton, Belmont (southeast portion only), Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park (west of El Camino Real), Pacifica, Portola Valley, San Carlos, Woodside

Unincorporated Areas:
Devonshire Canyon, El Granada, Emerald Lake Hills, Harbor Industrial Park, La Honda, Ladera, Loma Mar, Los Trancos Woods/Vista Verde, Menlo Oaks, Miramar, Montara/Moss Beach, Palomar Park, Pescadero, Princeton-by-the-Sea, Rural South Coast/Skyline, San Gregorio, Sequoia Tract, Skylonda, Stanford Lands.



District 4
Warren Slocum
Vice President

Represents:
East Palo Alto, Menlo Park (east of El Camino Real), Redwood City.

Unincorporated Areas:
North Fair Oaks



District 5
David Canepa

Represents:
Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, San Bruno (north of Sneath Lane and west of Interstate 280), South San Francisco (east of Junipero Serra Boulevard and north of Hickey and Hillside Boulevards).

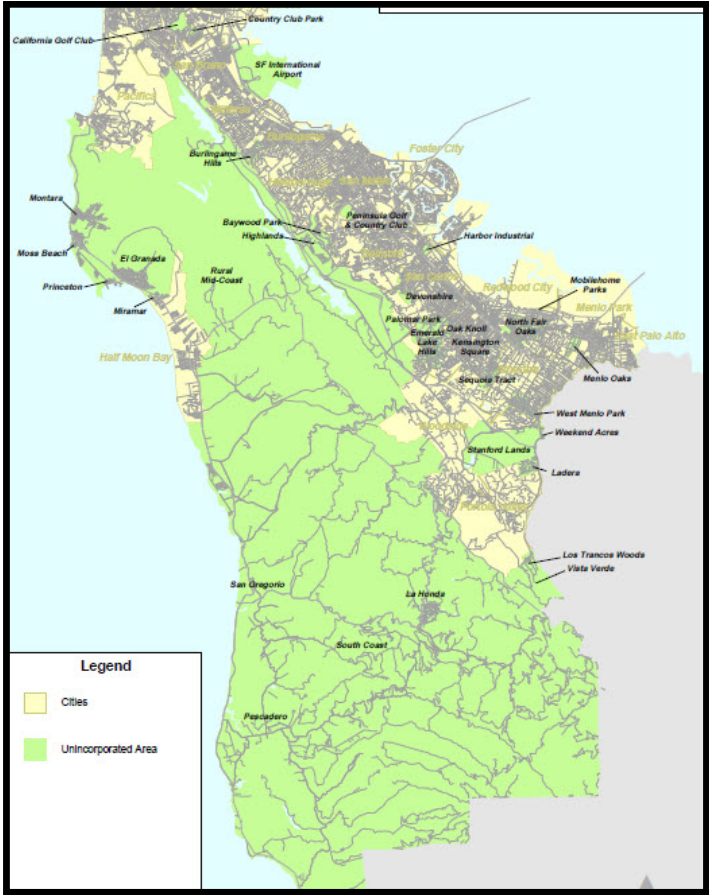
Unincorporated Areas:
Broadmoor

Cities/Towns

20 Cities/Towns in SMC

1. Atherton
2. Belmont
3. Brisbane
4. Burlingame
5. Colma
6. Daly City
7. East Palo Alto
8. Foster City
9. Half Moon Bay
10. Hillsborough
11. Menlo Park
12. Millbrae
13. Pacifica
14. Portola Valley
15. Redwood City
16. San Bruno
17. San Carlos
18. San Mateo
19. South San Francisco
20. Woodside

Unincorporated San Mateo County



County & City Functions

Cities - Municipal powers/services (public works, planning & building permits, parks, etc.)

The County “acts like a city” for residents in the unincorporated areas


The County is a “political subdivision” of the state

- Fulfills certain “state” functions (i.e., implementation of programs re social services, health services, prosecution of crimes, etc., at the local level)

The County has no authority over the cities but sometimes acts on cities’ behalf

- Limited examples: animal control, environmental health, contracts for law enforcement services, etc.

Some of Our Clients/Acronym Soup

- Probate
 - Public Administrator
 - LPS
 - Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer
 - Property Assessment (and Appeals Board)
 - Coroner
 - Grand Jury
 - LAFCO
 - SMMC
 - CPS (CFS)
 - First Five
 - HAA/CEQA/LCP/LAND USE
- 



Recent Priorities and Focus

- Economic Recovery
- Housing, including Project Homekey
- Addressing Homelessness, including ordinance to move folks to housing
- Equity
- Personnel Safety Issues
- Assessment Appeals involving hundreds of millions of dollars
- Law Enforcement Oversight
- Litigation including cases alleging past sexual abuse



 **HOUSING
IS KEY**

Recent Priorities (cont).

- Emergency Response
- Response to COVID, Wildfires and 2022-23 Flooding
- Farmworker Housing Task Force



Assistance in Forming /Advising Local Agencies

One Shoreline

High Speed Lanes

Peninsula Clean Energy

- Billion Dollars of Power (negotiations)
- Public Solar
- Expansion
- Credit rating
- 7 years later



Public Interest Work

- PCBs
- Sea Level Rise/ Climate Deception
- Opioids
- Lead Paint
- Elder Abuse
- Minimum wage ordinance
- Immigration Matters



Office Priorities

Building/sustaining office and wider County culture

Affordable housing; farm labor housing; housing element

Move to COB3

Fiscal law issues (excess ERAF/VLF shortfall)

Procurement

Commitment to DEI and Supporting County-wide DEI efforts

Hiring, engagement, retention, succession planning



Questions?