

STATEMENT

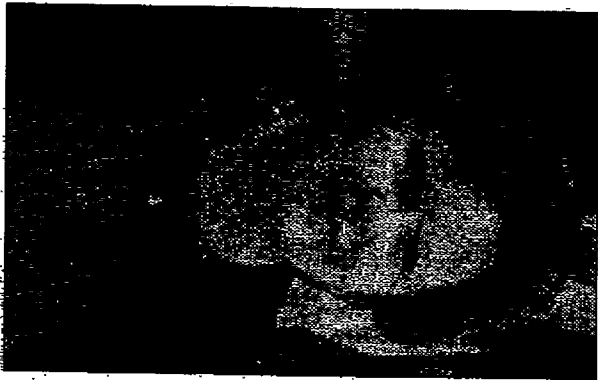
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

matory statement unless he can back it up," he said. "If there was something improper or illegal going on we need to get to the bottom of it."

Mayor Cheryl Cox said "if (McCann) has information that needs to be shared then he'll share it."

After numerous calls to McCann over the Christmas and New Year holidays, McCann returned calls to *The Star-News* Wednesday afternoon, but he said it wasn't a good time for him to discuss the matter.

"I have meetings all day," he said. "Why don't you give me a call tomorrow in the afternoon." *The Star-News* goes to press Wednesday evenings.



Mayor Cheryl Cox said if Councilman John McCann has information to substantiate his claim that city finances were altered, she will wait for his explanation.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN HANITREZ
Mayor Greg Cox and his wife Hanitrez.

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Councilman says McCann's statements deserve elaboration

MAYOR: MCCANN WILL SHARE IF HE NEEDS TO

By Tawny Maya McCray
STAFF WRITER

Chula Vista City Councilman

John McCann still hasn't publicly elaborated on comments he made to an online news outlet regarding Chula Vista's finances and allegations he made that a former city manager was "cooking the books," but at least one colleague suggested that McCann's statement needs to be

taken seriously.
"There was a lot going on at City Hall about it after he said that," Councilman Rudy Ramirez said, adding that he hasn't yet spoken to McCann since the holidays. "It's unusual for someone to say that."
McCann was quoted on Dec. 20

in an article by *notecor/sandiego* columnist Scott Lewis saying, "I don't know how I can eloquently say this but, off the record, the former city manager was cooking the books."
When Lewis told him he hadn't agreed to go off the record and that he was quoting him Mc-

Ann said he had to get to meeting and hung up the phone. Ramirez said McCann should address the comment one way or another, whether it's to retract or to substantiate it.
"He shouldn't make an infli-

SEE STATEMENT, PAGE 5