# A Comparison between 6176 and 6220 Federal Blvd., by the City of San Diego Development Services Department (DSD) Processing of Conditional Use Permits (CUP) for Marijuana Outlets (MO).

By Darryl Cotton 01/15/2020

On 7-15-19, after 5 days of trial on a sham Breach of Contract lawsuit that stemmed from the sale of my commercial real estate property, located at 6176 Federal Blvd., to **Larry Geraci (Geraci).** The matter has now been decided and settled by a jury of my peers. I lost, Geraci won and the jury awarded him \$260K in damages. But what did he really win and how did he go about achieving that win? That is what this document intends to provide the reader.

As it relates to the processing of the 6176 Conditional Use Permit (6176 CUP) process thru the City of San Diego Development Services Department (DSD), Geraci had full control of that process. I had no say or participation in the CUP processing at my own property. Which means when it became apparent to Geraci that he would not be able to purchase my property and he filed suit, that the CUP, if granted, would go to me, the property owner. With that Geraci made the conscience decision to see that the 6176 CUP be denied using any means necessary. And as you're about to see, that plan relied heavily on the active cooperation of DSD to achieve that goal.

On March 22, 2017 I received a letter from Geraci Attorney Michael Weinstein <u>Demand Letter</u> informing me that a 3 sentence document that Geraci, a CA licensed real estate agent had prepared and I both signed, <u>The 11/02/16 Document</u> was his claim that this was now a fully integrated, binding real estate contract. One that contained all the terms and conditions that would allow me to sell my property to Geraci and have him develop it into a license marijuana outlet (MO). Ion the other hand, I had believed, based on an email I had sent to later that day that Geraci was going to reduce our 11/02/16 oral agreement to writing whereby in that email I reminded him of that, to which he replied with an affirmation of; <u>'No No Problem at All'</u>. Weinstein didn't see it that way and per Geraci's instructions, filed the sham lawsuit <u>Geraci v Cotton 03/21/17</u> in an attempt to protect his clients rights and to recover claimed expenses as of March 21, 2017 of \$300K +. Where his client would have spent \$300K + prior to the filing of this lawsuit on a 'normally' processed CUP will be the focus of this paper.

When litigation began in March 2017, Geraci had to maintain the appearances that would show he was continuing to pursue the 6176 CUP in good faith. What he knew all along was that he would not get the property as I had sold it to someone else and that the only thing that could to reduce his financial exposure in a sham lawsuit was to make it look like he was pursuing the 6176 CUP in good faith while in reality looking for ways to have it denied.

What Geraci and his team of architects, lawyers, a lobbyist and his relations with City staff accomplished was to have DSD allow certain unusual things to happen that led to 6176 CUP being denied by having a competing CUP at 6220 Federal Blvd., (6220 CUP) approved. That CUP was applied for and granted to Aaron Magagna. The following information will present some of the unusual issues that are unexplainable when it comes to how the normal CUP process works with DSD and what makes the processing of 6220 entirely suspect. In fact, besides the fact that the 6176 CUP was 1.5 years ahead of the 6220 CUP application the main obstacle for the 6220 approval would have been that there are 2 licensed child care facilities located within 1000' of the 6220 property. That issue was fully described in a report I generated 6220 Federal Blvd Child Care Setbacks that shows the distances on a map generated by Title Pro as well as the audio recording transcription of the 10/18/18 public hearing where various parties discussed the project prior to its having been approved by the planning commission. 6220 should not have been a threat to 6176 for numerous reasons. This paper will cover all of them.

First I will present the timeline comparisons between the projects:

#### SECTION 1: DSD SUBMITTED CUP DOCS & MY ATTEMPTS TO TRACK AND CONFIRM FAIR PROCESSING

6176 was submitted and accepted by DSD on 10/31/16. There are 4 signed DSD forms in this link; 1 ea., DS-3032 General Application

1 ea., DS-190 Affidavit for Medical Marijuana Consumer Cooperatives Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

1 ea., DS-3242 Deposit Account/Financially Responsible Party shows being DSD processed on 10/31/16

1 ea., DS-318 Ownership Disclosure Statement.

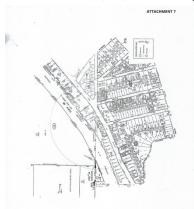
6176 Executed DSD Forms for CUP Submittal dated 10/31/16

6220 was submitted and accepted by DSD on 03/13/18 with a Notice of Application date of April 5, 2018. The following information was not available on line but found in the:

6220 - DSD Report to Hearing Officer for Planning Commission Hearing of 10/18/19

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**6220** from Page 29 of the above link. This is an interesting document. Unlike 6176 this DS-318 document is included in the HO report for 6220's approva. This DS-318 is dated **10/03/18 which is 6 months after the Notice of Application was granted.** This form had to have been submitted on the 03/13/18 acceptance date. This would indicate it was not. It also does not list Aaron Magagna's name but instead shows Property Owner John Ek and Applicant is 201 BFMO Inc. with Aaron Magagna's email address and phone number. This is also the only form that DSD provides in the Hearing Officer Report for the 10/18/18 Planning Commission Meeting or the Appeal.



# 6220 from Page 24 of the above link.

This image shows a radius map survey was conducted for the proposed project. No licensed day care facilities are identified.



# 6220 from Page 28 of the above link.

This image shows a Community Planning Group (CPG) approval by their Chair; Ken Malbrough just 5 months after submission. Of note; in the 2 years Geraci's team spent on the 6176 CUP they never set a meeting with this group to have done a presentation with this project. When I tried to confirm it would be done, Malbrough in the course of just 3 days decided, in violation of <a href="The Brown Act">The Brown Act</a>, to cease all future communications with me. Cotton-Malbrough emails from 06/11/18 through 06/13/18

Ever since the Geraci lawsuit was filed I suspected that my rights as the property owner to the CUP could be easily compromised. But after the Malbrough exchange I knew for a fact something was up. With that I reached out in a series of two emails to everyone from the mayor's office, the city attorney and DSD that I suspected the processing of the 2 CUP's was not being done fairly and impartially. I wanted as many people within the City of San Diego to know what my concerns were so I sent these emails out;

1) <u>Cotton emails; 07-25-thru-8-04-18 to City of San Diego re CUP processing</u>
2) Cotton's expanded distribution emails; 07-25-thru-7-27-18 to City of SD re CUP processing

As you can see I was pretty much ignored with a pat on the head and told to go away.

Now let's go back to the submitted DSD project documents that start the timeline for processing:

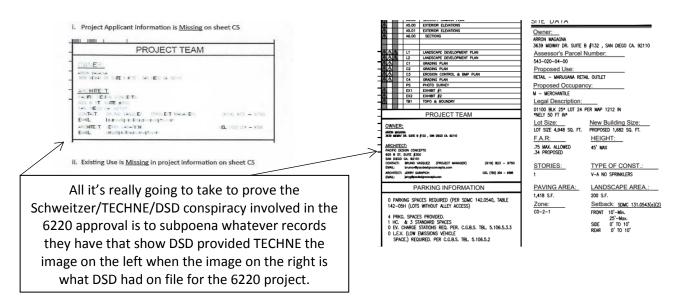
6176 FIRST FULL SET OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED DATE: 02/22/17. What can be seen by these drawings is that they were submitted by TECHNE and a group of licensed design team professionals, with experience in the MO CUP Submittal process. From the date of acceptance, 10/31/16 to the date of first full set of submittal it took nearly 4 months to develop those drawings so they could be submitted to DSD. As can be seen these drawings are stamped by Michael Morton, a licensed CA architect.

6220 FULL SET OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED DATE: - 05/08/18 The drawings begin on Page 30 of this link. Here you can see that when compared to the 6176 drawings there are no licensed architectural stamp on these drawings and the three plan submission dates are listed on the cover sheet of these drawings. A comparison of the two drawings can be seen in the next section.

