

1 CHRISTOPHER FROST (SBN 200336)
chris@frostllp.com
2 BEN KASSIS (SBN 298844)
ben@frostllp.com
3 SYDNEY LUJAN (SBN 361587)
sydney@frostllp.com
4 FROST LLP
10960 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
5 Los Angeles, California 90024
Telephone: (424) 254-0441
6 Facsimile: (424) 600-8504

7 Attorneys for Plaintiff
EDWARD "BUTCH" TWINING

Assigned for All Purposes
Judge Craig Griffin

8
9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 COUNTY OF ORANGE, NORTH JUSTICE CENTER

11 EDWARD "BUTCH" TWINING, an
12 individual,
13 Plaintiff,
14 vs.
15 GINA CLAYTON TARVIN, an individual,
16 Defendant.

Case No. 30-2025-01529039-CU-DF-NJC

COMPLAINT FOR:

- 1. DEFAMATION PER SE**
2. FALSE LIGHT INVASION OF PRIVACY

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

1 Plaintiff Edward “Butch” Twining (“Plaintiff” or “Twining”), for his complaint against
2 Defendant Gina Clayton-Tarvin (“Defendant” or “Tarvin”) alleges as follows:

3 **INTRODUCTION**

4 1. This case arises from Defendant Gina Clayton-Tarvin’s sustained and coordinated
5 campaign to publicly brand Plaintiff Edward “Butch” Twining—a sitting Huntington Beach City
6 Councilmember—as a white supremacist and extremist. What began as a public vigil was swiftly
7 weaponized by Defendant into a digital smear campaign against Twining, carried out across multiple
8 social media platforms and community forums. Central to that campaign were Defendant’s repeated
9 knowingly false statements that Twining “gleefully chanted” with white supremacists, “participated
10 in a white supremacy rally,” and “marched” alongside extremist groups at the September 10, 2025
11 vigil.

12 2. In the modern political landscape, reputations built over years of public service can
13 be destroyed in hours. Defendant’s statements did not merely express her opinion or criticism of
14 Twining; they asserted false statements of fact, accusing Plaintiff of marching and chanting
15 alongside white supremacists. These allegations are demonstrably and unequivocally false.

16 3. On the night of September 10, 2025, Twining and other attendees assembled at the
17 Huntington Beach Pier to celebrate the life of Charlie Kirk. Twining carried a candle in one hand
18 and an American flag in the other. The group sang biblical hymns and said “Charlie” in unison.
19 Shortly after the vigil began, the solemn event was hijacked by a small group of bad faith
20 opportunists with a bull horn. The opportunists started chanting “White men fight back” through
21 the bull horn.

22 4. Twining was horrified that a peaceful vigil would be tainted by such hateful speech.
23 Eyewitnesses and independent news reporting confirmed that Twining left the Huntington Beach
24 Pier as soon as the racist chant began. Twining did not participate in the chant or march alongside
25 the racist opportunists. Twining condemns white supremacy in all of its forms. Despite that
26 Twining fled the event as soon as the chanting began, Twining’s unequivocal public statements of
27 this fact, and eye witness corroboration of the same by at least a dozen witnesses, Defendant has
28 repeatedly defamed Twining on social media platforms, stating that he marched and chanted

alongside the racist opportunists on September 10, 2025. Defendant did so while invoking her platforms as a public school board trustee, deliberately leveraging her perceived authority to lend credibility and reach to attack Twining and destroy his reputation.

5. Regrettably, Defendant's defamation of Twining follows years of escalating defamatory conduct against Twining and other public figures in the Orange County community. While Defendant has long been a prolific poster of misinformation designed to cause reputational harm, her more recent posts about Twining and others read increasingly manic and reckless, as if the author is, not only lying, but also losing touch with reality.

6. Among other things, Defendant's lies have resulted in Twining receiving at least three threats on his life. Defendant's reputation in his community, which he built up over years and naturally leverages for business and political advancement, has been irreversibly and seriously damaged. Add to that the emotional toll this entire episode has taken on Plaintiff and his family. Defendant's conduct has left Twining with no choice but to bring this action to halt the ongoing reputational and civic harm, to vindicate his name, and to hold Defendant accountable for her knowing and malicious defamation and therefore Twining is seeking damages in an amount no less than \$25,000,000. Actions have consequences, and Defendant should be held to account for the damage caused by her reckless public character assassination.

THE PARTIES

7. Plaintiff Edward “Butch” Twining is, and at all relevant times mentioned herein was, an individual residing in the State of California, County of Orange.

