

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment



From: Kevin Twohy <ktwohy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Ramirez, Angelica; jalexander@countyofsb.org; sbcob
Cc: Williams, Das
Subject: Kevin Twohy comments to COB re covid business violation concerns
Attachments: Kevin Twohy - SB COB public comments 1-12-21.docx

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Hello Jacquelyne and Angelica,

Not sure why my iPhone wouldn't work to have you hear me re today's opportunity to speak with the Supervisors.

Therefore, I have attached here my comments. Can you please see that each member of the board receives it and is entered into the record?

Please confirm. Thank you. Kevin

--
Kevin Twohy, owner
Rincon Fitness USA
805-886-1017
www.RinconFitnessUSA.com

On 1/12/2021 11:26 AM, Ramirez, Angelica wrote:

Hi Kevin,
Yes your cellphone will work just fine.
Thank you for your patience,
Angelica Ramirez
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
t: 805.568.2240
aramirez@countyofsb.org



www.countyofsb.org



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PUBLIC COMMENT from Kevin Twohy – SB COB 1-12-21

Chairman Nelson and the Board, thank you for allowing me to speak. I am Kevin Twohy and reside at 5234 El Carro Lane, in Carpinteria.... and am the owner of Rincon Fitness, the gym located at the far west end of Carp Avenue.

I am here asking for your help. Like many businesses in Santa Barbara county, Covid has ravaged mine. I have lost 75% of my members, due to their concern regarding covid, which is totally understandable.

It's impossible, however, to run a business on only 25% of revenues, and thus I have been significantly funding the business for these last many months.

Aside from being closed entirely for 3 months last year,now.....in an effort to be compliant with the Governor's orders as well as local county health ordinances, I have moved our equipment outside, dealing with the weather, the wind, and a host of other problems.

I recently learned that many gyms located in Santa Barbara city and county are still open indoors and allowing their members to work out INSIDE, completely disregarding the Governor's AND the county health ordinances. These include Golds gym (2 locations); AC4 (2 locations); Goleta Valley Athletic Club, and a number of others.

Over the last couple of weeks I have learned that several of my paying members have left our gym and are now going to the indoor gym facilities in Santa Barbara.

I am trying to play by the rules, both for the health and sake of our community, and because it's the right thing to do.

I have also shared this info with Supervisor Williams.

So it PAINS me to see competitors who are flagrantly flaunting the rules...to the detriment of our community well-being...and directly harming my personal struggling efforts to try and stay in business.

I am asking the **County of Santa Barbara** be my advocate, and that of our other local gym, Carpinteria Athletics (whose equipment is also outside).....to be our advocate, in as strong language as possible, in however that can be done.... **to enforce the health orders currently in place.** City and County public health officials have the authority to close facilities that are violating the rules, that...as was mentioned earlier in the meeting, have the force and effect of law.

It would be a shame, both personally and for our community, for our businesses to fail because others were not following the law. Will you support the enforcement of the county public health rules re covid that are currently in place?? !