#### SECTION 2: TECHNE'S INTENTIONALLY WORTHLESS APPEAL

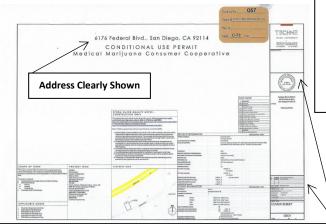
On 10/18/18 the 6220 CUP was approved during the Planning Commissions hearing.

On 12/14/18 TECHNE Appealed that decision: <u>TECHNE APPEAL of the 6220 CUP Approval</u>
On page two, Section A: DETAILED LIST OF MISSING INFORMATION of that appeal, Abhay Schweitzer (Schweitzer) of TECHNE, attempts to show in the image on the left, that the PROJECT TEAM box was indecipherable and information was missing;



As can be seen by the image on the right the PROJECT TEAM box is clearly readable and therefore not objectionable in the original 6220 CUP Hearing of 10/18/18 planning commission hearing or during the . 6220 CUP Appeal 12/06/18 in which Schweitzer was making an 'objection' to the 6220 approval with a manipulated image that DSD could easily overrule that objection by saying they have all the required information in the proper format and that is not unreadable. What a farce!

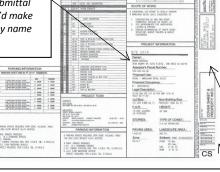
But it gets wore! What these drawings ARE missing though is a stamp from a licensed CA architect. The architectural firm is listed as <a href="Pacific Design Concepts">Pacific Design Concepts</a> (pacdesignconcepts.com) which has no website just a place holder showing the website is under construction and are based out of Las Vegas, NV. The architect is listed as Jerry Gaparic, CEL No: 702.204.9398 email: <a href="mailto:jerryg@pacdesignconcepts.com">jerryg@pacdesignconcepts.com</a> and the Project Manager (why do you need a PM listed on your drawings?) is listed as Bruno Vasquez, Cell No: 619.823.9750 email: <a href="mailto:brunov@pacdesignconcepts.com">brunov@pacdesignconcepts.com</a> (although Atty Cynthia Morgan Reed introduced Vasquez as the architect at the 10/18/18 Planning Commission hearing and she is a Land Use Specialist!) none of the Pacific Design people or the entity is listed with the <a href="mailto:CA Board of Architects">CA Board of Architects</a> as being licensed for the disciplines required by <a href="mailto:DSD IB-514 Professional Certifications Requirements">DSD IB-514 Professional Certifications Requirements</a> when submitting drawings for a proposed project.



Marengo Morton Architects: **6176** Architect of Record; Michael Rene Morton CA Architect Lic No C 19371. Morton also indicates the dates of the Completeness Review: 10/28/16 and the First Full Submittal of 02/22/17. When

compared to 6220 the Completeness Review date isn't shown at all.

Address Missing & Client's Name Misspelled. If I'm Aaron Magagna and I'm the one fully responsible and doing multiple reviews on these drawings for the CUP submittal process, don't you think I'd make sure my 'architect' has my name spelled correctly?



Pacific Design Concepts - **6220** Architect of Record; Jerry Garapich Architect of Record Stamp – Missing. Also Note Plan Revision Dates. **Based on these dates the complete and final approved drawings took less than 90 days in just 3 submittals from an unlicensed design group. Impossible!** 

# SECTION 3: DSD SCREEN SHOT COMPARISONS SHOWING CUSTOMER INFORMATION

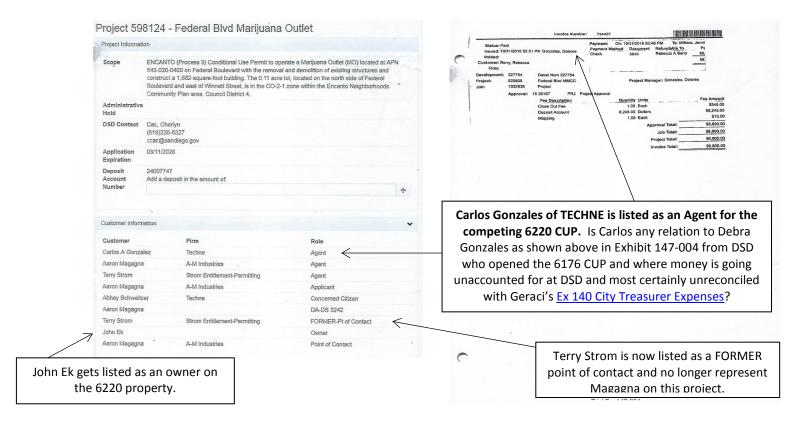
Setting aside the fact that this unlicensed CA design group with no local experience in MO CUP's did for the 6220 project in just 7 months what it took a skilled team of TECHNE professionals over two years to attempt to do and during that process TECHNE never even SET UP to SCHEDULED Community Planning Group review for the 6176 project. But all that aside, they managed to so without EVER having ANY of their information posted on the DSD website as can be seen below by a comparison of the two projects screen shots.

Cherlyn Cac was the DSD Project Manager (PM) for about a year on the 6176 CUP when it was turned over to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> PM, Hugo Castenada (if you count Delores Gonzales it was 4) when Cac went on to the competing 6220 CUP. Cac presented the DSD recommendation at the 10/18/18 planning commission that the 6220 CUP be approved over the 6176 CUP. Of course this would seem to be an obvious conflict of interest even if the two CUPS were processed fairly. They were not only processed unfairly, Cac and her boss Tirandazi (who was also a 6176 CUP PM) was instrumental in seeing 6220 approved OVER the 6176 CUP. At least, if they had been smart about it DSD would have slipped Hugo Castaneda into the 6220 PM slot instead of making him the 6176 CUP PM. Of note; no one on Team Geraci ever objected to the fact, during the entire time they knew about it, that Cac supporting the 6220 approval represented a conflict of interest with the 6176 CUP

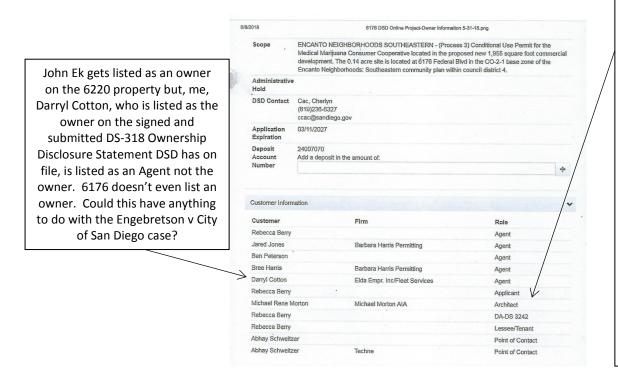
6220 DSD Screenshot as of 5/31/18

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### 6220 DSD Screenshot as of 11/07/18



#### 6176 DSD Screenshot as of 5/31/18



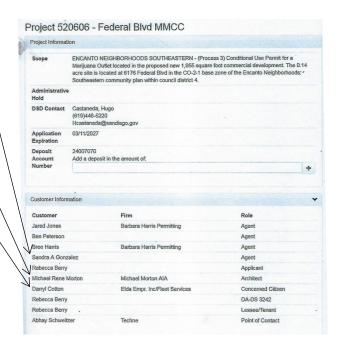
In addition to 6176 showing the architect of record as Michael Rene Morton there is Barbara Harris Permitting listed on the DSD Project Information sheet throughout the entire 2+ year project. Those names never came off. 6220 not only doesn't show their architect information, the only professional associated with the processing of the 6220 CUP is Terry Strom and he was only associated with the project for 1 month! We are expected to believe that only Magagna and possibly Ek got this project's design work done on their own in just 7 months? Their entire story falls apart right there.

Who is Sandra Gonzales and why is she being listed as an Agent on the 6176 CUP? Is she any relationship to Carlos or Deborah Gonzales? She's late to the game, What exactly was her function? To see that 6176 was denied while 6220 was approved?

In January 2019 Michael Morton and Barbara Harris Permitting are both still associated with a project that cannot get approved because a competing CUP, given to the same DSD PM that had worked so faithfully on their behalf is now supporting a competing CUP.

