

From: [Rhonda Huesgen](#)
To: [CEO Redistricting RES](#)
Subject: Support for Cheryl Trosky to Redistricting Commission
Date: Monday, February 22, 2021 4:52:50 PM

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Redistricting Commission

I support the selection of Cheryl Trosky for the Redistricting Commission. She corrects the balance of Liberal and Conservative representatives to this Commission. This is in keeping with the Measure approved by County Voters in 2018. The commission will be doing important work for the County and they need to follow the directive of the Measure. By adding Cheryl Trosky to this Commission, it places three Republican members representing an important part of our County.

Thank you.

Rhonda Huesgen
County Resident

Rhonda Huesgen

From: [David Pawlowski](#)
To: [CEO Redistricting RES](#)
Date: Sunday, February 28, 2021 5:00:40 PM

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Why can't we have an abundance of fresh water in this county via desalinization powered by renewable energy? If climate change is not the reason our water resources are not plentiful and rain fall begins provides for all of our needs suspend production of fresh water and divert the renewable energy to other County power needs. This would save county energy costs and have water production on standby for reactivation if water needs require reactivation of desalination assistance in the future.

From: [Andy Caldwell](#)
To: [CEO Redistricting RES](#); [sbcob](#)
Subject: FW: COLAB Demand Letter: Violations by the County Redistricting Commission
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:30:51 AM
Attachments: [20210301_Demand Letter SB Final.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.



Mark P. Meuser
MMeuser@DhillionLaw.com

March 1, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Das Williams

DWilliams@countyofsb.org

Greg Hart

ghart@countyofsb.org

Bob Nelson

Bob.Nelson@countyofsb.org

Joan Hartmann

jHartmann@countyofsb.org

Steve Lavagnino

steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org

**Re: SANTA BARBARA REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE'S UNAUTHORIZED
HIRING OF ATTORNEY FREDRIC D. WOOCHEER OF STRUMWASSER
& WOOCHEER AS LEGAL COUNSEL IN VIOLATION OF ORDINANCE.**

Dear County Supervisors:

This law firm represents the Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business ("COLAB") in connection with the Santa Barbara Redistricting Committee's ("SBRC") recent unauthorized approval and hiring of attorney Fredric D. Woocher, Esq ("Attorney Woocher") as independent counsel.

As you know, in the November 2018 Statewide General Election, Santa Barbara County voters approved Measure G, which formed an 11-member independent redistricting commission¹ to establish the electoral district boundaries in Santa Barbara County for the upcoming decade. During a recent Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission that remotely took place on

¹ Cheryl Trosky, Karen Twibell, William McClintock, Megan Turley, Norman Bradley, James Chris Hudley, James H. Bray, Amanda Ochoa, Glenn Morris, Janet Rios and Benjamin Olmedo.

February 3, 2021, the SBRC approved a final contract and recommended Attorney Woocher and his law firm, Strumwasser & Woocher, be approved as independent counsel. However, the SBRC's approval and appointment of Attorney Woocher and his law firm as legal counsel violates Sections 2-10.9A(4)(d)(1-6)(C) and 2-10.9A(5)(d)(1) of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission Ordinance ("Redistricting Ordinance") as codified. As such, COLAB objects to this appointment and will not hesitate to file suit and seek an injunction if Attorney Woocher and his firm are not immediately disqualified and released from their contract with SBRC as its legal counsel.

The Redistricting Ordinance imposes direct limitations on what firms or individuals may be hired as legal counsel or other consultants. Specifically, Section 2-10.9A(5)(d) of the Redistricting Ordinance provides:

- (5)(d)(1) The commission shall not retain a consultant who would not be qualified as an applicant pursuant to subsection (4)(d).
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "consultant" means a person, whether or not compensated, retained to advise the commission or a commission member regarding any aspect of the redistricting process.

The grounds for disqualification of commissioners, and therefore also grounds for disqualification of counsel under Section 2-10.9A(4)(d), include certain restrictions. Pursuant to subsection 2-10.9A(4)(d), commissioners, their counsel, and consultants must meet the following criteria:

- 4(d)(1) Be a resident of the County of Santa Barbara
- 4(d)(2) Be a voter registered in Santa Barbara County
- 4(d)(4) Have voted in Santa Barbara County in at least one of the last three statewide elections immediately preceding his or her application to be a member of the commission.
- 4(d)(6)(C) No commissioner or immediate family member may, within the last eight years preceding appointment to the commission, ... had a significant influence on the actions or decisions of a political committee required to register with the California Secretary of State, which expended funds in excess of five hundred dollars in support or opposition to a candidate for any elective office of the County of Santa Barbara, including member communications.

