

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
MARK MAZZAFERRO (707) 649-5462**

CITY MANAGER TO DONATE FOUR \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS TO VALLEJO

VALLEJO – City Manager David Martinez, who will retire on February 13, will be celebrating his birthday in a unique way. He's giving the City of Vallejo a gift of \$2,000 to fund four \$500 scholarships for graduating seniors of the Vallejo City Unified School District.

In the past the City of Vallejo has provided funding for scholarships to selected graduating seniors. In previous years the City set aside \$10,000 for scholarships, but in 2003 the City reduced the amount contributed to scholarships to \$5,000.

“As a student I learned first-hand the value and importance of scholarship money in advancing one's education,” said Martinez, who will turn 54 on February 5, 2004. “In light of the prospective budget challenges for next fiscal year and the possibility of our scholarship program being scaled back or eliminated, this will guarantee help for at least four worthy students in Fiscal Year 2004-2005.”

Martinez's offer comes against a backdrop of state budget cuts such as vehicle license fee reductions and property tax take-backs.

Since his arrival in December 1998, Martinez has saved the City of Vallejo over \$50,000 by not accepting or using contractually provided benefits such as membership fees, conference fees and related travel expenses, and relocation allowances.

“The City of Vallejo has been very good to me, and I am honored to have served as City Manager over the last five years,” Martinez said. “I have met many wonderful people during this time and I feel that Vallejo is on the right track to a bright future. I want to especially thank members of the Vallejo community, the Mayor and City Council and the staff who have cooperated and supported the many initiatives that have been brought forward over the years.”