

Katherine Douglas

General Public Comment - Group 1



**From:** elmatador@riseup.net  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Jacquelyne Alexander; Sheila de la Guerra; Chelsea Lenzi; Lia Graham; Katherine Douglas  
**Subject:** Please distribute to supervisors, post online, and enter into formal record. Photograph attached. Thank you.  
**Attachments:** Palestinian children, December 2, 2023.webp

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.

Letter to Public Officials Regarding Salud Carbajal and Ceasefires

To: Das Williams, Laura Capps, Joan Hartmann, Bob Nelson, Steve Lavagnino, Mona Miyasato, Bill Brown, John Savrnock, Randy Rowse, Alejandra Gutierrez, Mike Jordan, Oscar Gutierrez, Kristen Sneddon, Eric Friedman, Meagan Harmon, Rebecca Bjork, Kelly Gordon, Sarah Knecht, Paula Perotte, Kyle Richards, Stuart Kasdin, James Kyriaco, Luz Reyes-Martín, Robert Nisbet, Rich Brittingham, Megan Garibaldi, Marcos Aguilar, Carrie Topliffe, Spencer Brandt, Olivia Craig, Kirsten Deshler, Jay Freeman, Ela Schulz, Jonathan Abboud, Sydney Castaneda, Monique Limón, Gregg Hart, Steve Bennett  
Cc: Salud Carbajal, local/state/national journalists, and several hundred community members

15,000 innocent Palestinians have been killed since October of this year, 6000 of them children. 30,000 Palestinians have been injured or maimed. 10,000 innocent civilians have been killed in Ukraine since February of last year. 500,000 Ukrainian and Russian soldiers have been killed or wounded during that time. Jews, Syrians, Lebanese, and Russians have also been killed or harmed. Here at home, our neighbors continue to fall into homelessness and hunger while foodbanks cannot keep pace with the growing demand for food.

Integral to these tragedies is Congressman Salud Carbajal, whom has accepted many thousands of dollars in illicit campaign contributions from scores of weapons manufacturers. From the coffers to the coffins, the congressman from Santa Barbara is the "inside man" for the military-industrial-financial complex. He shamelessly refuses to call for ceasefires in Palestine and Ukraine despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of county residents do not support these "endless"

wars, of which Carbajal is a main architect. Your silence on these matters is also deafening. How many more people must die before you and the congressman will speak out in favor of peace?

I call upon each of you to:

1. Call for immediate ceasefires in Palestine and Ukraine;
2. Call for an end to the genocides taking place in Palestine and Donbass;
3. Call for an end to the decades-long illegal occupation of Palestine by Israel;
4. Denounce Salud Carbajal for supporting and funding genocides, war crimes, and crimes against humanity and children;
5. Denounce Salud Carbajal for supporting and funding the use of white phosphorus on Palestinians and depleted uranium on Ukrainians, Russians, and the people of Donbass;
6. Insist that Salud Carbajal donates all illicit campaign contributions from weapons manufacturers to local charities;
7. Insist that Das Williams stops sending drones to Ukraine through his Drones 2 Ukraine program, which kills and harms Russians;
8. Remove all Ukrainian flags from county and city properties, including those in front of First Bank on State Street.

In closing, please reflect upon the attached photograph of Palestinian children, taken on December 2nd, and the words of Martin Niemöller:

"First they came for the Communists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Communist  
Then they came for the Socialists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Socialist  
Then they came for the trade unionists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a trade unionist  
Then they came for the Jews  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Jew  
Then they came for me  
And there was no one left  
To speak out for me."

Peace,

Matthew J. Strezpek  
Goleta



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Sierra Jarrell (sierra.jarrell@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 9:28 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Deny Exxon trucking project - Upcoming Board of Supervisors Meeting

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 Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to deny this dangerous project as recommended by the Santa Barbara Planning Commission.

In addition to the significant and unavoidable risks of spills from trucking the oil, the purported benefit of producing oil from the offshore platforms and processing it on the Gaviota coast would bring with it unacceptable risks of offshore oil spills, air pollution and toxic fire and smoke risks that were not analyzed in the EIR, which focused narrowly on trucking impacts.

The recent oil spill off of Orange County underlines the severity of these risks. In addition, ExxonMobil's facilities were the largest sources of air pollution in the county and contained dangerous and toxic materials in an area that has burned by wildfire twice in the 6 years since the facilities have been shut down. We were fortunate that oil and dangerous gases were not present at the site during the recent Alisal fire, which burned onto ExxonMobil's property.

It is not just that the trucking routes are along sections of road with above average accident rates, there have been specific and recent instances of oil tankers on this route spilling oil into rivers and starting fires. In fact, on October 11 -- the same day as the Alisal fire -- an oil tanker crash near Orcutt caused a fire in Eucalyptus trees.

Thank you for denying this dangerous and unacceptable oil trucking project.

Sincerely,

Sierra Jarrell  
60 Granada Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90803  
sierra.jarrell@aol.com  
(949) 899-3348

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Member Care at Sierra Club at [member.care@sierraclub.org](mailto:member.care@sierraclub.org) or (415) 977-5673.

