



September 7, 2016

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Vernon City Council members appoint Keith Allen to serve as city's director of Health and Environmental Control**

**Vernon, CA** – Members of the Vernon City Council have appointed Keith Allen to serve as director of the city's Department of Health and Environmental Control. Vernon is one of only four cities in California with its own health department.

Mr. Allen will assume his new duties and responsibilities as head of the city's health department on September 19. He presently serves as environmental health operations officer for the City of Long Beach.

Mr. Allen brings more than 16-years of environmental health experience to his new job in Vernon. Prior to working for the Long Beach health department, he worked as an environmental health specialist for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

Mr. Allen earned his Master's degree in Public Administration and Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice at California State University, Long Beach. He serves as vice president of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) for Region 2. He was previously president of the Southern Chapter of the California Environmental Health Association (CEHA). Mr. Allen is the 2005 recipient of the Charles Senn Award bestowed annually by the CEHA.

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Vernon was founded in 1905 to create jobs in California. Vernon's 1,800 businesses create more than 105,000 jobs in the Los Angeles area – including 55,000 jobs within the city's 5.2-mile boundary. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation designated Vernon as California's 'Most Business Friendly City.' Vernon generates more than \$330 million in state income and sales taxes, \$1.1 billion in taxable spending. Vernon's businesses provide more than 4.4 billion in salaries and wages annually for workers in Los Angeles County. For more information, go to [www.cityofvernon.org](http://www.cityofvernon.org).