



## Fort Ord Reuse Authority

# MEDIA RELEASE

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### Court Rules in FORA's Favor in Conflict of Interest Case

Judge Kay T. Kingsley today ruled in favor of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) in a Political Reform Act case filed by Keep Fort Ord Wild (KFOW).

Judge Kingsley ruled that KFOW was unlikely to succeed in its lawsuit, which alleges FORA's former contractor, EMC, had an illegal conflict of interest related to the Monterey Downs Project. The Court found that, under the Political Reform Act, EMC's concurrent contract with Seaside was not likely to amount to an illegal conflict of interest. Judge Kingsley ruled in FORA's favor on every substantive legal issue. The result of this ruling is that FORA is free to move ahead with its Base Reuse Plan post reassessment policy work.

FORA counsel Jon Giffen commented, "Today, Judge Kingsley did what a judge is supposed to do. She closely analyzed the law and the parties' arguments. Ultimately, the Court disagreed with KFOW's contentions and determined that the FORA Board should be able to go about its business."

FORA Chair and Del Rey Oaks Mayor, Jerry Edelen, remarked "The FORA Board unanimously chose to hire EMC Planning because we believed EMC was superbly qualified and had no illegal conflict of interest. I am pleased that the Judge Kingsley agrees with FORA, and I am pleased that the Board can continue its post-reassessment work."