Thus, the SBRC may not engage any consultant, including legal counsel, who has served on any political committee for an elected County official in the past 8 years. It should be noted that the disqualification provisions are very broad and intentionally so. They are intended to prevent not only the appointment of Commissioners or consultants who are actually partisan and biased (such as Attorney Woocher), but also those who might merely appear to be biased by reason of their past political activities or associations.

In this case, Attorney Woocher is conflicted out under the Redistricting Ordinance by virtue of his past representation of Doreen Farr who served on the County Board of Supervisors between 2009 - 2016. In 2012 and 2013, Attorney Woocher was involved in litigation for Supervisor Farr that went all the way to the United State Supreme Court, where the Petition was

denied on June 10, 2013. Attorney Woocher was active in this case and he filed a brief with the Court on May 6, 2013. May 6, 2013 is within 8 years of the February 3, 2021 appointment. This appointment of Attorney Woocher is a direct violation of Section 2-10.9A(5)(d).

Furthermore, in order for Attorney Woocher to be a consultant for the redistricting process, he would have to live in Santa Barbara, be registered to vote in Santa Barbara, and have voted in Santa Barbara in one of the last three general elections (*See* Sec. 2-10.9A(4)(d)(1-2, 4). Attorney Woocher resides in Los Angeles County, is registered to vote in Los Angeles County and he votes in that County.

It is our understanding that the Board of Supervisors intends to approve this contract at the committee meeting scheduled for March 9, 2021. If the Board of Supervisors does not notify us by March 4, 2021, that they no longer intend to approve the redistricting Commissions choice of Attorney Woocher, COLAB has authorized my firm to file an immediate injunction prohibiting this retention

Regards,

Mark P. Meuser

CC: Steve Churchwell, Esq. steve@churchwellwhite.com
(Counsel for Redistricting Commission)

Glenn Morris glenn@santamaria.com
(Santa Barbara Redistricting Commission Chair)

Michael Ghizzoni, Esq. Mghizzoni@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
(Santa Barbara County Counsel)

Mona Miyasato mmiyasato@countyofsb.org
(Santa Barbara County Executive Office)

From: [Vijaya](#)
To: [CEO Redistricting RES](#)
Cc: [Lindsey Baker](#)
Subject: LWVSB on Redistricting Process
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:55:09 PM
Attachments: [2021-03-02 LWVSB on SB Redistricting Commission Process.docx](#)

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners,
Please find attached recommendations from the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara on the Redistricting Process.

Vijaya Jammalamadaka (she, her)

President

805-462-7126

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy

328 E. Carrillo Street, Suite A
Santa Barbara, CA 93101





March 2, 2021

Santa Barbara Redistricting Commission
County Executive Office
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Via email: redistricting@countyofsb.org

SUBJECT: Redistricting Process

Dear Commissioners,

The Santa Barbara League of Women Voters (LWVSB) thanks you for your continued commitment to having an open, public process, and we want to welcome the new members of the commission. We commend your receiving training on the redistricting process, as you are today.

The League of Women Voters believes that to be fair, districts should be drawn in a transparent manner by politically independent special commissions that use unbiased criteria to help keep communities intact and to ensure that everyone is equally represented.

We remind the Commission of its duty – spelled out in recently enacted AB 1276 Elections Code § 21508(a) to encourage citizen participation -- provide accessible information and get community feedback, especially in underrepresented and non-English speaking communities.

We advise the Commission that LWVSB is prepared to help with community outreach and redistricting education, particularly to encourage citizen feedback on communities of interest.

We ask the Commission not to just comply with the law, but to follow best practices like enhanced outreach, targeted outreach, and ranking of criteria as prescribed by law. (**See attached list from League of Women Voters of California**). This will achieve fair redistricting goals by encouraging and enabling maximum citizen participation, accessibility to information, and ability to express their views.

