# COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

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| Department: | Board of Commissioners | Presenter(s): | Commissioner Allen McCarty |
| Meeting Date: | Thursday, December 11, 2014 | Type of Request: | New Business |

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of Commissioner McCarty's recommendation to prominently display the national motto, "In God We Trust," in the Board of Commissioners Public Meeting Room.

Background/History/Details:

Commissioner McCarty has recommended that the national motto, "In God We Trust," be prominently displayed in the Board of Commissioner's Public Meeting Room.

This recommendation is based on information received by the Commission from In God We Trust- America, Inc., a 501(c)(3), with Ms. Jacquie Sullivan as Founder and President. Ms. Sullivan has served as a City Councilmember in Bakersfield, California. In 2002, she led her city council to "Vote Yes" to display "In God We Trust" in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Shortly thereafter, eleven cities in Kern County, as well as other cities and counties throughout the United States were voting to do the same.

This effort has led to an initiative whose sole purpose is to promote patriotism by encouraging elected officials to "Vote Yes" to display In God We Trust in their city and county chambers.

"In God We Trust" was adopted as the official National Motto of the United States on July 30, 1956. On November 1, 2011, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 396-9 to reaffirm "In God We Trust" as the nation's motto.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of Commissioner McCarty's recommendation to prominently display the national motto, "In God We Trust," in the Board of Commissioners Public Meeting Room.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Has this request been considered within the past two years? | No | If so, when? | |
| Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?* | No | Backup Provided with Request? | Yes |

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Approved by Finance | Not Applicable | Reviewed by Legal | |
| Approved by Purchasing | Not Applicable | County Clerk's Approval | Yes |
| Administrator's Approval | | | |

Staff Notes:

## Floyd Jones

**From:** Tameca P. White
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 9:56 AM
**To:** Floyd Jones
**Subject:** FW: Invitation To Join Us

Let's discuss…

Sincerely,

Tameca P. White, MBA

Chief Deputy County Clerk
Fayette County Board of Commissioners
140 Stonewall Avenue West
Suite 100
Fayetteville, GA 30214
Office: 770-305-5103
Fax: 770-305-5210

www.fayettecountyga.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail!

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**From:** Allen McCarty [mailto:Allen.McCarty@fayettecountyga.gov]
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 9:55 AM
**To:** Tameca P. White
**Subject:** Re: Invitation To Join Us

Very good!

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 10, 2014, at 2:50 PM, "Tameca P. White" <twhite@fayettecountyga.gov> wrote:

> This can be added to the December 11th agenda.
> As a side note…we will need to discuss ways we plan to display the "IN GOD WE TRUST" so that we can make that part of the agenda request write up. How's that?
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Tameca P. White, MBA
>
> Chief Deputy County Clerk

Fayette County Board of Commissioners
140 Stonewall Avenue West
Suite 100
Fayetteville, GA 30214
Office: 770-305-5103
Fax: 770-305-5210

www.fayettecountyga.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail!

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**From:** Allen McCarty [mailto:Allen.McCarty@fayettecountyga.gov]
**Sent:** Friday, November 7, 2014 7:44 PM
**To:** Tameca P. White
**Subject:** Fwd: Invitation To Join Us

Can we prepare an agenda item proclaiming this!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "In God We Trust - America, Inc" <jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org>
> **Date:** November 7, 2014 at 7:26:45 PM EST
> **To:** allen.mccarty@fayettecountyga.gov
> **Subject: Invitation To Join Us**
> **Reply-To:** jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org

****Please distribute this "Letter of Invitation" to your Elected Officials and appropriate staff. Thank You.**

***IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC.***

**Our Mission**
**To Promote Patriotism**
**By Encouraging Elected Officials to "Vote Yes"**

**To Legally Display Our Congressionally Approved National Motto**
***IN GOD WE TRUST***
**In Every City, County Chamber and State Capitol**
**In America**

# *Will You Be Part of This Patriotic Campaign?*


Jacquie Sullivan

City Councilmember
Bakersfield, CA
In God We Trust ~ America
Founder/President

Office: 661.834.4943
Cell: 661.332.3492


George Washington
1st President of the U.S.

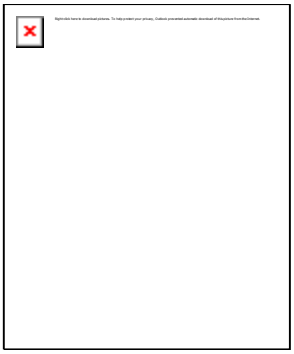
Dear Honorable Elected Officials,

This is an invitation to join the growing list of cities and counties across America that are "Voting Yes" to proudly and prominently display our national motto, IN GOD WE TRUST, in the Chamber where we conduct the people's business.

