

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

PERSONNEL REGULATIONS AND REFERENCES – SECTION 130

SECTION XV - NEPOTISM

No person who is related within the first or second degree to a department head may be appointed in a paid capacity within that department. **No person who is related within the first or second degree to a manager or supervisor may be appointed** or assigned to a position which is in a direct reporting relationship or **within the supervisory line of authority to such manager or supervisor.**

Relatives within the first or second degree are spouses, parents, children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters.

In order to avoid the appearance of favoritism or impropriety, department heads are discouraged from appointing relatives within the first or second degree to volunteer assignments within that department.

Attention Citizens:

Your complaints can be made directly to the Civil Service Commission regarding the first degree relationship between Ellen Pirie, Chair Supervisor, and her appointment of her husband, Terry Hancock, to the Planning Commission, which reports and processes citizens hearings up to the Board of Supervisors. Hancock is also on a Seniors' Commission and President Elect of the Santa Cruz County Bar which are conflicting due to multiple seats, as well. Please complain to the Civil Service Commission by phoning 831.454.2948. You may also mail your complaint to Civil Service Commission, 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Also, Rachel Dann, Planning Commissioner, and Gustav Gonzalez, Chair Planning Commissioner, work as aides to Neil Coonerty and Tony Campos, County Board of Supervisors. This is inappropriate, a conflict of separation of power, an unethical practice and unlawful, in our opinion.

The County's Whistle Blower and Hot Line is 831.454.333, but the complaints go to the very department managers causing the main issues.

A higher authority to complain to would be the Bureau of State Audits, recommended by the Attorney General's office. 916.445.0255.

Complaints may be anonymous.