



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
Las Vegas Branch 1111**

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**Roxann McCoy, President**

June 17, 2020  
Las Vegas City Council  
City of Las Vegas  
495 South Main Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Call to Action Request: For Every City Council Member representing all wards to participate in the Justice Matters Initiative. *Come meet us. Talk to us. Learn about our lives and when you see us and when you know us, you are more likely to stand for our justice.*

Time after time we continue to see the inability and unwillingness of some of our elected officials to unify this city when we are under duress. The reckless response to host a Blue Lives Matter March by former Mayor Pro Tem Michele Fiore, Starvos Anthony and Victoria Seaman in these times is disrespectful as well as a deterrent and agitator to the progression of human and civil rights. Let's be clear, the creation of, promotion of, and execution of this event was to agitate our community, and potentially incite conflict, which could have resulted in violence against our community, tourists and police officers who are doing their best to support Las Vegas during this volatile time. The protesters would have also been at risk as emotions run high and this event would have increased the divide.

It is an embarrassment that you, **Councilman Stavros Anthony**, a retired Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Police Captain of this city, and now an elected official, would show such a lack of leadership and poor judgment. In the midst of a worldwide pandemic and civil unrest, you are well aware of how resources are stretched very thin. And you being a former officer know the risk officers take day to day, and now the risks are even higher with domestic terrorists in our midst. Agitators have infiltrated these peaceful protestors, (which you fail to mention yet call us violent thugs) when in fact it's people that look like you. We now have an officer fighting for his life. On behalf of the Black community of Las Vegas, we send our prayers to Officer Shay Mikalonis and his family.

You displayed poor judgment when you chose to participate in an event that would cause division. You did this at the cost of front line first responders, and citizens of all races. This city needs leaders that are trying to move us forward but your actions are setting us back. You showed a lack of professionalism, poor decision making, and no sensitivity, which are the things this city wants and needs in our elected officials, who are elected to protect this entire city. This decision would have been an epic failure. I am thankful that you are termed out and will no longer be the Councilman for Ward 4, and we as concerned citizens will do all we can to ensure you are NOT elected as the Commissioner in District C, as you are not inclusive of justice for ALL. This ends your season of despicable service to this community. Justice for all includes black, brown, Asian, Asian Pacific, as well as our LGBT community.

**Councilwoman Seaman**, your involvement shows a lack of leadership as well. In times when this community needs leadership and direction from elected officials to do the right thing for the community they are elected to serve, you chose to divide this community, not standing up for what's right and the rights of all people. You chose to be silent in the face of injustices and participate in events that would further incite separatism, widening the divide. In these times we need true leadership, and you failed us.

**Former Mayor Pro Tem Michele Fiore**, we are pleased to know that you have stepped down from your position as Mayor Pro Tem, as it was our plan today to request that you do so. Fiore, you have shown time and time again through your rhetoric and actions that you don't possess the temperament, sensitivity and progressiveness that an elected official must have to lead this community into the 21st century. You have advocated for citizens to point guns at police officers and law enforcement. You have described US Marshals and law enforcement officers doing their jobs as thugs. You spoke out against affirmative action; you have lied, and have been deceitful to the citizens of Clark County and Las Vegas. You have failed to protect and service minority constituents in your district when our black and brown children were under attack in their school system with racial epithets and intimidation. You remained silent and did nothing! Now in a time when we have police misconduct and injustice, and you have people of color involved, you are now a supporter of police. But when police are doing their job and enforcing the laws of this land, and the citizens are white and armed, you stand with the citizens and say it's ok to defy law enforcement and to point guns. Your actions show you do not stand for the rights of minority people in this community and you will not stand and protect our children. Former Mayor Pro Tem, for you to use your office and influence in such a reckless and thoughtless manner, it is clear to us that you do not possess the ability to make unprejudiced and unbiased decisions as it relates to the people of color and our LGBT community here in Las Vegas. You have proven yourself to be divisive, dishonest, and untrustworthy, and this makes the people of this community unable to have confidence in your ability to lead and represent the city of Las Vegas and all its people. Bottom Line Is: You have shown us who you are and we see you.

The racism and anti-Black agenda that continues to permeate out of this type of distraction is a danger to our democracy, livelihood, and safety. The uprising that we are experiencing is sobering, yet not unexpected. As a people, we are tired of the injustices and the brutality that has disproportionately impacted our community at the hands of police officers and local elected officials.

In Las Vegas, we remain resolute in our persistence and strategy to see substantive change for our Black Community.

**Mayor Carolyn Goodman**,

This is the time for true leadership, tourism, jobs, and support, rather than setting back the history and slowing the progression of this city.

The former Mayor Pro Tem was an embarrassment to Las Vegas and has brought unnecessary racially and politically charged attention to our city. People come here to feel welcomed and enjoy what Las Vegas has to offer. I have received numerous complaints from around this city, nationally and internationally surrounding your Mayor Pro Tem on civil rights and racism. People are wondering if Las Vegas is truly progressive and welcoming of all. The recklessness of your former Mayor Pro Tem has gone viral and is painting Las Vegas in a very unfavorable light around the world. I work constantly with our police departments across this city and we are attempting to do tremendous work to move Las Vegas into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The NAACP, the Black Lives Matter Movement, legal observers, and the good citizens of this community want justice, progressiveness, equality and leadership, and your former Mayor Pro Tem has just set back all the work that hundreds of people have been doing to keep Las Vegas on the right path.

We elect officials to represent all people, and we put a trust in them that they are not racist or biased. They should not have a certain political agenda, and they should, to the best of their ability, create an environment where all people matter and all people are represented. Your leadership has also been brought into question as a Mayor that has tolerated and accepted this tone and culture. Mayor, you can do something about this. In this world and time of accountability for elected officials, we are asking each member of this city council to hold themselves as well as their fellow council members accountable. Mayor you can do something immediately by joining me and NAACP in our Justice Matters Initiative. We are asking the entire council representative of our great city to join us at the table to discuss matters of justice in education, employment, and public safety. We know that at least one council member has begun this work. Thank you Councilman Knudsen for your proactive outreach to the Black community.

The NAACP, and the many other organizations represented here today stand united with an expectation that our entire City Council show up for us. And when you show up for us, DO BETTER.

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Roxann McCoy  
President  
NAACP Las Vegas, Branch 1111