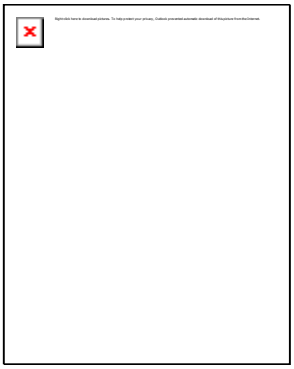
My name is Jacquie Sullivan and I am the Founder and President of IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC. I have served as a City Councilmember in Bakersfield, California, since 1995. In 2002, I led my City Council to "Vote Yes" to display IN GOD WE TRUST, our Council Chamber at City Hall. Soon after, all eleven cities in the county of Kern, as well as other cities and counties, in California and across the country, were voting to do the same.

To encourage this trend across America, we created a non-profit organization named IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC. with 501(c) (3) non-profit status. Its sole purpose is to promote patriotism by encouraging elected officials to "Vote Yes" to display IN GOD WE TRUST in their city and county chambers.

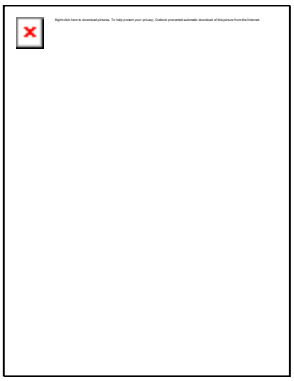
On July 30, 1956, during the Dwight D. Eisenhower administration, the U.S. Congress adopted IN GOD WE TRUST as the official National Motto of the United States of America.
Thus, displaying our Motto is a legal



Patrick Henry
1st & 6th Gov. of Virginia



John Adams
2nd President of the U.S.



right, protected by the first amendment.

UPDATE:

On November 1, 2011 the U.S. House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly, 396 - 9, to reaffirm IN GOD WE TRUST as our nation's motto. Congressman Randy Forbes, of Virginia, authored the bill, in part, because some have mistakenly stated that "E Pluribus Unum" is our national motto. Most importantly, the resolution specifically encourages the placement of the motto in all government buildings from courthouses to school classrooms.

As a grassroots patriotic movement, IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC. stands on solid legal ground. To date, not one legal challenge has been raised against any city or county that has "Voted Yes." This effort is legal and there is nothing to challenge!

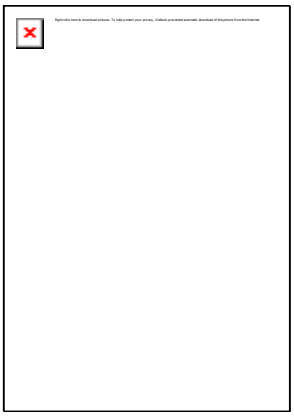
## *Will You Be Part of This Patriotic Campaign?*

This inspiring "Invitation to Join Us," letter is being emailed to elected officials, city-by-city and county-by-county, across America.

We are very pleased to announce that there are nearly 400 cities and counties across America that have already voted "Yes" and are now courageously displaying IN GOD WE TRUST, in their chambers.

We are elected officials showing a commitment to the values our country

Samuel Adams
4th Gov. of
Massachusetts



John Dickinson
5th President of Penn.

was founded upon.

**We urge you to place this issue on your meeting agenda for a positive outcome.** When you "Vote Yes," please let us know so the name of your municipality can be added to the growing list of "Yes Vote Cities and Counties Across America," that we send across the country - to encourage others. In addition and so that you can receive the recognition that you deserve, a picture of your display, along with the names and photos of your elected officials, who "Voted Yes, will be added to our website.

**Please click on the three important links to take action:**

1. A "Sample Resolution" being used by many municipalities when they "Vote Yes" to display our National Motto.

2. An updated list of the "Yes Vote" Counties and Cities Across America.

3. A Legal Opinion from Pacific Justice Institute.

Finally, we welcome you to call or contact us personally with any questions or encouragement we can provide.

**May God Bless America and may America's trust always be in God!**

Thank you in advance,

**Jacquie Sullivan**
*Founder & President*

*Will You Be Part of This Patriotic Campaign?*

***IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC.***
***P.O. BOX 11715 * Bakersfield, CA 93389***
*Website: www.ingodwetrust-america.org*
*A non-profit 501c3 educational corporation ID# 2624857*

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This email was sent to allen.mccarty@fayettecountyga.gov by jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org | Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.

IN GOD WE TRUST~AMERICA, INC. | P.O. BOX 11715 | Bakersfield | CA | 93389