8. Defendant Gina Clayton-Tarvin is, and at all relevant times mentioned herein was, an individual residing in the State of California, County of Orange.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9. Jurisdiction is proper in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Orange pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 410.10.

10. Venue is proper in Orange County, California pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 392, *et seq.* because Defendant resides/conducts business in Orange County and the damage to Plaintiff occurred in Orange County.

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12. On September 10, 2025, Twining attended a public vigil held at the Huntington Beach Pier in memory of the late Charlie Kirk. The vigil was peaceful and attended by hundreds of local residents, public officials, and community members.

14. Portions of video capturing Twining’s brief appearance at the vigil, and taken before he promptly left once the chanting began, were circulated online without context. Defendant Gina Clayton-Tarvin seized upon that footage and falsely asserted that Twining “participated in” and “gleefully chanted” alongside white supremacists.

16. That same day, Defendant posted on X/Twitter: “Huntington Beach councilman Butch Twining was there gleefully chanting amongst alt-right white supremacists.” A true and correct copy of Defendant’s X/Twitter postdated September 13, 2025 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** and incorporated herein by reference.

17. Defendant repeated and expanded upon these statements in additional posts, stating publicly: “I exposed Councilman Butch Twining on multiple platforms for his marching and chanting while amongst white supremacists at the pier two nights ago.” A true and correct copy of Defendant’s Facebook postdated September 14, 2025 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 3** and incorporated herein by reference.

1 18. These statements are false. Twining did not chant, march, endorse, support, or align
2 himself with white supremacists or any extremist group. Twining has publicly denounced such
3 ideologies.

4 19. Twining publicly corrected the record immediately. On Surf City Sentinel's public
5 Facebook forum, Twining wrote that he and others "left when they started chanting." Defendant
6 personally replied, acknowledging Twining's correction, and then repeated the same false
7 allegations again. A true and correct copy of the Surf City Sentinel Facebook thread reflecting
8 Twining's correction and Defendant's reply is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4** and incorporated herein
9 by reference.

10 20. On September 16, 2025, during a Huntington Beach City Council meeting, Twining
11 publicly stated that he left the vigil when chanting began. At least a *dozen other witnesses* also
12 unequivocally testified during public comment that Twining left immediately when chanting began,
13 leaving no question about what occurred on the evening in question. Defendant frequents the City
14 Council meetings, which are televised live. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff was watching the
15 September 16 meeting.

16 21. On September 17, 2025, the Los Angeles Times reported that Twining left the vigil
17 upon the emergence of white supremacist rhetoric and condemned hate groups in his public remarks.
18 Defendant was aware of this reporting. A true and correct copy of the Los Angeles Times article
19 dated September 17, 2025 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 5** and incorporated herein by reference.

20 22. Despite direct clarification through (1) Twining's own statements, (2) multiple
21 eyewitness accounts, and (3) independent news reporting, Defendant continued to publicly and
22 openly assert as fact that Twining marched and chanted with white supremacists, and encouraged
23 others to share and spread those claims. And despite Defendant's outrageous behavior, Twining
24 even gave her an opportunity to retract; he contacted Defendant, reminded her of the mountain of
25 evidence contradicting her statements, and asked politely that she withdraw her assertions. Others
26 who mistakenly reported on the vigil when presented with the facts have retracted. Defendant
27 refuses.

28 23. Defendant's conduct was not careless, misinformed, or accidental. Defendant has a

1 documented history of publicly targeting political opponents in Huntington Beach, including
2 repeatedly labeling Councilmember Gracey Van Der Mark a “Neo-Nazi” and “white supremacist.”
3 Following that public vilification, Councilmember Van Der Mark was subjected to threats,
4 harassment, and even a drive-by BB gun shooting of her home. The relationship between
5 Defendant’s rhetoric and increased harassment was widely discussed in the community.

6 24. Defendant’s hostility toward Twining did not stop with her social media posts about
7 the September 10 vigil. On November 16, 2025, during an episode of the publicly available podcast
8 “Vitamin OC,” Defendant again referenced Twining by name and grouped him with what she called
9 “seven bigots” on the Huntington Beach City Council. Defendant stated that these officials were
10 “anti everybody,” and claimed that if a person was not a Republican, conservative, MAGA
11 supporter, or if they were “brown, black, or LGBTQ,” these officials would “profile” and
12 “discriminate against” them. Defendant further described Twining and others as “liars” and
13 “manipulators.” These statements reflect Defendant’s continued animus and illustrate her intent to
14 portray Twining as racist, discriminatory, and unfit for public service, further demonstrating her
15 motive and malice in publishing the false allegations at issue.

