



October 24, 2022

Honorable City Councilmembers
City of Los Angeles
200 North Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Los Angeles City Council

Dear Honorable Councilmembers:

Racism has no place in the workplace or in the halls of power. We believe there is no place for racist comments in public or private discourse. As CEO's representing a cross section of small and large businesses alike, we condemn the hateful, insensitive, and disgraceful comments made public through leaked audio of a meeting attended by (now former) Council President Nury Martinez and Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President, Ron Herrera, and still current Councilmembers Kevin de Leon and Gil Cedillo.

We must hold our elected leaders accountable for their actions and words if we hope to rebuild the public's trust in our local government. Racist, anti-Black, anti-LGBTQ, antisemitic and anti-indigenous views have no place in our politics and must be rejected. We each join with the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and many other organizations and civic leaders in calling for the immediate resignations of Councilmembers Kevin de León and Gil Cedillo. Their statements and failure to intervene or object during the meeting contribute to the continued proliferation of racism and betray the public trust. They lost their credibility and have undermined their legitimacy to govern.

It is also clear to each one of us who are committed to an inclusive future for all, that this recent incident has undermined the trust in government and its leadership. Given all the challenges facing Los Angeles, it is only through the resignations of Councilmembers de León and Cedillo that we will be able to move forward and start to heal a divided community.

Sincerely,

Maria S. Salinas
President & CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Mark Louchheim
Chairman & CEO
Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.

Titles provided for informational purposes only.

Tim Armour, CEO, Capital Group
Scott Beiser, CEO, Houlihan Lokey
Larry Bond, Chairman, Bond Companies
Elise Buik, CEO, United Way of Greater Los Angeles
Nicole Neeman Brady, CEO, Sustainable Development Acquisition Corp.
Sean Burton, Chairman & CEO, Cityview
Jessica Hawthorne-Castro, CEO, Hawthorne Advertising
Andy Cohen, Co-CEO, Gensler
Scott Cohen, Founder, Byte
Joe Czyzyk, Chairman & CEO, Mercury Air Group
Kevin Demoff, Chief Operating Officer, Los Angeles Rams
Steve Fazio, CEO, Fazio Enterprises
Mark Goldstein, President & CEO, Entertainment Partners
Bob Graziano
Hrag Hamalian, CEO, Bright Star Schools
Tom Heymann, President & CEO, National Notary Association
Jon Hirshberg, CEO, JR286, Inc.
Phil Holthouse, Managing Partner, Holthouse, Carlin & Van Trigt
Scott Hunter, Principal and America West Regional Director, HKS Architects
Barry Levin, President & CEO, Snak King Co.
Walter Marks, III, CEO, Walter N. Marks, Inc.
Ken McBride, CEO, Stamps.com
Patrick McClenahan, President & CEO, Goodwill Southern California
Deryl McKissack, President & CEO, McKissack & McKissack
Tim Miklaucic, CEO & Founder, Cordoba Music Group
Larry Miller, CEO, Sit 'n Sleep
Dara Mir, President & CEO, 9to5 Seating
Charlie Muttillio, President, Morley Builders
Sam Naficy, CEO, Prodoscore
Dominic Ng, Chairman & CEO, East West Bank
Tim Noonan
Michael Ochoa, CEO, Transcend Health
Raul Porto, CEO, Porto's Bakery
Tom Priselac
Jon Rashap, CEO, Revolution Office
Jonathan Rosenthal, CEO, Saybrook Capital
Alan Rothenberg, Chairman, 1st Century Bank
Michele Ruiz, CEO, BiasSync

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Sandy Sigal, President & CEO, Newmark Merrill Companies
Renata Simril
Timothy Law Snyder, President, Loyola Marymount University
A.G. Spanos, President, Business Operations, Los Angeles Chargers
Levi Stockton, President, Jet Center Los Angeles
Gene Sykes
Gabe Tirador, President & CEO, Mercury Insurance
Jon Vein
Adel Villalobos, CEO, Lief Organics
Paul Viviano, President & CEO, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles
Shirley Wang, CEO, Plastpro Inc.
Denita Willoughby, CEO, The Willoughby Group
Tim Wilson, President, Ernest Packaging Solutions
Jared Wolff, CEO, Banc of California
Michelle Wroan, Office Managing Partner, KPMG LLP
Gillian Zucker, President, Business Operations, Los Angeles Clippers

