

**From:** [Mike Karbassi](#)  
**To:** [Smittcamp, Lisa](#)  
**Cc:** [Georgeanne White](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Courtesy appearances on Fresno City Attorney Cases  
**Date:** Friday, August 1, 2025 1:06:10 PM

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District Attorney Smittcamp,

Thank you for your email. Would you mind providing me with some background information and any concerns you have with our staff that has led to this decision. It would be very helpful.

Regards,

Mike Karbassi  
Council President  
Fresno City Council  
City of Fresno  
District 2 Northwest  
[2600 N. Fresno St.](#)  
[Fresno, CA, 93721](#)  
[\(559\) 621-8000](#) Office  
[\(559\) 237-4010](#) Fax

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**From:** Smittcamp, Lisa <lsmittcamp@fresnocountyca.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 1, 2025 9:27 AM  
**To:** Andrew Janz <Andrew.Janz@fresno.gov>  
**Cc:** Mike Karbassi <Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov>; Jerry Dyer <Jerry.Dyer@fresno.gov>; Georgeanne White <Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Courtesy appearances on Fresno City Attorney Cases

**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

Mr. Janz-

Please find attached an email I just sent to my staff.

Effective Monday, August 4, 2025, Fresno County Deputy DAs will no longer be making courtesy appearances for your office.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

Lisa Smittcamp  
Fresno County District Attorney

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**From:** Smittcamp, Lisa <[lsmittcamp@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:lsmittcamp@fresnocountyca.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 1, 2025 9:22 AM  
**To:** District Attorney <[District\\_Attorney@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:District_Attorney@fresnocountyca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Courtesy appearances on Fresno City Attorney Cases

Good morning -

After careful consideration and numerous discussions with prosecutors and members of the bench, I have made the decision that the Fresno County District Attorney's Office will no longer be making courtesy appearances on cases for the City Attorneys from the Fresno City Attorney's office.

This new policy will take effect Monday, August 4, 2025.

If anyone has any questions about this policy change, you may address them directly with me.

If any members of the bench, or the Fresno City Attorney's Office inquires about the reasons for this policy, you can also refer them directly to me.

Thank you,  
Lisa

**From:** [Ashley Paulson](#)  
**To:** [Andrew Janz](#)  
**Cc:** [Jerry Dyer](#); [Georgeanne White](#); [Mike Karbassi](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Courtesy appearances on Fresno City Attorney Cases  
**Date:** Friday, August 1, 2025 11:16:54 AM

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Understood. We will continue to extend courtesy and professionalism.



**Ashley Paulson**  
*Interim Chief Assistant City Attorney*  
Fresno City Attorney's Office  
2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721  
Phone (559) 621-7500  
[Ashley.Paulson@fresno.gov](mailto:Ashley.Paulson@fresno.gov)

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**From:** Andrew Janz <[Andrew.Janz@fresno.gov](mailto:Andrew.Janz@fresno.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 1, 2025 10:47 AM  
**To:** Ashley Paulson <[Ashley.Paulson@fresno.gov](mailto:Ashley.Paulson@fresno.gov)>  
**Cc:** Jerry Dyer <[Jerry.Dyer@fresno.gov](mailto:Jerry.Dyer@fresno.gov)>; Georgeanne White <[Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov](mailto:Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov)>; Mike Karbassi <[Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov](mailto:Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Courtesy appearances on Fresno City Attorney Cases

Ashley,

Please continue to assist the DA's deputies in court when asked. Her office is short-staffed as they continue to lose attorneys to other agencies. We cannot lose sight of the fact that we are all one team when it comes to upholding the rule of law and seeking justice for victims. You have already been instructed to have our team handle our own matters.

Encourage our deputies to continue to demonstrate their professionalism in their court appearances by setting a higher standard for other prosecutors. I will not allow the courtroom to become a place for politics.

Thanks,

Andrew

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**Cc:** Mike Karbassi <[Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov](mailto:Mike.Karbassi@fresno.gov)>; Jerry Dyer <[Jerry.Dyer@fresno.gov](mailto:Jerry.Dyer@fresno.gov)>; Georgeanne White <[Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov](mailto:Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov)>  
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