

March 5, 2019

Mr. Will Rodriguez-Kennedy  
Chair, San Diego Democratic Party  
Transmission by E-mail

Dear Chair Rodriguez-Kennedy,

In light of the flurry of concern involving the South Area Caucus by members of the Central Committee and the South Area Caucus, and the most recent article in the Voice of San Diego, *Charges of Fake Clubs Are Rolling the County Democratic Party*, dated 03-04-19, I am writing to call on you to conduct an independent investigation. Allegations of manipulation of votes to benefit one party gravely undermine the principles of our great Party. As a life-long Democrat and someone who has been proud to receive the Democratic Party's endorsement for 13 years, I cannot idly stand by witnessing the mockery of our endorsement and elective process.

Democrats created a process by which endorsements are fair and give every candidate an equal opportunity to participate. Similarly, the formation of Charter Clubs are encouraged to attract individuals with particular affinities and promote their civic engagement. Unfortunately, recent allegations about the formation of thirteen Clubs in the South Area to sway votes toward one candidate cannot be tolerated or ignored, much less addressed from within the Party if a fair and just review is to have credibility, particularly when some of these same members voted to support recent chairmanships and leadership positions in the Party.

As you know, I have filed to run for the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District. I cannot in good conscious participate in such a process that, by all accounts, has already been determined. Instead, my efforts will be focused on the full Central Committee until the matter is resolved. I implore you to take all actions necessary to restore faith for all candidates.

In addition, we should protect members of this Party and any Charter Club members, especially the youth, from improper influence under the guise of young political involvement. You have received letters, e-mails and witnessed first-hand during the last Central Committee meeting the tremendous amount of concern from its members.

I will be calling on members of the Central Committee and candidates in the South Bay to join me in asking for an independent investigation. In the meantime, I urge you to postpone any critical votes until this matter is thoroughly reviewed. I hope that as the new leader you put a stop to this chaos and take the steps necessary to restore the integrity of the Democratic Party.

Sincerely,

Ben Hueso

cc: Vice Chair, South Area Caucus  
All Central Committee Members  
South Bay Candidates (All known)