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CHOOSE THE FUTURE YOU WANT FOR FRESNO

Just as we are settling down from a tempestuous October election, it is time to gear up for municipal elections that will be held in March. Candidates for Mayor of the City of Fresno and for Fresno City Council Districts 2, 4, and 6 may begin filing papers to run for office from November 10th until December 5th.

Fresno Citizens for Good Government, a non-partisan organization with over 50 founding members from diverse backgrounds, has devised questions which it believes should be asked of the candidates. The questions deal with priorities, collaboration, fiscal responsibility and government efficiency, and values, competence and thoughtfulness. They are listed on the organization's website at www.fcgg.org.

Fresno Citizens for Good Government has launched a campaign during November to educate potential candidates and voters about the critical issues which will need the attention of elected officials. The campaign urges voters to **ask** the right questions, **learn** about the candidates, and **vote** for the right candidate for the job. The campaign theme is **CHOOSE FRESNO**, rather than get whatever comes by default.

The citizens' group believes there is great urgency in encouraging good people to run for office and in electing them. Currently, Fresno suffers from:

- the highest unemployment rate of any metropolitan area of our size in the country
- a correspondingly high crime rate
- the second worst air quality in the country
- a huge backlog of deferred maintenance for our road system
- fire stations badly in need of repair, and
- amenities which do not compare favorably with other metro areas of our size.

Electing candidates who will exercise community stewardship in pursuit of solutions that are in the best interests of the totality of our community is the goal. More information about the members, the purpose, and the agenda of the Fresno Citizens for Good Government can be obtained at the website at www.fcgg.org.