In this screen shot DSD has Cotton going from an Agent to a 'Concerned Citizen'. All they had to do is look at the DS-318 that both Cotton and Berry signed on 10/31/16 and they would have KNOWN he was the property owner. They go out of their way to not only not list Cotton as the Property Owner, they don't list ANYONE as the property owner.

# 6176 DSD Screenshot as of 1/19/19



One explanation for what would have been Schweitzer's lackluster performance in seeking to overturn the 6220 CUP was that one of his employees is listed as an 'AGENT' for the 6220 CUP. Considering that 6176 was a TECHNE project how is it that one of his employees could be an agent for the 6220 CUP without there being a conflict of interest? There are reports Schweitzer had an interest in the 6220 CUP. Considering those reports and one of his employee's is listed as an agent there would have absolutely been a conflict of interest which <a href="Schweitzer Trial Testimony 07-09-2019 Page 52 Line 14">Schweitzer Trial Testimony 07-09-2019 Page 52 Line 14</a> denied at trial.

The other issue that can found here is nowhere on the 6220 CUP is the architect listed. It wasn't until I saw drawings in the 10/18/18 HO report that I had any idea who was listed for the 6220 architectural work. In fact in the 5/31/18 image one can see <a href="Strom Permitting Services">Strom Permitting Services</a> being listed as Point of contact and the only experienced contracting service either Magagna or Ek would have hired.

In the 6220 screenshot from 11/07/18, Strom is listed as a Former Point of Contact. With that DSD notation to the account everything fell on Magagna, an unlicensed inexperienced party to the CUP that would not be acceptable for submitting drawings to DSD for this project. I spoke with Terry Strom in August 2019 and it was during that call he told me that he did not have a normal working relationship with Magagna and that it led to Magagna cutting ties with Strom early in the project, early April 2017 was his recollection so Magagna could manage the CUP process himself and save money. I guess you can do that when you already have help in your back pocket. And where did that engineering help come from? It came from DSD itself. For that we need to compare the civil engineering drawings that were submitted for both projects.

#### **SECTION 4: COMPARING ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES**

6176 used a total of 3 different architects. For a project this size that is inconceivable.

6176 Architect One Through 6/12/18 the architect of record was Michael Rene Morton, AIA, @ Marengo Morton Architects Architect of Record: CAAB License No C 19371 Works for: Marengo Morton Architects Ph: 858.459.3769 email: Michael@marengomortonarchitects.com As far as DSD was concerned from their website screen shots (see Section 3 screenshots) Mr. Morton was the only architect of record for the entire project. No other architect substituted in. However per Ex 147-042 TECHNE BILLING STATEMENT it shows that Mr. Morton ceased doing billable work on the 6176 project effective 06/12/18.

6176 Architect Two was; Mark T Viguiri, AIA: CAAB License No C 25509 who owns

Pacific Architecture and Planning Inc. Ph: 858.775.9691 Email: Unknown. Mr. Viguiri billed TECHNE for design work AFTER the 6176 3<sup>rd</sup> & FINAL FULL PLAN SUBMITTAL on 06/08/18

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147-042 Viguiri 06/14/18 for 3.3 hours =
                                                594.00
147-042 Viguiri 06/15/18 for 1.5 hours =
                                                270.00
147-045 Viguiri 07/12/18 for 0.5 hours =
                                                 70.00
147-046 Viguiri 07/12/18 for 1.5 hours =
                                               210.00
147-046 Viguiri 07/12/18 for 4.5 hours =
                                               630.00
147-046 Viguiri 07/13/18 for 5.3 hours =
                                                742.00
147-047 Viguiri 07/23/18 for 3 hours =
                                                420.00
147-047 Viguiri 07/24/18 for 3.5 hours =
                                                490.00
147-047 Viguiri 07/24/18 for 3 hours =
                                                420.00
147-048 Viguiri 07/25/18 for 2 hours =
                                                280.00
147-048 Viguiri 07/25/18 for 2.5 hours =
                                                350.00
147-049 Viguiri 07/30/18 for 0.5 hours =
                                                 70.00
147-050 Viguiri 08/06/18 for 3.8 hours =
                                                532.00
147-050 Viguiri 08/06/18 for 3.6 hours =
                                                504.00
147-050 Viguiri 08/07/18 for 2.1 hours =
                                                294.00
147-050 Viguiri 08/07/18 for 1.7 hours =
                                                238.00
147-051 Viguiri 08/15/18 for 2.8 hours =
                                                392.00
147-051 Viguiri 08/15/18 for 1.3 hours =
                                                182.00
147-052 Viguiri 08/17/18 for 1.7 hours =
                                                238.00
                                Total:
                                              6,926.00
```

6176 Architect Three was; Geanine Rollins, Associate AIA: (Not licensed through CAAB)

Geanine Rollins Linked In Profile Works for: GNR Drafting Services

