



DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

July 13, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Ashley Swearengin

RE: Sanctuary City

QUESTION

We have been asked to determine whether Fresno is a "sanctuary city".

ANSWER

The term "sanctuary city" is not a legal term, but is used to describe a city or other local jurisdiction that has a resolution, ordinance, or policy to limit the assistance given to federal immigration authorities.

We have searched City records and are unable to locate any official action by Council to authorize Fresno as a sanctuary city.

San Francisco, for example, adopted an ordinance declaring the City and County of San Francisco to be a City and County of Refuge and directs that no City funds or resources be used to assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law unless required by law. The City of Fresno has adopted no such ordinance or policy.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Sloan", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney