



The Pacific Lumber Company
P.O. Box 37 Scotia, CA 95565

October 24, 2003

To all PALCO and Britt Lumber employees and retirees:

You may have read in Thursday's paper that the committee seeking to recall Humboldt County District Attorney Paul Gallegos submitted nearly 17,000 signatures to the County Elections Office. That's virtually equal to the number of people who voted for Gallegos in the 2002 election! Precisely 11,138 valid signatures are needed to put the recall before the voters, and once the required number of signatures is certified by election officials, the recall question will be put on the ballot. I have attached a copy of the two-page press release issued by Rick Brazeau, head of the DA recall committee.

As a company, we had not participated in the recall effort until recent weeks when our employees, community members, and the recall committee sought our support. We decided to contribute time and money to the effort to give the voters of Humboldt County an opportunity to decide the question of recalling the DA for themselves. I know many of you participated in the effort as well, and for that we are appreciative.

You have also read the continual effort by the DA and his supporters to link the recall to PALCO, to the timber industry, and to the DA's ridiculous fraud suit against our Company; a suit that challenges each of us, our jobs, and the welfare of our families. The DA's questionable judgment and controversial policies have divided our community, and the best way to resolve this matter is for the voters to have a full airing of the issue and make their own decision. In that spirit, PALCO and other businesses and individuals, who are concerned about the DA's actions, contributed significant funds to ensure that the voters would have their say. To date, our support has totaled more than \$40,000 in "in-kind" support of the signature gathering effort.

In my last letter to you, I showed you that the timber industry is a large part of the total economic impact and payroll in the county. That information, which was published by the Humboldt County Economic Development group, demonstrates that lumber and wood products represent 67 percent of the total payroll in the county, and studies have shown that our industry economically contributes over \$400 million each year to the county. We are and will remain a very large part of the total economic importance to this county.

Why would it be a surprise that timber workers and timber companies would make up a large part of the recall funding? Secondly, when the new DA launches a baseless and politically-motivated lawsuit against one of the largest timber companies in the county, are we to sit back and allow that to happen? Thirdly, when a DA fails to fulfill his campaign promises, are the very citizens and opinion leaders of Humboldt County who supported him during his campaign to sit back and do nothing? Fourth, are the citizens to sit back and allow the family values of Humboldt County to be deteriorated on a weekly basis by our new DA.? If we had known this before his election, would we have voted for him? I think not. Can we not take a strong clue from the Eureka Peace Officers Association, the Humboldt Deputy Sheriff's Organization, and the Fortuna City Council who actively support the recall? Why would anyone in the county be surprised by a recall effort? The citizens of Humboldt County have declared to the nation that they want leaders who represent the people.