16 25. Given this pattern of conduct, Defendant knew before making the statements that
17 falsely branding a public official as a white supremacist causes serious reputational harm,
18 community hostility, and even endangerment. She also knew that falsely claiming a public official
19 marched and chanted with white supremacists would have the same effect. Defendant nevertheless
20 chose to repeat and amplify the false allegations about Twining with actual malice, that is, with
21 knowledge of falsity or reckless disregard for the truth.

22 26. As a direct and foreseeable result of Defendant’s conduct, Twining has suffered
23 severe reputational harm, emotional distress, and damage to his standing in the community he
24 serves.

25 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

26 **(Defamation Per Se)**

27 **(Plaintiff Twining Against Defendant Tarvin)**

28 27. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1

1 through 27, inclusive, as though set forth in full.

2 28. Defendant knowingly and intentionally published false statements of fact about
3 Plaintiff, including but not limited to the following:

4 29. On September 13, 2025, Defendant stated publicly on X/Twitter: “Huntington Beach
5 councilman Butch Twining was there gleefully chanting amongst alt-right white supremacists.”

6 30. On the same date, Defendant stated on Instagram that Twining was “participating in
7 a white supremacy rally” and “starring in an all-out hate rally.”

8 31. On September 14, 2025, Defendant stated on Facebook: “I exposed Councilman
9 Butch Twining on multiple platforms for his marching and chanting while amongst white
10 supremacists at the pier two nights ago.”

11 32. On September 11, 2025, Defendant stated publicly on Surf City Sentinel’s Facebook
12 page: “Keep up the good work exposing these bigots on our city council.”

13 33. These statements assert verifiable factual claims that Twining:

- 14 • chanted extremist slogans,
- 15 • marched with white supremacists,
- 16 • and is a “bigot” and participant in white nationalist activity.

17 34. These statements are false. Twining did not chant, march, or participate in any
18 extremist or white supremacist activity. Twining left the event immediately when chanting began.
19 Twining has publicly and consistently denounced hate groups and extremist ideology. Independent
20 eyewitnesses and public reporting corroborate this.

21 35. Defendant made these statements despite knowing they were false or with reckless
22 disregard for the truth, because:

- 23 • Twining publicly corrected the record on multiple platforms;
- 24 • Eyewitnesses publicly confirmed Twining left when chanting began;
- 25 • The Los Angeles Times reported that Twining left the event and denounced
26 hate groups;
- 27 • Twining reiterated this at a public City Council meeting, with additional
28 witness testimony confirming his departure; and
- Defendant personally responded to Twining’s correction and nevertheless

1 repeated the allegations again.

2 36. Defendant further invoked her public office by identifying herself as “Trustee, Ocean
3 View School District” when making and promoting the defamatory statements, intentionally using
4 her government title to lend credibility, authority, and amplification to the accusations.

5 37. Defendant’s statements constitute libel per se under California Civil Code §45,
6 because falsely accusing a person, especially an elected official, of participating in racist or white
7 supremacist conduct inherently exposes that person to hatred, contempt, ridicule, and public
8 disgrace.

9 38. Defendant’s statements were widely disseminated across multiple social media
10 platforms used by community members, local activists, media observers, and political constituents,
11 and were intended to and did reach a broad audience.

12 39. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant’s conduct, Twining has suffered severe
13 reputational harm, humiliation, emotional distress, and damage to his standing in the Huntington
14 Beach community. Twining has been subjected to hostility, public condemnation, and targeted
15 harassment.

16 40. Defendant acted with actual malice, as that term is defined under *New York Times v.*
17 *Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964), because she knew her statements were false or acted with reckless
18 disregard for their truth or falsity. Defendant intentionally sought to injure Twining’s reputation,
19 damage his credibility as a public official, and incite public hostility toward him.

20 41. Defendant’s conduct was malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent within the meaning
21 of California Civil Code §3294, entitling Twining to an award of punitive damages in an amount
22 sufficient to punish and deter such conduct.

23 42. Unless enjoined, Defendant will continue to publish these defamatory statements,
24 causing further irreparable harm. Twining therefore seeks preliminary and permanent injunctive
25 relief prohibiting Defendant from continuing to publish these false statements.

