

John M. Klink  
1787 Fernald Point Lane  
Montecito, CA 93108  
Email: [jmklink@adviserscapital.com](mailto:jmklink@adviserscapital.com)  
Tel: 805 5651001

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Mr. Salud Carbajal  
Supervisor  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
email: [SupervisorCarbajal@sbcbos1.org](mailto:SupervisorCarbajal@sbcbos1.org)

Dear Salud,

I hope this finds you and your family well.

I am writing as the owner of two beach front properties in Montecito to express my concern over the proposal for the Coastal Commission to dictate local land use policies and thereby take over much of the authority regarding coastal zone permitting from the Board of Supervisors.

As you know, having yourself supervised many of the issues relating to the coastal zone, property owners already have a plethora of rules and regulations that must be followed in order to obtain final building permits. You will recall that in my case it involved a process of over 3 years and untold expense.

What I praised the Board of Supervisors and you at the time for, was your availability to properly shepherd the process, as complicated as it was. You were available, and most importantly, you are an elected official with requisite accountability to your constituents. Should the Coastal Commission, which is not elected, and therefore, has no such accountability, obtain ANY further authority, the implications are clear for a complete loss of final control for the Board of Supervisors, and therefore, for any property holders, who will be at the mercy of the Commission's arbitrary decisions—decisions which would be gravely detrimental to property values and public safety. I believe, without any attempt at hyperbole, that this is the definition of tyranny.

As residents of Santa Barbara County, the Supervisors are much more knowledgeable regarding the local issues and conditions than are the members of the Coastal Commission and/or their staffs, who are, for the most part, not County residents. You and the other Supervisors, as our elected officials should do everything

in your power to retain your primacy in setting local land use policies, and not abdicate that critical responsibility to unelected officials from outside Santa Barbara County.

Some of the proposals that have been placed on the table such as to grant property owners of beach front houses permits for only 50% of repairs to their beach access is possibly unique in its disregard for safety and sanity. When I have described this to friends, their immediate response is "which beach steps would you repair and which ones would you leave for accidents to happen?" "What would anyone say if they were told that they could not repair the stairs in their own homes?" "Who will assume the liability, and who will be responsible for the medical care of those who fall prey to unsafe conditions – especially children or old people?"

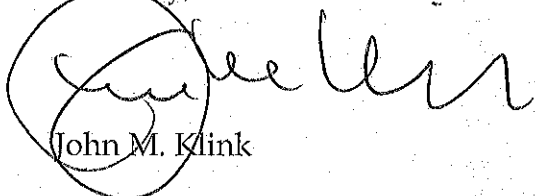
Frankly, I think that Jay Leno would not even find it sufficiently believable to do a skit about it. If he did, Santa Barbara would become a laughing stock. It is absurd.

In my time as a diplomat at the United Nations I grew accustomed to proposals which stretched the imagination beyond appropriate levels of belief, but I must say, this goes to a new level.

I know and trust that you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisors will not allow this forfeiture of the responsibilities which have been entrusted to you, and that reason, and democracy will prevail.

Thank you for all you do. This is certainly one of the most important decisions you will take.

Sincerely,



John M. Klink

Cc: Supervisor Janet Wolf – [jwolf@sbcbos2.org](mailto:jwolf@sbcbos2.org)  
 Supervisor Doreen farr – [dfarr@countyofsb.org](mailto:dfarr@countyofsb.org)  
 Supervisor Joni Gray – [jgray@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:jgray@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)  
 Supervisor Joe Centeno – [jcenteno@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:jcenteno@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

Clerk of the Board – [sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)  
 Homeowners, Fernald Point Homeowners Assoc.  
 Homeowners, Miramar Beach Homeowners Assoc.