

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR FELIX SIGNORET

Term: 1866

District: Not Applicable

Date of Birth: Not Available

Date of Death: Not Available

Felix Signoret was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1866. He was a barber by trade. He served as a city councilman in 1863 and was owner and proprietor of the Signoret Building, which was located opposite the Pico House.

Signoret assembled at Stearn's Hall with other town members and formed a vigilance committee seeking the execution of a murderer named Lachenais, who was responsible for the death of the owner of the famous Bell's Row. After reviewing Lachenais' records, his death was decided at the hands of an outraged community. On the morning of Dec. 17, the vigilance committee comprised of 300 or more armed men, led by Signoret, marched to the County jail, and overcame Sheriff Burns and his assistants. They took Lachenais out of the jail, dragged him along to the corral of Tomlinson & Griffith (at the corner of Temple and New High streets) and hanged him. In January of the following year, County Judge Y. Sepulveda charged the Grand Jury to do its duty toward ferreting out the leaders of the mob. The Grand Jury expressed the conviction that if the law had been faithfully executed in Los Angeles, such scenes in broad daylight would never have taken place.

Source: Newmark, Harris, Sixty Years In Southern California, 1853-1913, 3rd Edition.