```
147-057 Rollins 10/01/18 for 2.3 hours = 322.00

147-057 Rollins 10/02/18 for 2.1 hours = 294.00

147-057 Rollins 10/03/18 for 1.3 hours = 182.00

147-060 Rollins 10/25/18 for 0.5 hours = 70.00

147-063 Rollins 10/31/18 for 0.5 hours = 70.00

Total: 1,120.00
```

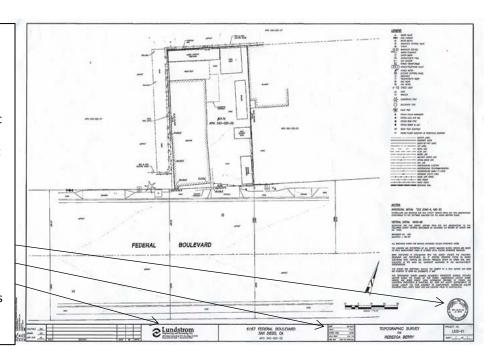
Between Viguiri and Rollins TECHNE billed \$8,046.00 for architectural services after the third and final set of drawings were submitted to DSD on 06/08/18 supposedly for architectural work done at 6176. I contend that these architectural fees were done on behalf the 6220 project and the strawman company for the project was Pacific Design who by not publicly disclosing them on the DSD website and during the DSD plan review they thought they would get away with it. That is where screen shots and paying attention to who's doing what, when and where PLUS tracking all the TECHNE billing statements offered during the trial exhibits finally helps to make sense of what happened here. It took 3 years and a sham trial to identify these issues but eventually the truth does come out.

### **SECTION 6: EXAMINING CIVIL ENGINEERING STAMPED DRAWINGS**

6176; as can be seen in the next image, the civil engineering work was, as indicated in the Title Bar at the bottom of the drawing, was performed by Lundstrom Engineering and stamped by their licensed civil engineer Darrell Begley. This is the normal, early in the plans stage, (this was included in the first full set of submitted drawings) submittal process for this information to go into DSD to be reviewed, commented on for corrections or passed as approved.

# 6176 Civil Engineering Topographic Survey

6176: Trial Exhibit 057-003 This drawing shows the civil engineering work being completed, signed by the engineer and stamped on 10/18/16 PRIOR to the very first completeness review TECHNE brought into DSD to even open the account. This is work that is required by DSD at early submittal not on the third round as was done on the 6220 project and this proves it. The title bar has Lundstrom Engineering on it not as in the case of 6220, the DSD logo. Did DSD actually pay for Magagna's civil engineering work because the architect for that CUP is not even licensed? The processing comparisons between these two projects is not even remotely fair!

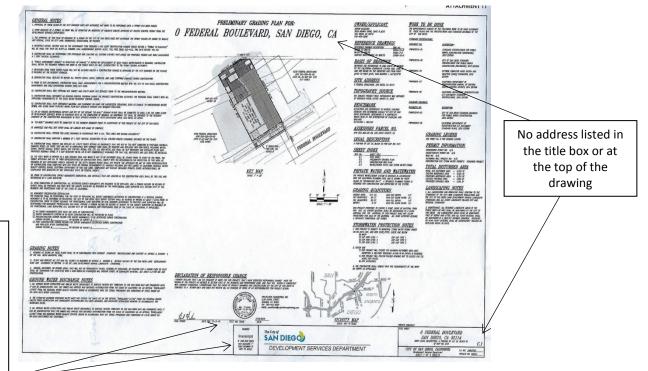


Of note; The image above was taken from the <u>6176 FULL SET OF ARCHITECURAL DRAWINGS</u>. By a review of the entire file you will see that Michael Morton, the architect of record stamped each of the architectural drawings individually in this set.

As can be seen in the following image, at 6220 the Civil Engineering work was performed by a licensed civil engineer, Paul Fisher, Cell No: 760.443.6504 email; paulfisher@projectionengineering.com who owns <u>Projection Engineering</u>. Unlike the title bar for 6176 civil engineering which shows Lundstrom Engineering this title bar shows the project engineering is being done by the City of San Diego Development Services Department not Projection Engineering. No wonder these drawings were fast tracked. They were DSD drawings that never had to go through the multi layered discipline reviews.

#### 6220 This image is taken from the FULL SET of ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS pages 34-93

### 6220 Civil Engineering Topographic Survey



City of San Diego listed in the Title Box not Projection Engineering. Stamp Date is 7/24/18 which means this work was not done until the 3<sup>rd</sup> plan submittal not the first which is what is normally required

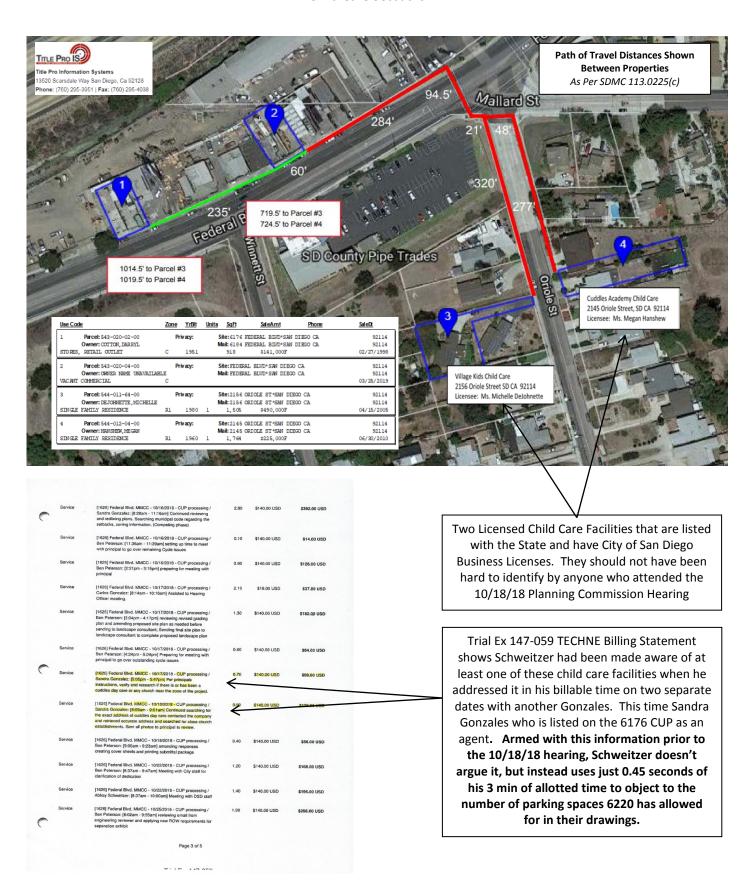
I spoke with Paul Fisher during a phone call on 01/15/2020 to see if he could shed some light on the work that he had done on this project. He told me that Aaron Magagna had hired him and not the architect Pacific Design Concepts. He also had no idea how the drawings ended up being titled with a San Diego Development Services Department identification nor why the address was not listed. For Paul to have stamped these drawings without having the stamped architectural drawings makes no sense.

As previously stated, DSD requirements for design certification by licensed professionals can be found @ DSD IB 514 Professional Certifications Requirements which when reviewing Section V the drawings must also contain a statement by the design professionals who have taken DSD training to expedite discretionary drawings processing. Pacific Design lacked that statement as well, yet they were still able to get their design work done to a final approval of the CUP within 7 months with one unlicensed architect and a project manager who goes to public presentations and pretends he's an architect, compared to what TECHNE did in 2 years with 3 different architects. Absurd!

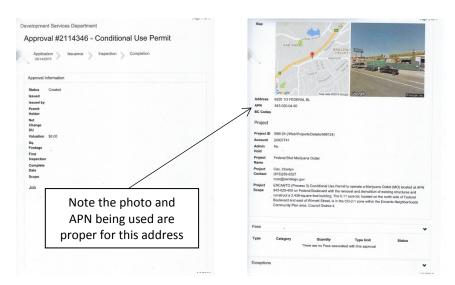
#### **SECTION 7: DSD PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SCREEN SHOTS**

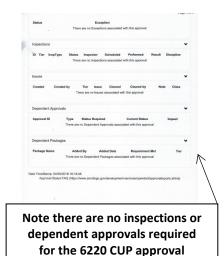
Through screen shots and other images I can show the total arrogance DSD and Team Geraci displayed in the processing and expedited approval of the 6220 CUP over the 6176 CUP.

#### Child Care Setbacks



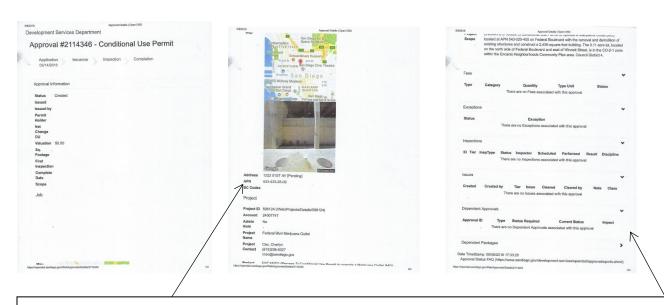
And if there are any remaining doubts about how the 6220 project was taken in and processed by DSD have a look at these DSD screen shots from 04/05/18





And if the previous project screenshots from 04/05/18 weren't enough than the screen shots from 2 month later would have you really spinning if you happened to be tracking this project like Bartell said he was at trial (Bartell Trial Testimony 07/10/19 Page 24 Line 1).

With that being said here are screenshots from 06/08/18 which shows not only was 6220 being given preferential treatment by DSD, DSD was actively trying to hide the project in plain sight by modifying essential elements such as the APN and the project image for anyone who might happen to look in and want to track it.



Note the project number remains the same but the photo being used is that of the City of San Diego Parking Garage and APN being used is no longer that of the project property. **Someone had to go in and make these changes** and if changes had to be made **why didn't the Project Status comments change?** They still show a no holds approval to be granted like one might expect from cycle reviews holds that ask for multi discipline plan corrections along the way. That did not occur. As far as DSD was concerned 6220 was going to get approved no matter what so that 6176 could not qualify for an MO CUP.

This all begs the question; what hold does Bartell and Geraci have over these people? Did the \$300K in bribes Geraci purported to spend on City Council members have anything to do with it? Does anyone need any proof of that claimed \$300K in his original complaint where Geraci seeks \$300K in compensatory damages on a CUP application that by their own accounting in <a href="Ex 137">Ex 137</a>; 6176 Full Cost Accounting of the \$260K Geraci was awarded at trial, just \$32K of that amount can be shown spent prior to the lawsuit being filed in March 2017. Where did the other \$268K + of that claimed \$300K get spent?

