



THE SALVADORAN-AMERICAN
LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL FUND

FONDO SALVADOREÑO-AMERICANO
PARA EL LIDERAZGO Y LA EDUCACIÓN

Board of Directors

Honorable Mitch O'Farrell
200 N. Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Jessica Price, Esq.
Chair

Dear Honorable Mitch O'Farrell,

David Giron
Vice Chair
Office of Councilmember
Mitch O'Farrell

This letter is to express my concern with the events that took place on September 5, 2018 in Council Chambers. I attended on behalf of my organization, as the Interim Executive Director of SALEF. Councilmember Rodriguez was honoring my organization for our work in the Latino Community. Carlos H. Vaquerano, Board President and SALEF staff including my 10-year-old daughter accompanied me to participate in the event.

Fredy Guzman.
Secretary
MORCS

Jorge Nuñez
Treasurer
Office of State Senator
Kevin De Leon

As a representative of my organization, I have been in chambers on a numerous occasions and I have been exposed to public comments. It is concerning to witness the increasing violent and threaten speech from Armando Herman in particular. In this recent instance, Armando Herman utilized profanity, racial slurs referencing African Americans, misogynistic and homophobic language. As Herman spoke, he become progressively more threatening. I had to cover my daughter's ears in an attempt to shield her from his hateful speech. I felt threatened by his speech and was fearful that he could harm my daughter. I would also like to thank you for your comforting words.

Israel Salas
So Cal Gas Company

Olivia Calderon
*Office of Consumer Financial
Protection Bureau (CFPB)*

Jose Atilio
Hernandez
IDEATE California

In the past when we have taken youth cohorts to attend meetings in chambers, we've had to warn them about Herman and others that use hateful speech. This occurrence on the abovementioned date supersedes the limit of freedom of speech and rather creates a hostile environment that is not conducive for others to exercise their right to freedom of speech.

Carlos Antonio H. Vaquerano
Executive Director & Founder

As a mother, community member and advocate I urge you to find a remedy to the threatening and hostile environment that Herman creates with his hateful speech. I request that you please take steps to ensure that children like my daughter are afforded the same protections under the first amendment and your council rules as all others, including Armando Herman.

*Organizations listed for
identification purposes only*

Sincerely,

Jocelyn E. Duarte
Interim Exectutive Director