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28

1 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(False Light Invasion of Privacy)**

3 **(Plaintiff Twining Against Defendant Tarvin)**

4 43. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1
5 through 43 above as though fully set forth herein.

6 44. Defendant publicly disseminated statements about Twining to a wide audience,
7 including but not limited to Instagram, Facebook, and X/Twitter, all of which are public platforms
8 with substantial reach in the Huntington Beach community.

9 45. Defendant's statements, including but not limited to:

- 10 • "Huntington Beach councilman Butch Twining was there gleefully chanting
11 amongst alt-right white supremacists,"
- 12 • "participating in a white supremacy rally,"
- 13 • "starring in an all-out hate rally," and
- 14 • "I exposed Councilman Butch Twining... for marching and chanting while
amongst white supremacists,"

15 46. Which portrayed Twining as a white supremacist, participant in extremist ideology,
16 and advocate of racist conduct.

17 47. These statements created and promoted a false and defamatory narrative that
18 Twining aligns with, supports, or participates in white supremacist ideology or hate groups. Twining
19 does not hold such beliefs and has explicitly and publicly condemned them.

20 48. Defendant's statements placed Twining in a false light that would be highly offensive
21 and objectionable to any reasonable person, particularly given Twining's position as a public
22 official, community representative, and elected Councilmember.

23 49. Defendant's portrayal of Twining was not the result of mistake or misunderstanding.
24 Defendant continued to repeat the allegations after Twining publicly clarified that he left the event
25 when chanting began, after eyewitnesses confirmed the same, and after independent reporting in the
26 Los Angeles Times confirmed Twining's denouncement of hate groups. Defendant therefore acted
27 with actual malice, knowing her statements were false or with reckless disregard for the truth.

28 50. Defendant made these statements while invoking her authority as an elected school

1 board trustee, intending that her statements be taken as credible, authoritative, and reliable by the
2 public, and intending to amplify the reputational harm inflicted upon Twining.

3 51. As a direct and foreseeable result of Defendant's conduct, Twining has suffered
4 severe emotional distress, humiliation, loss of reputation, and damage to his standing in the
5 community he serves. For his claims, Twining seeks compensatory damages in an amount no less
6 than \$25,000,000.

7 52. Defendant's conduct was malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent within the meaning
8 of California Civil Code § 3294, entitling Plaintiff to an award of punitive damages to punish and
9 deter such conduct.

10 **PRAYER**

11 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant, as follows:

- 12 1. For actual and compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial;
13 2. For exemplary and punitive damages in an amount to be determined at the time of
14 trial;
15 3. For attorney's fees and costs as permitted by applicable law;
16 4. For pre-judgment and post-judgment interest at the maximum legal rate; and
17 5. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

18 DATED: November 24, 2025

FROST LLP

19
20 By:



21 CHRISTOPHER FROST
22 BENJAMIN KASSIS
23 SYDNEY LUJAN
24 Attorneys for Plaintiff
25 EDWARD BUTCH TWINING
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EXHIBIT 1





ginaclaytontarvin1 • Follow
Original audio



ginaclaytontarvin1 • 9w
Shame on Huntington Beach City Councilman Butch Twining for participating in a white supremacy rally right at the HB Pier Plaza. What was supposed to be a "candlelight vigil" for Charlie Kirk turned into an all out hate rally starring the extremist MAGA city council member, Twining, who can't seem to keep himself out of trouble. "white men fight back," was their battle cry. America, we have a problem and the flames of the fire are being fueled right here in HB. Stop this hate against your fellow Americans 🇺🇸🔥!





batts_billyy 9w
They've always been in Huntington



201 likes

September 13

[Log in to like or comment.](#)

EXHIBIT 2



← Post



Trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin 
@gclaytontarvin



What's worse? That Huntington Beach councilman Butch Twining was there gleefully chanting amongst alt right white supremacists. Anyone recognize this behavior? Look no further than his buddy and mentor councilmember Gracey Van Der Mark, HB's resident Neo Nazi since 2017.



LOLOCGOP @LOLOCGOP · Sep 12

huntington beach x.com/ryanasanchez/s...

3:02 PM · Sep 13, 2025 · **1,192** Views



8



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Read 8 replies

← **Post**



Trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin ✓

@gclaytontarvin



What's worse? That Huntington Beach councilman Butch Twining was there gleefully chanting amongst alt right white supremacists. Anyone recognize this behavior? Look no further than his buddy and mentor councilmember Gracey Van Der Mark, HB's resident Neo Nazi since 2017.