# SECTION 9: UNDERSTANDING WHERE AND WHEN THAT \$260K JUDGEMENT MONEY GOT SPENT?

At trial Geraci and his lawyers introduced <u>Trial Exhibit 137</u>: <u>All Vendor Expenses</u>. To get a better understanding of where and when the money that was claimed spent we divided each of the individual vendor's bills up into three categories; the totals which were charge/paid amounts prior to the March 21, 2017 litigation, next would be the charge/paid amounts for the period between the start of the litigation and the effective end of the line for the 6176 CUP which would have been the 10/18/18 approval of the 6220 CUP and finally what Geraci was charge/paid after the 10/18/18 CUP was approved.

Vendor Name	Thru 03/21/17	03/21/17 - 10/18/18	Post 10/18/18
Austin Legal	2,592.00	4,230.11	0.00
Bartell and Associates	9,011.05	58,595.25	6,136.05
City Treasurer	0.00	6,000.00	7,500.00
Lundstrom Engineering	4,400.00	0.00	0.00
McElfresh Law	0.00	0.00	1,245.0
Mituza Traffic Consulting	0.00	4,200.00	0.00
Sam Wade Landscape Architects	1,500.00	4,447.91	2,301.10
SCST	0.00	2,265.50	0.0
Snipes-Dye	0.00	12,147.50	0.0
TECHNE	14,800.00	35,876.24	35,955.53
Title Pro	0.00	300.00	0.00
Totals	32,303.05	128,062.51	53,137.72
\$260,109.28 %	12.4%	49.2%	20.49

At trial Geraci testified he had personally reviewed and approved of the expenses shown in Exhibit 137. In that testimony, Geraci Trial Transcript 07-03-2019 Page 156 Line 20 Geraci leads the jury through a line item by line item explanation of each of the expenses and what they were for. But as can be by their own records, they are showing \$268K less than what they claimed was \$300K spent when they filed their lawsuit Geraci v Cotton 03/21/17 in Para 12 and in Weinstein's Demand Letter.

Keeping in mind that Geraci is a tax and financial advisor Geraci Tax and Financial, with Geraci Trial Transcript 07-03-2019 Page 56 Line 3 claiming 40 years of accounting experience how can he be \$268K off in his expenses assessment 3 years after the lawsuit was filed? Also why is Geraci spending \$53K after the competing CUP was approved? In fact how can he justify non-construction and litigation related expenses of 20% of the awarded money AFTER 6220 was approved?

The bigger issue requires we take one last look at the numbers based on the claimed \$300K in prelitigation expenses what Geraci can account for in Exhibit 137. Geraci either lied in his complaint or for whatever reason didn't seek the \$300K plus the combined column 2 and 3 values he was due.

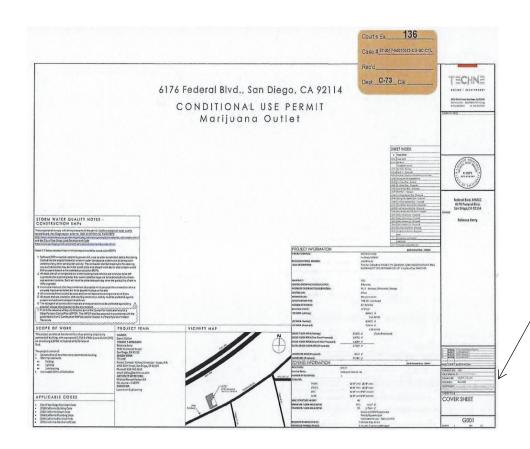
Pre-litigation Claim: \$300,000.00 This was cited as a minimum amount.

Column Two Total: \$128,062.51 Column Three Total: \$53,137.72

Total Amount: \$481,299.23 Why didn't Geraci seek this amount?

#### SECTION 10: WHAT WAS CAC SPENDING HER TIME ON FOR GERACI'S MONEY?

For this exercise we need to keep in mind what information is available to us in the preceding chart for vendor expenses that were charge/paid in the middle column. These would presumably be legitimate expenses to the 6176 CUP if indeed they were a result of work requested by DSD for plan approvals that any other CUP who happened to be competing with 6176 would also be required to have. It will also be important to note when DSD is requiring this work in relation to when in the design review process the work should have been required by DSD. That is where other issues surface for DSD and Ms. Cac. For that let's review; 6176: Trial Ex 136 3rd and Final Set of Submitted Drawings to DSD on 06/18/18



6176: 136-001 It may be a little hard to read even when blown up. Why TECHNE provided such poor image quality for this exhibit is curious but for our purposes now the last submission date is on the stamped set of drawing is shown as **06/18/19**. DSD did not take in another set of drawings that we have record of or that Schweitzer acknowledged at trial. This is it folks.

Now keep in mind TECHNE's billing statements reflect an unusual amount of design, architectural and engineering work going into the 6176 project **after the 3<sup>rd</sup>** and final plans submittal. Let's also keep in mind that this is a 2 story building on a 6K sq-ft plot, which if we're counting the completeness review of 10/31/16 to 06/18/18 we now have 20 months of architectural work being performed on this project. For a project this size, that too is absurd!

When questioned at trial Schweitzer confirms the timeline from the completeness review pf 10/28/16 through the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final plan submittal he 'thinks' was the last DSD submittal for this project. How can you not know this you fraud! You know damn well what you were doing for 6220 and your vague recollections specifically as it relates to this time line makes you look guilty as hell.

Number of Submittals: <u>Schweitzer Trial Testimony: 07-09-2019 Page 50 Lines 10-26</u>

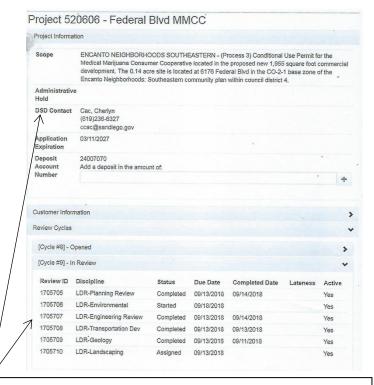
Number and identity of DSD PM's: <u>Schweitzer Trial Testimony 07-09-2019 Pages 74-76 Lines 3-8</u>

Schweitzer has a hazy memory of Cherlyn Cac and can't even begin to recall Hugo Castenada. Why not? Because by this point they were non essential in getting 6176 approved. All efforts were being applied to getting 6220 approved.

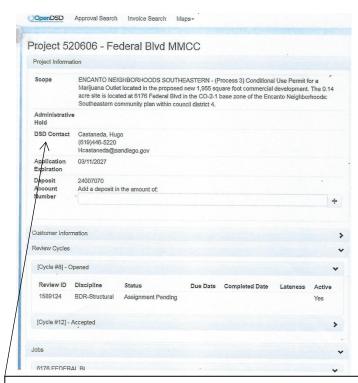
#### SECTION 8: DSD PROJECT MANAGERS AND A CHANGING OF THE GUARD. BUT WHY?

As previously pointed out; during the trial when Schweitzer was asked if he knew who the DSD PM's were for the 6176 CUP and how many he had worked with over the course of two years, other than Tirandazi he didn't seem to know. It isn't until he was specifically asked about Cherlyn Cac the PM who replaced Tirandazi on or around September 2017 and remained the PM on the 6176 CUP for approximately one year until she was replaced around September 28, 2018 with another PM; Mr. Hugo Castaneda. Besides the fact that Schweitzer can't seem to remember Cac until he's reminded of her, someone who he worked with for a year and now is working on behalf of Magagna, his 'competitor' the question becomes why was Cac was moved to the 6220 project in the first place?

If nothing else it was an obvious conflict of interest DSD/Cac had with the 6176 CUP when she went before the Planning Commission on 10/18/18 and made 'staff recommendation' that 6220 be approved. Keep in mind, they all have a working relationships with Bartell and Schweitzer as per their own sworn statements they have processed between 15 and 20 CUPS each within the City of San Diego and the ONLY one they didn't get approved was 6176! AND Cac did in 7 months for an inexperienced Magagna and his unlicensed design team what she could not do in 1 year while being PM on the 6176 project with team TECHNE leading that charge! It is ABSURD!



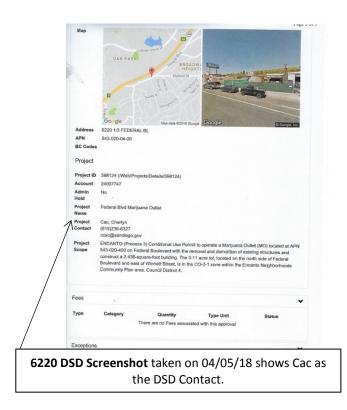
6176: This screen shot was taken on 09/18/18 shows Cherlyn Cac as the DSD Contact. Also of interest is the fact that Cac is asking for an LDR-Engineering Review (perhaps Snipes Dye's-bullshit billing) nearly 2 years into the project and 3 months after the 3 and final plan submittals!

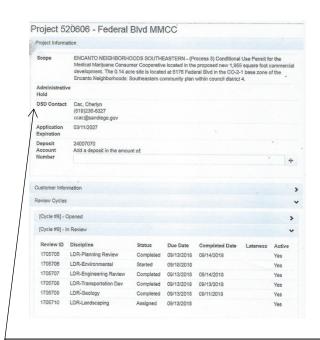