LWVSB shares the concern about the delay in the release of data, but we encourage you to wait until all the data is available to the public before you begin to hold hearings. This was the intent of Measure G, which was backed by LWVSB.

There is plenty of work to do now – including planning not only your outreach, but your technical assistance to the public.

- The seven required hearings to allow the public to present ideas and maps for consideration prior to drawing maps. We understand it is the intent of the ordinance that these hearings come about after the Census data is released so that maps can be presented for discussion and consideration. We do not believe it is productive to hold hearings on maps based on the CA Community Survey or before the updated finalized 2020 Census data is available, this will only cause confusion to residents as the final numbers will undoubtedly be different.
- Once the information is released, how can the public access this data?
 - a. On-line mapping tool for the public. The LA City Redistricting Commission is providing this tool. We recommend Santa Barbara County provide such a service.
 - b. Technical assistance and interaction. While GIS mapping software has changed dramatically in the past 10 years, it is still not available or accessible to all. During redistricting 10 years ago, the county had a very open public process. Information and GIS expertise was available by appointment to the public free of charge to assist individuals or community groups in drawing potential maps or community of interest areas for submittal and consideration.

Since many of the underrepresented groups may have limited access to computer mapping systems, we encourage the Commission to consider early in the process and specify in the workplan as to who and how this input can be obtained. The delay in the release of the data, affords an opportunity to establish that plan now.

LWVSB appreciates the gravity of the Commission's task and will cooperate with the Commission in its public outreach and education to achieve the fairest, most representative redistricting possible.

Sincerely,



Vijaya Jammalamadaka
President, LWVSB

ATTACHMENT

Redistricting Best Practices – League of Women Voters of California

- Enhanced Outreach. Better public outreach and increasing the number of hearings will improve both transparency and the diversity of community voices involved in the process. For example:
 - A dedicated web page be created for public redistricting information.
 - An easy, online way to submit written feedback be provided.
 - Plain-language outreach materials are developed, translated in all languages commonly spoken in the community, and distributed through channels such as mailings, print media, radio public service announcements, social media, handouts sent home with school children, and community-based organizations.
 - More hearings are scheduled than required.
 - Hearings be dedicated to redistricting and not held in tandem with other time-consuming matters.
 - Hearings are held at varied times, including weekends and evenings, to help engage members of the public who can't attend hearings during traditional business hours.
 - Remote access be made available through video or phone conferencing.
 - Proceedings be videotaped and posted on a public website.
- Targeted Outreach. Encourage outreach to underrepresented communities including language-minorities, youth, people of color, and people with disabilities. For example:
 - Hearings be held in diverse neighborhoods, near public transit and good parking, at different times of the day and/or days of the week.
 - Translated materials, simultaneous language translation, and American Sign Language interpretation be provided.
 - Childcare and food be offered. ○ All hearing spaces are ADA-compliant and accessible to people with disabilities.
- Ranked criteria. Redistricting requires making choices among competing interests, which opens the door to manipulation. Applying criteria that are ranked in order of priority (like those mandated for California state, county, and city redistricting) minimizes opportunities for abuse and helps to promote a process that will result in a more representative democracy.

From: [Vijaya](#)
To: [CEO Redistricting RES](#)
Cc: [Lindsey Baker](#)
Subject: Re: LWVSB on Redistricting Process
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:21:43 PM

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners,

LWVSB has just received guidance from the League of Women Voters of CA that because of the tight time frame, Commissions are encouraged to hold community meetings before the census data is available, as well as afterwards. We caution that the Commission should not use the Census data delay as an excuse not to do outreach until the last minute. Please ensure that the maps that get approved have had sufficient time for public input. Thank you.

Vijaya Jammalamadaka (she, her)

President

805-462-7126

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy

328 E. Carrillo Street, Suite A
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



On Tue, Mar 2, 2021 at 4:53 PM Vijaya <vjinsb@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

Please find attached recommendations from the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara on the Redistricting Process.

Vijaya Jammalamadaka (she, her)

President

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Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy

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From: [Susan Moore](#)
To: vjinsb@gmail.com
Cc: [CEO Redistricting RES](#); [Lindsey Baker](#)
Subject: Re: LWVSB on Redistricting Process
Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:49:53 AM

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Excellent letter.

Susan M.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 2, 2021, at 6:21 PM, Vijaya <vjinsb@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,
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