

CF Board of Supervisors

Symons finds supervisor's office empty

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When new Santa Cruz County Supervisor Walt Symons moved into his office three weeks ago, he found few files left behind and learned there is no policy on what the status of such files should be.

Symons said his predecessor, Robley Levy, had left behind 17 files, about one file drawer full, with an explanatory note.

Since then, Symons said, constituents who first met with Levy on issues have found papers they submitted to her are no longer in the office.

They're generally minor issues — such as road lighting, traffic, and neighborhood issues — and Symons said he can rebuild files on those matters without major difficulty.

Levy, reached at her La Selva Beach home yesterday, said she consulted county attorneys on what she should leave behind, and left anything on unresolved issues.

"You get an awful lot of stuff" coming into the office, she said, adding that she and her staff would clear out their files annually. Levy said she threw out a few more files in her final cleanup than she would in a normal end-of-the-year cleanup.

Levy recalls that when she replaced Marilyn Liddicoat 12 years ago, "I met with her and there were a few files, but not a lot."

Levy said she would have been willing to spend some time with Symons before she left office, "but he has not called." She said she would still be willing to answer any questions he has.

Symons said he plans to propose a formal policy on what files should be left behind before he leaves office.

—Lane Wallace