



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **VALLEJO ANNOUNCES HIRING OF STOUT AS FINANCE DIRECTOR**

VALLEJO – Robert Stout has been hired as Finance Director for the City of Vallejo. Formerly the Finance Director/Treasurer for the City of Modesto, Stout's first day on the job will be July 6.

He replaces Interim Finance Director Tom Sinclair, who has been working for the City since mid-November 2003. Sinclair replaced Fred Wright, who retired in October.

Currently a partner in the firm of Moreland & Associates, Inc., Stout has also served as Controller for the City of Stamford, Conn. and has a vast amount of experience in government finance. He graduated cum laude from Florida Atlantic University.

A nationally recognized lecturer on all aspects of governmental accounting and finance, Stout has taught courses at the University of Georgia and Florida Atlantic University, as well as courses for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the League of California Cities and the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO).

"We took great care in selecting Mr. Stout," said Interim City Manager Otto Giuliani. "The job ahead is a difficult one that will require someone with his level of expertise. I'm certain we've made a good choice."

Stout confirmed that his selection came after much scrutiny and a thorough interview process.

"It was a very involved process," Stout said. "I had an interview with four city managers and the Interim Finance Director, then two meetings with the Interim City Manager, then all the background information checking as well."

(More)

Stout, 59, was a son of a serviceman and, as a result, traveled and lived all over the United States. Still, his preference was to eventually move to and live in California.

“I wanted to be in California since going to Fort Ord (near Monterey) in basic and advanced infantry training,” Stout said. “I took my weekend passes to San Francisco, and I loved it. That’s what got me back here, wanting to be in the Bay Area.”

Stout likes what he has seen of Vallejo, with its waterfront setting and Mediterranean climate.

“It’s a nice town with tremendous potential for economic development,” he said. “I’m planning on moving to Vallejo, being a citizen in Vallejo. It’s a very diverse city. There’s a beautiful river, the rolling hills, the Victorian houses, and some amazing communities.”

Stout found one similarity between Modesto and Vallejo – a downtown in need of revitalization.

“The downtown is begging for something to bring it back,” Stout said. “We were successful in doing so in Modesto, and we’ll be looking to do things here, in Vallejo. I’m really excited to be back, to help a city like Vallejo and help it out of its financial situations to become the city it’s capable of becoming.”

With his arrival less than a month away, Stout has set some realistic goals for himself and his department.

“First I’d like to get in and get acclimated, meet the department heads, and get a feel for how difficult this past year has been for them and what we can do for them next year to prepare,” he said. “We didn’t solve the problems this year, we just got through them, so we’ll have to figure out what can we do next year to minimize the ongoing fiscal problems. We’ll need to seek out new revenues and streamline operations to achieve those goals and establish our priorities as a city so we can do what we want to do.”