6176: **This screen shot was taken on 09/28/18** shows Hugo Castaneda, is now the 4<sup>th</sup> DSD PM and the new Point of Contact. Of course Schweitzer not only can't remember this PM he also didn't object to Cac being moved over to 6220 either.

The questions become; who was responsible for reassigning Cac and why couldn't Schweitzer remember her at trial? He knew Cac from the 6176 project and if both he and Bartell were tracking the 6220 progress on the DSD website they BOTH should have been up in ARMS when they became aware that their SEASONED DSD PM was not only no longer going to be processing the 6176 CUP to its successful conclusion she was going to be taking on a COMPETING CUP that if approved would deny the 6176 CUP they had been working on since 10/31/16! In fact prior to Cac taking on 6220 in full she is adding a \$12K Trial Exhibit 123: Snipes-Dye Report — Engineer of Record: Son P Nguyen for work that was billed between 05/24/18 and 09/07/18 on an engineering task to 6176 that should have been identified and done at the beginning of the CUP process!

All of these people are ethically challenged! All you have to do to expose them for what they've done is to follow the money and the Screenshots they left behind!

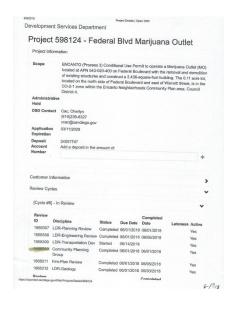




**6176 DSD Screenshot** taken on 09/18/18 shows Cac as the DSD Contact.

As previously stated, Cac had no business acting as PM on competing CUP's and then making a staff recommendation that 6220 be approved over 6176. And this can't be stressed enough. Bartell states in his Bartell Trial Transcript 07-10-2019 Page 23 Line 11 that he had been 'tracking' the 6220 CUP progress. Why was he, Geraci and Schweitzer not raising hell that the PM who had been on the 6176 CUP project was going to assist a competitor that if approved would deny their CUP? Geraci never even attended the planning commission hearings! He knew that his team would follow his directions and have 6220 approved. Everyone, including DSD played their parts perfectly. That is unless someone like me was paying attention to put it up evidence of their wrongdoing in a document like this one!

#### SECTION 9: COMPARING DSD'S 'UNUSUAL' HANDLING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP







	ation					
Scope	ENCANTO (Process 3) C 543-020-400 on Federal E a 1,692-square-fobuildi of Winnett Street, is in the Council District 4.	Boulevard with the reming. The 0.11 acre lot, it	oval and der ocated on th	notition of existing s a north side of Fede	tructures an	d construct
Administrati Hold	ve					
DSD Contac	Cac, Cherlyn (619)236-6327 ccac@sandiego.gov					
Application Expiration	03/11/2028					
Deposit Account Number	24007747 Add a deposit in the amou	unt of:				
						T
Oustomer Info	rmation					,
Review Cycles						,
	Opened					>
[Cycle #9] -						
[Cycle #9] -	- Opened					
[Cycle #12]	Opened Discipline	Status	Due Date	Completed Date	Lateness	
[Cycle #12]		Status Assignment Pending		Completed Date	Lateness	Yes
[Cycle #12]	Discipline			Completed Date	Lateness	
[Cycle #12] Review ID 1702826	Discipline LDR-Engineering Review	Assignment Pending Assignment Pending		Completed Date	Lateness	Yes
[Cycle #12] Review ID 1702826 1702827	Discipline LDR-Engineering Review LDR-Transportation Dev	Assignment Pending Assignment Pending		Completed Date	Lateness	Yes Yes
[Cycle #12] Review ID 1702826 1702827 1702828	Discipline LDR-Engineering Review LDR-Transportation Dev Community Planning Group	Assignment Pending Assignment Pending Assignment Pending		Completed Date	Lateness	Yes Yes Yes



City of San Dingo Development Services 1222 First Ave., MS-362 San Diego, CA 92101 The City of Bost Dingo				nmunity Plannin Committe ution Form Part
Project Name:		Pro	ect Number:	Distribution Date:
Federal Blvd Marijuana Outlet			598124	
Project ScoperLocations: ENCANTO (Process 3) Conditional Use Permit to Federal Boulevard with the removal and demoition. The 0.11 acre lot, located on the north side of Fed- within the Encanto Neighborhoods Community Pla	n of existing str eral Boulevard	and	es and construct east of Winnett S	a 1,682-square-foot buildin
Applicant Name: Aaron Magagna			Applicant	Phone Number:
Project Manager:	Phone Numbe	er:	Fax Number:	E-mail Address:
Cac, Cherlyn	(619) 236-63	327	(619) 321-3200	ccac@sandlego.gov
☐ Vote to Approve With Conditions Listed Below	Member	s Yes	Members No	Members Abstain
	Member	s Yes	Members No	Members Abstain
☐ Vote to Approve With Non-Binding Recommendations Listed Bele				Members Abstain
☐ Vote to Deny	Member	s Yes	Members No	Members Abstain
☐ No Action (Please specify, e.g., Need further infequorum, etc.)	ormation, Split	vote,	Lack of	Centinued
CONDITIONS:				
NAME: Kenneth Malbrough			TITLE:	CVCPG Chair Person
			DATE:	9/17/2018
SIGNATURE: Level 1/			nent Districe	
SIGNATURE: Lostella	Please retu Project Ma City of San Developme 1222 First : San Diego,	Diego nt See	vices Dopartment e, MS 302	

**6220 DSD Screenshots taken from 06/01/18 thru 11/07/18** which show **5 different Review ID numbers** over 5 months all for DSD Community Planning Group review task assignments. Since the project went from submission to approval in 7 months that is in the order of 1 new Review ID per month. When you consider that the Chair of the CPG

Malbrough Refuses Future Communications With Cotton Email of 06/13/18

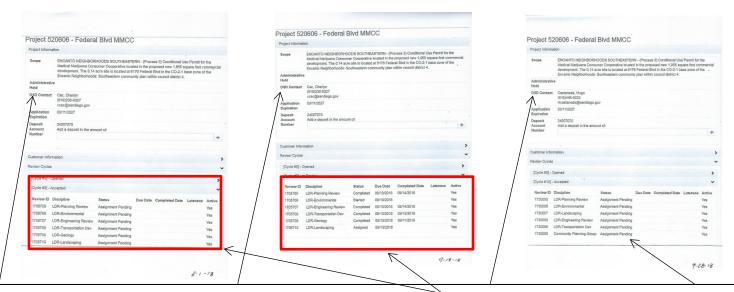
It becomes apparent that something was very wrong with the way Malbrough was being asked to take a position it this CPG play. Cac was having issues with this task and the sheer number of CPG Review ID's for 6220 would indicate something was amiss. Cas needed that CPG approval and Malbrough was not going to participate willingly unless he got something out of it because he know that when Cac told him to cease all communications with me and he did it that the potential for this to blow back on him existed. Well guess what? It blew back. For that all you have to do is compare the 6176 CPG tasks to the 6220 CPG tasks.





**6176:** Here are **2 DSD Screenshots taken from 05/31/18 thru 07/20/18.** As can be seen the CPG Review ID number remains the same. As can be seen in the next series of screenshots Cac actually removes the CPG task review from her Cycle Reviews and it is not reintroduced as a task until her replacement PM, Hugo Castenada takes over at which point he issues a new Review ID Number for the CPG task.

I started taking screenshots of the DSD website in April 2018 with my initial focus being on the 6220 CUP progress. In May 2018 I started taking screenshots of the 6176 CUP progress as well. If DSD had other review ID No's associated with CPG task review prior to the 5/31/18 screen shot I wouldn't know that. Of note; Cac was a Geraci witness who was scheduled to testify at trial however only Tirandazi testified at trial. Geraci's side never brought her in. She'll have her chance in federal court.

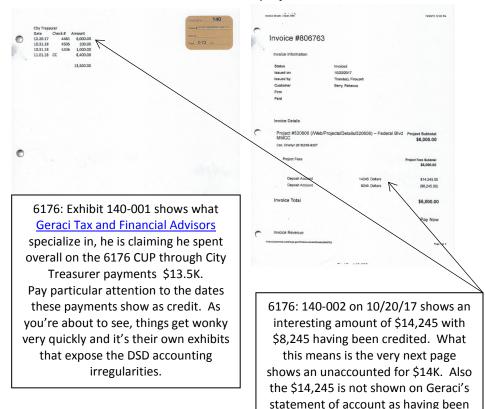


6176: Here are 3 more DSD Screenshots taken from 08/01/18 thru 09/28/18. As can be seen by the left two images, Cac, or someone at DSD, made the conscience decision to remove the CPG task from 6176 review. It wasn't until Cac dropped her name as the PM for the 6176 CUP and Castenada took over that CPG became an issue again. I surmise that since everything I was doing in terms of screenshots was being put up on my website they had to do something that would help explain CPG processing at some point in the future. Well guess what? You're going to get your wish. Expect a subpoena on all your internal DSD records for both the 6176 and 6220 CUPS.

