FRED M. WHITAKER

Mayor pro tem
Term: 2010-2014

Fred Whitaker was born in Glendale, California. He and his family reside in the historic district of Old Towne Orange, California. Fred first came to Orange in 1989, marrying his wife Mignon at Covenant Presbyterian Church on Orange-Olive Road. All three of their children (Jayne, Anne & Jack) were born at St. Joseph's Hospital and they have lived in their lovingly restored 1924 Craftsman home in Old Towne, since 2000. They particularly enjoy the small town atmosphere with the metropolitan amenities that Orange has to offer.

They first became active in Orange through work - Mignon, as a Legislative Assistant here in Orange to State Assemblyman and later State Senator John Lewis -representing him to community groups in the city , and Fred, as Vice President and General Counsel for SC Fuels - the largest sales tax provider in the city. Fred served as a member of the Orange Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors from 1993-1998, serving as Vice President for Governmental Relations from 1996-1998. There he advocated on behalf of Orange businesses on such controversial issues as promoting the addition of Wal-Mart to the Mall of Orange and opposing the take over of ambulance service by the Fire Department. Fred also served on the Orange Economic Development Partnership from 1993-1998, a joint venture between the City of Orange Economic Development Department and the Orange Chamber of Commerce designed to attract and retain business here in the City of Orange.

As their family grew, so did Fred's involvement in the community. From five years in the Orange YMCA Indian Princess program, to being an Assistant Cub Scout Den Leader at St. John's Lutheran Church, to three years coaching and three years being the Fundraising Chairman for Orange Little League; Fred exhibited the volunteerism that makes Orange a truly special place to live.

During this time Fred continued to be active in the Orange Chamber of Commerce, serving as Chairman of the Chamber of Orange Political Action Committee from 2005-2009. In 2005 he was asked to join the Board of the Santiago Canyon College Foundation, raising money for scholarships and programs that students could not otherwise afford. In 2006, Fred was ratified unanimously by the Council to serve on the City of Orange Planning Commission, where he served as Chairman until being elected to the Council. Fred was elected Chairman of St. John's Lutheran School as a member of the Trustees in 2007, and was re-elected in 2010. In 2008, Fred also became a member of the Board of the Community Foundation of Orange, which raises money for facilities and programs in Orange, such as Fred Kelly Field, Grijalva Gym, and the Foundation Games.

Fred was elected to the Orange City Council in 2010 as the top vote recipient out of eight candidates. He advocated an agenda of fiscal responsibility and limited government, focusing on budget issues, public safety, streamlining city departments and using creative joint use arrangements to fund more parks. He is the outgoing Vice Chairman of the Republican Party of Orange County - a position held from 1995-1998 and 2005-2010. He is owner/ partner of the mid-sized business law firm, Cummins &White, LLP where he focuses on transactional work and acts as outside general counsel for privately held companies and high net worth individuals. He has a dual degree in History and Honors in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from Loyola Law School in L. A. He was in the top 15% of his law school class and is a member of the St. Thomas More Law Honor Society. Fred received the highest preeminent rating of "AV" in peer review from the Martindale Hubbell Directory of Lawyers."