LOLOCGOP @LOLOCGOP · Sep 12

[huntington beach x.com/ryanasanchez/s...](https://x.com/ryanasanchez/s...)

3:02 PM · Sep 13, 2025 · **1,146** Views



8



3



2



Post your reply

Reply



HB SurfDog ✓ @HSurfdog · Sep 13



Fuck Off. We are finished being called fucking Nazis. Look at this [@ChefGruel](#). Gina spreading HATE, like most of the Democrats have done. YOU, Gina, are part of the reason [@charliekirk11](#) is NOW dead.



1,164



EXHIBIT 3

San Jose Council of P...



Anna Shelley

Figures the city can't call out the Nazi groups but not surprising they won't. It is who they are and surround themselves with.

6w Like

5



Trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Ocean View School District

They just can't help themselves to attack me. Yes, it was me who called Gracey Van Der Mark what she is. If she doesn't want to be known for what she has been doing for almost a decade, she needs to denounce her associations. She has been a longtime Neo Nazi sympathizer exacting repulsive attacks on Jews, African Americans, Latinos and Muslims. She's symbolizes the epitome of bigotry on this city council. If the Council isn't careful with their words, I can display the full dossier of her dark deeds. I can and will lay it all out again. Also, I exposed Councilman Butch Twinning on multiple platforms for his marching and chanting while amongst white supremacists at the pier two nights ago. The mayor is living a lie and I won't allow it. See Butch Twinings response to me calling him out below.

6w Like Reply Edited

46

EXHIBIT 4

**Butch Twining** · 5w

Let's this comment serve as my "final warning" to remove these libelous and slanderous statements by Bixby and Tarvin. There will be no further warnings. Jeff Pearlman, add your name to this list. Remove immediately or suffer the consequences. FAFO



13

**Scott Brewsaugh** · 5w

[Butch Twining](#) were you not on video standing right next to those guys chanting "white men fight back?"



7

**Butch Twining** · 5w

[Scott Brewsaugh](#) nope, I left when they started chanting as did at least 10-12 others. I've repeatedly said that as has my wife. Those that left with me will make great eyewitnesses to the truth in court



5

**Trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Ocean View School District**  · 5w

[Butch Twining](#) I'm still waiting to "FAFO", tough guy. I'll summarily anti-SLAPP your feeble case into



Surf City Sentinel limited who can comment on this post.

EXHIBIT 5

NEWS

Huntington Beach councilman denounces hate groups after series of Charlie Kirk vigils



A woman paints an image of Charlie Kirk during a vigil for the slain conservative activist Sunday night at Pier Plaza. (Heather Byrnes / Davini Photography)



By Matt Szabo

Staff Writer | [✉ Contact](#)

Sept. 17, 2025 4:25 PM PT

Huntington Beach City Councilman Butch Twining denounced hate groups during a statement at Tuesday night's meeting of the council, six days after he was seen at a vigil for the late Charlie Kirk that turned dark with a group chanting "White man fight back."

That gathering, which took place the same day that the conservative activist and founder of Turning Point USA was [assassinated in Utah](#), was the first of several that have taken place at Pier Plaza over the last week.

Twining, shown on [a video that went viral](#), said Tuesday night that he and his wife left after the vigil, organized by a local Republican group, turned violent when “self-described white supremacists” intruded, he said.

“Their presence was not an act of solidarity, but a calculated attempt to weaponize the event for extremist purposes,” Twining said. “As soon as their motives became clear, I immediately left, because this is not what I came for, nor what the vigil represented.”



People attend a vigil for the late Charlie Kirk on Sunday night in Huntington Beach. (Heather Byrnes / Davini Photography)

Some had called for his resignation when the video surfaced, [including Ocean View School District Trustee Gina Clayton-Tarvin](#). During his comments, Twining referenced her critiques and also referred to Mark Bixby, the owner of the online publication Surf City Sentinel, who posted the now-viral video.

“As a leader in this community, I will not allow my voice to be twisted for extremism,” Twining said, adding that he and his wife had been accosted after the video was made public.

Bixby declined to comment Tuesday night. Clayton-Tarvin issued on a statement on Wednesday, saying she was sworn to uphold the 1st Amendment as an elected official and wouldn’t be silenced when Twining threatened to sue her and others [on a Sentinel post](#) if they didn’t remove their statements.