# **SECTION 10: FOLLOW THE 6176 DSD MONEY**

For this next exercise we're going to start with a focus on Trial Exhibit 140 which is the money Geraci claim DSD had taken in on the 6176 project.

paid either.



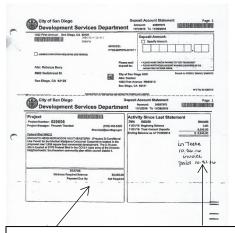


6176: 140-003 on 12/21/17 two months later DSD shows this \$6K credit which of course is where they start the accounting on the first page of this exhibit. Not only is the accounting wonky here, there is no case where DSD lets an account go unfunded for two months without shutting the project down.

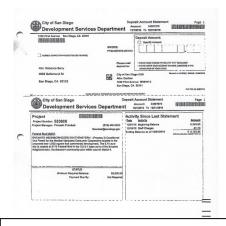
In fact if you look at how the payment is being described under the Revenue Account it's being described as a Deposit. If it were not for the contradiction values in 140-002 one could take that as a deposit to start the account which is exactly what Geraci's records represent this was in their exhibit

Bank of America 🤲		Online Banking
LST Investments LLC: Account Ac	tivity Transaction Details	
Check number:	00000004481	
Post date:	12/21/2017	
Amount:	-6,000.00	
Type:	Check	
Description:	Check	
Merchant name:	CITY OF SAN DIEGO	
Transaction category:	Cash, Checks & Misc: Other Bills	
STENSORPH LC	5 to 100°	

6176: 140-004 shows a 12/21/17 DSD post date of this check and this is the date Geraci's trial exhibit shows the first payment to DSD

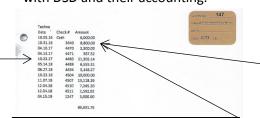


6176: 140-005
Deposit Account Statement from
11/01/16 thru 11/30/16 shows as of
November 2016 Tirandazi was the
PM, the \$5K Minimum Required
Balance is Not Required and on
10/26/16 someone from Geraci's side
wrote in that 'in Tech' paid a 10/26/16
invoice on 10/31/16.



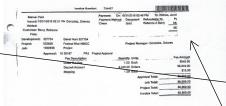
6176: 140-006
Deposit Account Statement from 12/01/16 thru 12/31/16
In this DSD statement we would expect to see any of the October/November payments Geraci had made reflected as a credit. As can be seen here nothing except an insignificant reversal of staff charges. By DSD records, no payments show having been made yet the CUP is being processed.

Now before we go on with a review of the DSD statements it's important we bring up another exhibit. This is Exhibit 147 which is the TECHNE billing statement for all line item charges and credits. There is a wealth of information in this exhibit but for now we're going to focus on what that statement has to do with DSD and their accounting.



6176: 147-001 on 10/05/16
Schweitzer/TECHNE shows a \$6K cash payment credit. On 10/31/16 he applies a \$8,800 credit into the TECHNE account for Rebecca Berry's check no 3640 which had been made out to the City Treasurer. This should have never been a TECHNE credit. Of note, if you these two amounts together you have \$14,800. Roughly the amount showing in 140-002.

From 04/13/17 thru 10/23/17 TECHNE has 6 month's work where he shows no billings on a project he is supposedly actively engaged in design work. That is not a normal billing relationship that a design professional has with their client. They are not the client's bank for these services. I find this very odd. I would also be interested in knowing how the architect of record was paid for their services. TECHNE never shows a payable to them.



6176: 147-004

DSD Invoice dated 10/31/16.

There is something funny about this invoice. If you look up at the payment information on the top line you'll see the date but an area of this invoice has been blocked out.

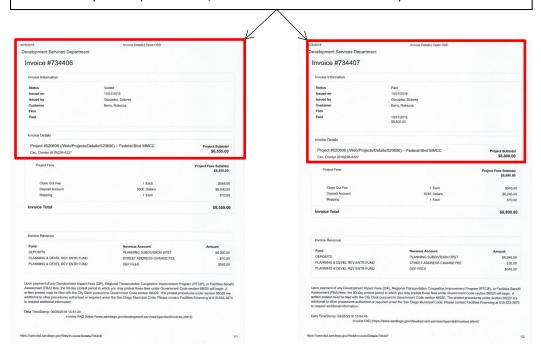
What can be seen is that the invoice was issued by Delores Gonzales for the 520606 CUP Account form Rebecca Berry's check no 3640 and there is a To: line that says Wilkins, Jenni....before it is blocked out. In addition to wanting to know more about Wilkins and what role she played in this, I want to know more about Delores Gonzales who they refer to as a PM on this invoice. If she is indeed a PM there were 4 different PM's on the 6176 project.



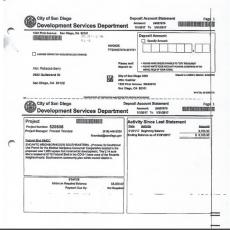
6176: 147-005
Rebecca Berry writes check number 3640 to the City Treasurer. Yet
Techne still shows this as a credit to his account and a review of 140-001 the City Treasure statement of charges doesn't show any of this.
What went on between DSD, Berry, Geraci, Bartell and Gina Austin?
You tell me. One thing is for sure.
From a strictly accounting standpoint, something is very, very wrong here.

#### The Missing DSD Invoices

What Exhibit 147 did not include shows 2 DSD invoices showing payment made, which were created by DSD Representative, Delores Gonzalez to Rebecca Berry for the 6176 CUP.



Now let's go back to where we left off in Exhibit 140

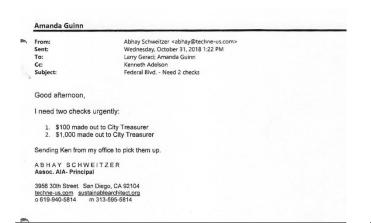


6176: 140-008 DSD Deposit Account Statement 01/01/17 thru 01/31/17

DSD still shows the an end of January balance of \$8,152.30 this is essentially a balance that remains from the 11/16 Deposit Statement and does not reflect the Berry Pmt on 10/31/16 OR what we should recall was a handwritten notation on the 140-005 statement that shows a balance of \$8,245 was paid by 'In Tech' that makes one wonder what really got paid towards this account or may have been diverted to staff or those above staff? One thing's for sure. TECHNE took that \$8,800 as a credit on their statement and as can be seen by their accounting summary, a \$6K cash payment went somewhere. The DSD division needs to be thoroughly audited because if it's happening here it may be happening at a much larger scale. But unfortunately for us with this accounting, we're still not done with Exhibit 140.....

In Exhibit 140 there is a large gap in what Geraci provided for DSD Deposit Account Statements after the previous 140-008 exhibit ending 1/31/17. There is no telling what was charged or what was paid from the records we got at trial. What we do know is that while there were no more Deposit Account Statements issued after the 1/31/17 statement that we were privy to. And that's important. How much money did DSD charge between the 1/31/17 billing cycle and what Geraci shows in 140-001 as the first payment being credited on 12/20/17. Where are the rest of the monthly Deposit Account Statements between 1/31/17 and up until the time Geraci terminated the 520606 CUP because Magagna beat him to the finish line?

Speaking of the finish line, Magagna crossed it first with his planning commission win of 10/18/18. Why would TECHNE make an urgent request in an email dated 10/31/18 to Geraci and someone by the name of Amanda Guinn with a cc to Kenneth Adelson (both unknowns) after that hearing for two checks made out to the City Treasurer?



#### 6176: 140-010

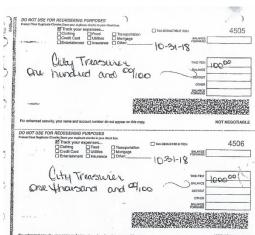
This is an **urgent email dated 10/31/18** needing not one but two checks to the City Treasurer. Since the last account activity from DSD shows January 2017 I find this odd in that it requires two payments and there has been a 10 month unaccounted for lapse in DSD charges.

11	1/1/2018	Invoice Details	Open DSD	