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Natali Rahimzadeh <natalirahimzadeh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 2:24 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Comment 12.4.23

**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.**

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

As a Santa Barbara resident, neighbor, taxpayer, UCSB alum and staff member, woman of color, and human being, I urge the County to call for nothing short of a full and indefinite **ceasefire** in the occupied Palestinian territories. I, along with hundreds of other neighbors and friends in this beautiful city by the sea cannot sleep, eat, or breathe another minute while thousands upon thousands of innocent children, women, men, and elders count the seconds they have left to take their final breaths under brutal, generations-long occupation by Israel's relentless, bloodthirsty government. With the smiling approval of a shameful President Joe Biden, Representative Salud Carbajal, and Senators Butler and Padilla, billions have been sent in American taxpayer dollars to fund a total and complete military annihilation of the Palestinian people. This occupation has cost tens of thousands of innocent Israeli, Palestinian, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian lives, and it cannot continue a second longer. This County cannot stand a second longer in support of what academics, historians, and survivors publicly denounce as an outright genocide.

Think of your legacy. Think of your humanity. Think of others. Free Palestine.

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Natali and Soham Mistry Rahimzadeh <nataliandsoham@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 2:26 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Comment 12.4.23

**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.**

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

As Santa Barbara residents, neighbors, taxpayers, UCSB alumni, people of color, and human beings, we urge the County to call for nothing short of a full and indefinite **ceasefire** in the occupied Palestinian territories. We, along with hundreds of other neighbors and friends in this beautiful city by the sea cannot sleep, eat, or breathe another minute while thousands upon thousands of innocent children, women, men, and elders count the seconds they have left to take their final breaths under brutal, generations-long occupation by Israel's relentless, bloodthirsty government. With the smiling approval of a shameful President Joe Biden, Representative Salud Carbajal, and Senators Butler and Padilla, billions have been sent in American taxpayer dollars to fund a total and complete military annihilation of the Palestinian people, while our own neighbors sleep on the streets on American soil. This occupation has cost tens of thousands of innocent Israeli, Palestinian, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian lives, and it cannot continue a second longer. This County cannot stand a second longer in support of what academics, historians, and survivors publicly denounce as an outright genocide.

Think of your legacy. Think of your humanity. Think of others. Free Palestine.

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Amelia Armstrong <ameliabarmstrong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 3:29 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Urgent: public comment for a Ceasefire Resolution

**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.**

Hi there,

I've copy and pasted a letter written by Omar Figuerdo, published in the Santa Barbara Independent. I am emailing for public comment my support for a ceasefire solution in Palestine, and I strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to support this resolution.

Thank you,

Amelia Armstrong

### Open Letter to the Board of Supervisors: (by Omar Figuerdo)

I'm writing to you today with utmost urgency, pleading for you to act in support of an extremely vulnerable nation, a people whose very existence is threatened by violence and destruction on an almost unimaginable scale. Every minute that transpires, further precious lives are lost, more homes, hospitals, schools, bakeries, and other spaces of potential refuge are destroyed. And every second we refuse to speak or act against this genocide, we sign our names as complicit parties. Thus, I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to pass a resolution in support of a full and permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and an end to Israel's genocidal campaign against the Palestinians.

I read with profound disappointment and frustration of your recent Resolution in Support of the State of Israel and encourage you to take this opportunity to correct the grievous error you made in approving that message.

You begin your resolution by proclaiming respect for "the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter"; you speak of "the urgent need for lasting peace in the Middle East," of "the inherent right of people to live in security and without the threat of violence," and you further say you "encourage all parties to actively seek a negotiated solution" that ensures lasting peace for all in the Middle East.

And yet, nowhere in the nine paragraphs of your resolution's text do you mention "Palestine," "Palestinians," "Gaza," or "the Gaza Strip." Instead of calling for the requisite cessation of hostilities for any "negotiated solution" or "lasting peace" to be achieved, instead of demanding the protection of all civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations as the UN General Assembly did in its Emergency Session on 26 October 2023, you unanimously decided to publicly declare your support for: "the State of Israel." Even in the aftermath of the Hamas attack against civilians on the 7th of

October, instead of publishing a resolution to stand in support of Jewish people or Israeli citizens, you made the deliberate choice to announce your support for a foreign state.

States, unlike people, may make no legitimate claim to guaranteed rights; not even to their own existence. Unlike the nearly 15,000 people that the State of Israel has killed in less than eight weeks of carpet-bombing and ground invasions — including premature babies left abandoned during the Israeli army's forced evacuation of Al-Nasr Hospital — states do not have souls. States, like Israel, are mere amalgams of abstract institutions; they are inanimate representations of political projects. People, on the other hand — like the remaining two million Palestinians living in what David Cameron, the former conservative United Kingdom prime minister, referred to as a “prison camp” (the Gaza Strip) — are living, breathing beings, entitled under the UN Charter (and morality) to food, water, fuel, medicine and humanitarian aid. People are vulnerable social beings, requiring affection and care lest they be snuffed out under the rubble of yet another building bombed into oblivion by the State of Israel's armed forces, subsidized and equipped by these United States.

Perhaps you may think that I'm being overzealous in my criticism of your resolution. Perhaps you may claim that you made a mistake in referring to the “State of Israel” rather than its people, or that I misinterpreted the meaning of your resolution. But I know that, as publicly elected officials, you weigh and measure your words carefully, because they matter; they mean something. Otherwise, why would you bother to spend valuable county resources, including the time and work of all the staff involved in the board's meeting of November 7, on passing this resolution? Surely, you wouldn't squander them for the sake of appeasing the interests of anyone else other than those of your constituents in the County of Santa Barbara, right?

Thus, in closing, I'd like to reiterate my urgent plea for you to leverage your positions as local leaders to call for a ceasefire and an end to the genocide of the people of the Gaza Strip. Such a statement would do much more to convince your constituents of your commitment to peace than your resolution in support of the genocidal State of Israel.