

# Federal D. Glover

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## Press Release

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### Interns get a firsthand look at how government works

PITTSBURG, Calif. (July 8) -- The office of Supervisor Federal Glover has been hosting interns since 2006. Over the last few years, the internship has grown beyond clerical duties such as filing and answering phone calls to more direct engagement planning and even constituent services.

Under the direction of Glover's chief of staff, David Fraser, who also teaches public administration at California State University, East Bay, the interns are required to submit weekly essays about their experiences that evaluate what they have learned about the public sector or issues in which the office is involved.

"The intern program allows me to pursue one of my passions," said Supervisor Glover, "and that is getting young people to consider careers in public service."

This year, there are five interns participating in the program, which runs for six weeks during the summer. They are, UC sophomore Dana Cruz of Pittsburg; 16-year-old Nicole Cueller from Antioch; Antinette Kelley of Pittsburg; Jordan Sizelove, 17, of Pittsburg and who will be a Los Medanos College freshman; and Kevin Sunga, who lives in Antioch and will be a high school senior this fall.

During their internship, the young people get to participate in community activities such as the Relay for Life and Bay Point's Unity in Community celebration, tour local government offices and attend county meetings.

One of the highlights of their experiences is a weeklong stay at a county office which corresponds with their particular interests.

Last year, interns who worked with the County Administrator's Office helped develop records of where the federal government's stimulus funds were being spent in the county and the impact of state budget cuts on county programs.

This year, besides the CAO, departments which will be hosting the interns include county's green business program, Health Services and the Department of Information Technology.

For the interns who qualify, they receive payments from the Workforce Development's summer youth employment program, supported by federal funds.

"No matter which program sponsors them," said Fraser, "having a government internship on their resume is

impressive and helps them in their future careers.”

The inclination towards giving back to the community is a factor shared by all the interns. “I hope to provide my services – anything that could possibly be of use to this office, the county and the community,” said young Sunga, whose sister Elisa was in the program last year.

Re-joining the intern program is Dana Cruz. He is current second year undergraduate student studying political science at UC Berkeley. He interned last summer and enjoyed it so much he decided to continue his internship this summer.

“My internship with Supervisor Glover was a really insightful experience into the governmental politics that I have a passion for. It was an overall rewarding experience that I just had to come back.”

Though he anticipates to be re-introduced to many of the aspects of county government that he was exposed to last summer, Cruz nevertheless is looking forward to delving himself even deeper to get an even greater understanding of Contra Costa and once again working in the County Administrator’s office, which he believed was the best part of the internship last summer.

Cruz aspires to attend law school and ultimately work in public policy.

“ Being involved in this internship is a great opportunity for me to observe the government involvement in areas that interest such as environmental health and policy making,” said Nicole Cueller, who will be starting her senior year at Antioch High School.

Jordan Sizelove, who will be entering Los Medanos College in the fall, hopes to gains “experience, life skills, discipline, training, political viewpoint” on a host of local and national issues.

LMC student Antinette Kelly is doing a double internship. Besides working at Supervisor Glover’s Pittsburg office, she is also interning at Supervisor Susan Bonilla’s office. In both offices she is quickly learning about constituent concerns and county issues that spark her interest such as foster care programs and the health field.