[	Development Se	rvices Department		
-	Invoice #8	61532		
	Invoice Informat	ion		
	Status	Paid		
	Issued on	09/26/2018		
	Issued by	Daly, Tim		
	Customer	Berry, Rebecca		
	Firm			
	Paid	11/01/2018		
		\$6,400.00		
	Invoice Details			
	Project #520 MMCC	606 (/Web/Projects/Details/520606	i) – Federal Blvd Project Subtotal \$6,400.00	
(	Castaneda, Hugo	(619)446-5220		
	Project Fees		Project Fees Subtotal \$6,400.00	
	Deposit A	ccount 20845	Dollars \$20,645.00	
	Deposit A	ccount 14245	Dollars (\$14,245.00)	
	Invoice Total		\$6,400.00	
	Invoice Revenu			
_	Fund	Revenue Account	Amount	
-	DEPOSITS	PLANNING SUBDIVISION DPST	\$6,400.00	
N	tlps://opended.sandiego.gov/\	fob/knyologs/Details/861532		1/2

6176: 140-012

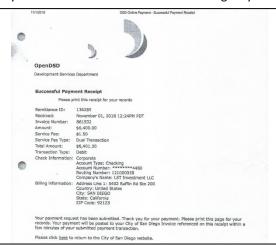
Speaking of urgent. This invoice was created on 09/26/18 and as can be seen on the next image at 140-014 was not paid until 11/01/18. One issue that immediately leaps to mind is why was there an urgent payment needed to DSD on 10/31/18 when this 09/26/18 invoice was still unpaid? If the urgent payments of \$1,125 were necessary for the appeal then we deserve to see a DSD invoice for that amount and again why was it necessary to pay it in two payments?

This invoice shows that \$20,645 has been charged to the account with \$14,245 having been paid and a balance remaining of \$6,400. Lastly the **urgency** to pay an invoice issued by <u>Tim Daly DSD Level III Supervisor</u> on 09/26/18 is not the case as can be seen by 140-014 Geraci pays this invoice on 11/01/18 over 30 days later. Why is Daly taking over billing for either Cac or Castenada and what was Daly's supervisory roles in both the 6176 and 6220 CUPs?



6176: 140-011

This shows that the urgently requested payments were made the same day on two different checks that based on the check numbers came from LST Investments. Oddly enough the checks themselves are not shown. Normally they are. Again why did 2 different payments have to be made to the same agency?



6176: 140-014

This \$6.400 payment shows being made on 11/01/16 at a fairly slow pay of 30 days from when it was invoiced. This means that based on DSD accounting per 140-012 LST/Geraci/Techne/Berry paid that \$20,645 yet it is not being represented in the compensatory charges sought at trial. Those DSD charges only show \$13.5K. So where did the extra \$7K paid end up going and why wasn't it sought at trial?

Lastly why does Geraci makes this 6176 payment after the Magagna 6220 CUP was approved at all? Geraci would presumably be upset with DSD and Cac in particular, for her role in seeing the 6176 CUP denied. What this payment goes to is a subterfuge on the part of DSD to either pay down 6220 CUP expenses or keep Daly out of the DSD financial loop if he had just inherited this project from the other Level III Supervisor, Tirandazi who at trial testified she was Cac's boss. If this was a legitimate charge why didn't Tirandazi or Castaneda create the invoice?

If you managed to get this far you have to believe, as I do, that there are issues with the way these two cups were processed that must be explored. Since the CUP goes with the property and Geraci wasn't going to get the property he had to pull out every stop to see that I not get that CUP. And since he had a contract dispute that was brought on by his own making he was forced to act like he was pursuing the CUP while in fact he had no intention of doing so.

Geraci would have had the 6176 CUP denied by a soils report from a contractor that he was paying and would have done his bidding. I resisted that without a 3<sup>rd</sup> party court appointed administrator that Geraci fought to have installed and won when the judge agreed that it was unnecessary to protect my interests. Having worked as a developer/contractor for some 20 years I knew that even when the judge granted the soils contractor permission to access my property against my will I had to be there while the work was done and hear for myself that the field findings by the geologist supported the proposed development, the report they issued would have to convey that as well

Suffice it to say that I let the contractor know in an email <u>SCST Emails</u> that if their report deviated from the field conditions and results the Geologist reported to me on the day the exploratory holes were drilled, I would sue that contractor and the Geologist for helping Geraci contribute to the theft that was a CUP I should have been entitled to. Without soils the only other avenue Geraci had was to see the competing CUP finish before Geraci's.

Lastly Geraci had hired attorney Gina Austin to help him navigate the CUP process for him. Per her testimony at trial Austin went on to quit working for Geraci when she was named as a defendant in my federal law suit Cotton v Geraci et al 02/09/18 which was put on a stay until the state court matters could be adjudicated. Based on her being named in that lawsuit, Austin had no legal reason to quit representing Geraci in the processing of the 6176 CUP. In fact it is my position that she had an even greater responsibility to Geraci in seeing that the 6176 CUP was approved.

Austin deciding to quit working for Geraci in the critical stages of the 676 CUP would be bad enough but at trial Austin admits she also has Aaron Magagna as her client as well! No wonder she couldn't help Geraci with the 6220 Appeal and had to use her co-conspirator Jessica McElfresh who did nothing, not even speak at the appeal to argue the approval of 6220 CUP. I guess with \$260K in award money and another \$300K he can't seem to account for, Geraci didn't see the need to spend any real money on a lawyer who wouldn't speak at the hearing anyway. And he didn't. At trial he shows receipt the \$1,245 he paid McElfresh; Trial Exhibit 142: Jessica McElfresh Billing to Geraci for 6220 Appeal Work

Austin certainly didn't represent Geraci on the 6220 Appeal and she certainly didn't represent Magagna at his Planning Commission Hearing. For that they had to dig into their bag of lawyers and come up with another lawyer; Cynthia Morgan Reed, see flowchart; Canna-Greed: A Flowchart

Austin claimed <u>Austin Trial Testimony 07-08-2019 Page 60 Line 11</u> that although she represents Magagna she did not assist him on the 6220 CUP processing. Considering the facts surrounding the 6220 approval that is just not plausible. It took a team effort that included DSD to get this done and during the process I've caught Austin and her cohorts in so many lies it will be a fine day when I see them all pay the price for their illegal and corrupt activities.

As of this writing I have applied for a Motion to Unstay Federal Complaint in Cotton v Geraci 12/23/19. For their own reasons two federal judges looked at this motion and recused themselves from the case, just days ago I learned that the third judge granted my motion to unstay the case and I will be proceeding to expose these activities in a competent federal court.

I hope I have laid forth enough information to see these issues, once vetted in front of a proper court and jury, a jury who has been instructed to follow the law not make it, justice will finally be served and these people will pay for what they've done.