

#5



Katherine Douglas *Public Comment - Group 1*

From: Jason Rodriguez <jason@thefoodliaison.com>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 9:16 AM
To: sbcob; Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino
Subject: June 4 Board of Supervisors Item D5 - Reject Appeal

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Chair Lavagnino and Honorable Supervisors,

Thank you for considering my comments about the proposed Moriarty Holdings cannabis farm. I support this project and ask that you deny the appeal. As a small business owner in Carpinteria, it has been my great pleasure working with Jason Moriarty, owner and operator of the farm.

When COVID-19 first led to shutdowns, my restaurant and catering company, The Food Liaison, was jeopardized. We could not open to serve lunch, there were no events to cater. Jason then masterminded a program called Keep the Lights On. All members of the local cannabis farmers group CARP Growers organized catered lunches at their farms. The Food Liaison was one of many local restaurants that benefited from serving thousands of lunches to cannabis farm employees through this program.

A couple of things stand out: There should be no question about who you are dealing with as a business operator. Jason went above and beyond leading the charge to keep a lot of businesses open in our community. He was our main point of contact and a person of great character. The other part was the organizational and operational skills he displayed in keeping the orders smooth even when communicating with many farm locations and different restaurants. This is a very capable person who can be relied upon to get compliance right.

For the reasons above, I urge you to reject the project appeal and accept staff's recommendation to approve this cannabis farm. There is no doubt this applicant will operate with integrity and put neighbor's concerns to rest.

Thank you for your time and service to Santa Barbara County.

Jason Rodriguez | CFO | The Food Liaison | jason@thefoodliaison.com | (661) 917-2028 cell

Katherine Douglas

From: Jessica Clark <peebeeandjays@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 10:51 AM
To: sbcob; Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino
Subject: June 4 Board of Supervisors Item D5 - Reject Appeal

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

It has come to my attention that Moriarty Holdings has had its ability to operate a cannabis farm in Cat Canyon appealed. As a county resident and small business owner, I ask that you reject the appeal and approve the project, because operator Jason Moriarty has proven himself to be a community-minded businessperson and deserving of being granted his right to operate a compliant cannabis farm.

Jason also has a farm in Carpinteria. He stands out among local farmers for his work and participation in the "Keep the Lights On" program orchestrated by CARP Growers member farms in 2020. At that time, my restaurant, Pee Bee & Jays, had all of its business dry up in an instant due to COVID lockdowns. Locally, the farmers organized orders of multiple lunches for thousands of employees per week. It was all of the business we had. In addition to keeping the lights on, these efforts provided hope in a very dark time for our community.

There should be no question as to what type of business operator is applying for cannabis farm permits. Jason is laudable in many ways. The goodwill and generosity he displayed are what make our communities in Santa Barbara County great places to live. Please, as county staff recommends, approve this compliant project and reject the appeal.

Thank you,

Jessica Clark