

The Press Enterprise Exposes Auditor-Controller's Wasteful Spending

The Riverside County Auditor-Controller spent County resources on beer, East Coast trips, satellite phone, and more.

Riverside County, California (May 18, 2022) – On Tuesday, May 17 The Press-Enterprise published an article by reporter Jeff Horsman exposing detailed County expenses and reimbursements for Riverside County Auditor-Controller Paul Angulo. The expenses were authorized by the Auditor-Controller personally. The expense reports were obtained through a Public Records Act request filed on behalf of Mayor Ben J. Benoit - a candidate for Riverside County Auditor-Controller in the June 7th Election. Benoit issued the following statement in light of the wasteful spending that was exposed in the expense reports:

"I feel very strongly, after only a short time of looking into our current auditor-controller, that there needs to be change in (Angulo's) office to better allow for accountability and transparency in that department. What I found in there truly disappointed and disgusted me the more I looked through it."

View the full story at the link below:

<https://www.pe.com/2022/05/17/riverside-county-auditors-spending-on-beer-east-coast-trips-satellite-phone-becomes-election-issue/>

"This story only begins to shine the light on why we encourage the public to Audit the Auditor," said Benoit. "There have been years of classes taken by the auditor that have had nothing to do with the Auditor-Controller position. The Auditor tries to explain that this is training that anyone in the county should be taking. Yet, anyone else in the county administration who takes continuing education must pay for their transportation, accommodations, food, take personal time, and it's limited to \$5,250 per year. Yet the auditor puts his education and other expenses totaling over \$105,000 between 2018 and 2021 on the taxpayer's dime, repeatedly saying online that the day belongs to the people and the nighttime is for him."

Ben J. Benoit was elected to the Wildomar City Council in 2010 and he is currently serving his fourth term as mayor. Ben was unanimously elected to serve as the representative for Riverside County on the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He is the Vice-President of Public Affairs for the California Apartment Association where he advocates for housing policies at the local and regional levels. He also serves as an auditor for the Inland Empire Taxpayers Association. Ben has been a resident of Riverside County for over 33 years. His passion for public service was inspired by his late father, former State Senator and Riverside County Supervisor John J. Benoit.

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