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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vernon City Council members appoint Hema P. Patel as Vernon city attorney

Vernon, CA – Vernon City Council members have appointed attorney Hema P. Patel to serve as Vernon city attorney. Ms. Patel assumes her new duties today. Ms. Patel’s past legal work has focused on a broad range of complex business and commercial litigation, with particular emphasis on contractual fraud and business torts.

Ms. Patel will manage Vernon’s legal matters and provide legal advice and counsel to Vernon city council members along with the city’s Deputy City Attorneys Scott Porter and Zaynah Moussa.

Ms. Patel has represented companies and individuals during internal and government investigations, regulatory examinations, securities litigation, and other complex litigation. She previously has advised clients on regulatory compliance and information management issues. She was actively involved in managing all phases of federal and state civil litigation.

Ms. Patel has had substantial experience in appellate matters. She participated in cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the California Supreme Court and previously served as a judicial clerk for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ms. Patel previously devoted a substantial portion of her time to pro bono matters, which included representations of individuals in asylum and refugee cases, and other immigration proceedings. She was a volunteer deputy district attorney in the Orange County Trial Attorney Partnership Program. She formerly worked for Jones Day, LLP and Latham & Watkins LLP.

Ms. Patel is a board member of the South Asian Bar Association of Southern California and formerly served on the board of governors of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles.

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Vernon was founded in 1905 to create jobs in California. Vernon’s 1,800 businesses create more than 105,000 jobs in the Los Angeles area – including 55,000 jobs within the city’s 5.2-mile boundary. The Los Angeles

Exclusively Industrial

County Economic Development Corporation designated Vernon as California's 'Most Business Friendly City.' Vernon generates more than \$330 million in state income and sales taxes, \$1.1 billion in taxable spending. Vernon's businesses provide more than 4.4 billion in salaries and wages annually for workers in Los Angeles County. For more information, go to www.cityofvernon.org.