Butch Twining, shown participating in a city council candidates forum last year, denounced hate groups at Tuesday night's council meeting. (Don Leach / Staff Photographer)

“When one elected leader threatens another with a lawsuit simply for engaging in open criticism, it crosses a dangerous line,” she said. “Such actions chill free speech, erode public trust and undermine the democratic process we are all sworn to protect. I will not be silenced.”

At the onset, the council meeting featured each of the MAGA Huntington Beach council members making comments about the vigils and in support of Twining.

Sunday night vigil draws thousands

The biggest Huntington Beach vigil for Kirk was held at Pier Plaza on Sunday night. James Klug, a local conservative YouTube creator who works occasionally with Kirk's [Turning Point USA](#), organized that event.

Klug estimated that up to 4,000 people attended the vigil, adding that he saw no disturbances.

“The community really showed up for Charlie Kirk,” Klug said in an email to the Daily Pilot. “The vigil started around 6 p.m. and was packed with prayer, music, family time and speeches from some local community leaders and people who knew Charlie. I don’t think it could have been a better evening to honor Charlie and the work that he did for our country.”

Huntington Beach resident Heather Byrnes, who attended and took photographs at the vigil, called it a blessed event.

“[Kirk] was a Godly man,” Byrnes said. “He was serving his purpose. There’s been a lot of hate ... but he didn’t hate anybody. He didn’t hate the trans community, he just doesn’t agree with that lifestyle, or homosexual, and that’s OK. He believes in the Bible and God. I don’t understand why things that have been around forever, now we’re getting yelled at for it.”



A woman holds a candle at a vigil for the late Charlie Kirk on Sunday night in Huntington Beach. (Heather Byrnes / Davini Photography)

Huntington Beach Mayor Pat Burns said no arrests were made in association with the weekend's vigils.

“The city reiterates its firm condemnation of dangerous political rhetoric and affirms its ongoing partnership with law enforcement to safeguard public safety,” Burns said in a [statement Monday night](#). “We commend our residents and visitors for showing the spirit of Huntington Beach by coming together in a safe and civil manner while honoring the life of Mr. Kirk.”

In a previous statement the city [released Sunday afternoon](#), Burns said Huntington Beach “unequivocally condemns all forms of violence and violent rhetoric, as well as the spread of false and inflammatory statements that undermine the safety of our community.”

Taryn Palumbo, who announced as a 2026 candidate for the Huntington Beach City Council on Monday and spoke at Tuesday night's meeting, said in an interview that she felt that the mayor's statements fell short.

"I would expect our city council to clearly call out the language that was being used and denounce it," she said. "Unfortunately, the statement that was put out does not address the big issue, which was the presence of white nationalists in our community causing a scene."



Candles spell out the name of Charlie Kirk at a vigil on Sunday night in Huntington Beach. (Courtesy of Rebecca Grudt)

White nationalists returned Saturday

Sunday's peaceful gathering was in contrast to the scene Saturday night, when Huntington Beach resident Jerry Geyer said he used his bike to try to stop white nationalists from walking down Main Street toward the pier.

Geyer said the group of men were each wearing white gaiters, many wearing blue or black shirts and khakis. At the rally at the pier, they were shown waving flags associated with [Patriot Front](#), a known white nationalist and neo-fascist group.



A Huntington Beach resident said the group of men were each wearing white gaiters, many wearing blue or black shirts and khakis. At the rally at the pier, they were waving flags associated with the neo-fascist Patriot Front. Above, members of Patriot Front are shown lined up to march on Jan. 21, 2022 in Washington, DC. (Kent Nishimura / Los Angeles Times)

“Our jaws were on the ground,” Geyer said. “We couldn’t believe what we were watching in person. It was straight out of 1930s Germany, what it looked like when they were chanting ‘White men fight back.’ We all know what that is, that’s white supremacy. There’s no sugar-coating that.”

Geyer said several of the men eventually came back up the street being chased by another man, before they started to jump on them.

Geyer said the question he is asking is simple — why are white supremacists coming to Huntington Beach? He called it the path of least resistance.

“No one is stopping them,” he said. “That’s the truth.”



A photo of Charlie Kirk is displayed at a vigil in Huntington Beach on Sunday night. (Heather Byrnes / Davini Photography)



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Agree & Continue



Matt Szabo

Matt Szabo covers the city of Huntington Beach and sports for the Daily Pilot. A Southern California native and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo graduate, he has been working for L.A. Times Community News since 2006 and still loves talking to people about their hopes and dreams.