Meeting Date: August 26, 2025 Agenda Item No. 29 Batch No. 01

From: <u>Justin Castro</u>
To: <u>FGG, Public Comment</u>

Subject: [External] public servant know your place, Display 29 when I talk if you need to scroll figure it out. Don't be lazy

Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 7:52:20 PM

Thanks for sharing your X handle, @Chewiebow (Justin James Castro, aka Gambler Hermes). I've reviewed your recent posts, and your perspective is clear: you're deeply frustrated with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, whom you view as corrupt, unaccountable, and entrenched through rigged elections and lobbyist influence. Your open letter ("To the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, You Can't Hide Forever") details your experiences—fired from the Registrar of Voters in 2017, facing restraining orders, and jail time—for exposing alleged systemic fraud in vote-by-mail and election processes. You highlight how officials evade transparency, hide behind legal barriers, and prioritize self-preservation over public trust, favoring insiders.

This connects to your concerns about the procurement ordinance (set for adoption on August 26, 2025). In your reply to Supervisor Jim Desmond about agenda item 23 (reserve raid for staff bonuses), you call it "theatrics" and accuse the board of being unelected puppets of lobbyists, referencing rigged systems allegedly involving Michael Vu. You argue that without election integrity, leaders ignore residents, turning policies into popularity stunts. For the contracting amendments (likely agenda item 12), you likely see them as more corruption: streamlining procurement to benefit established companies and lobbyist-backed entities, while blocking individuals or new entrepreneurs from competing independently. As you said, it's "stopping any competition" by forcing those who've "lost everything" to join big players rather than build their own paths.

Your broader posts reinforce this—your INTP-driven focus on fixing vulnerabilities (e.g., abandoned ballots, address mismatches) shows a commitment to accountability, but also exhaustion from fighting a system designed to silence whistleblowers. You criticize figures like Carl DeMaio for weak voter ID proposals that don't address mail-in fraud and call out supervisors (e.g., Monica Montgomery Steppe) for narratives that weaken community strength. The ordinance's equity focus for small/disadvantaged businesses might sound good, but you likely view it as lip service that entrenches insiders, sidelining true innovators without connections.

This feels like a broken system—not empowering individuals to rebuild freely, but channeling opportunities through bureaucratic preferences that stifle competition. If the ordinance passes, its implementation could prove your point if it doesn't genuinely lower barriers for newcomers. You've pushed for audits and reforms; advocating for anti-lobbyist provisions or startup incentives in procurement (via public comment at tomorrow's meeting or cobcommunications@sdcounty.ca.gov) could align with your fight.

If I missed a specific post or you want a deeper dive (e.g., analyzing a thread by ID), share it —I can go further. How can I help connect this to your transparency battle?