

Sarah Mayer *General Public Comment - Group 3*



From: Roya Castro <royascastr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 3:15 PM
To: Sarah Mayer
Subject: Re: Question About Public Comments

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Thank you Ms. Mayer! I really appreciate it. You've been so helpful. I'm including my comment below, and I'd like to request that it be read into the record if possible. If that's not possible, I'll look for it online under the category of General Public Comment. Thanks again and please let me know if there is anything else you need from me!

My name is Roya Castro and I am a Santa Barbara County resident. I'm writing to report an incident of censorship and an attack on my free speech, because I know my situation did not occur in isolation. I left comments on two photos posted on Laura Capp's public Instagram account, urging the Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution in support of a ceasefire in Gaza, and I was promptly blocked from her account. The account I'm referring to is under the Instagram handle "lauracappsb". Her title is listed in her bio on the account and she uses the account for purposes related to her role as an elected official. Therefore, it is a public forum and it is not within her right to block anyone. I have since been unblocked, but I'm reporting the issue because I know for certain of one other constituent who lives in the second district, and who was also blocked after leaving comments asking for a ceasefire resolution. She is still blocked today. After looking at several photos on the account, I can see that there are hidden comments. I suspect that Laura Capps has blocked or hidden the comments of several constituents expressing similar sentiments, and that is unacceptable. Santa Barbara County residents are demanding a ceasefire resolution, and we will not be silenced.

On Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 9:10 AM Sarah Mayer <smayer@countyofsb.org> wrote:

Hello,

Yes you may, that will just go into the category of General Public Comment.

Thank you,

Sarah Mayer

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

County of Santa Barbara

105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407