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Response to the Attacks and Lies of the Beatrice Cardenas Campaign

Prior to our statement, it is imperative for readers to fully understand the complete lies and mistruths that were perpetuated by Beatrice Cardenas. These lies can be referenced in the Beatrice Files archive.

1. “He DOES NOT live in our District” **Johnny has been actively looking to move to Upland, Claremont, or Sierra Madre since before he made the decision to run.**
2. “This man was born in Armenia and comes from New Jersey. We don’t need more outsiders that don’t know our region, our valley, and our issues.” **Johnny was born in New Jersey, USA-not Armenia. This is no secret as he has stated this countless times. He has lived in every part of LA County since he moved here in 1960.**
3. “He apologized for running in my district...he was doing it as a favor to Eric Early” **Johnny never stated this.**
4. “He said Eric has a better chance than he did to defeat Schiff” **Johnny never stated this.**
5. “Several leaders of the community have attempted to talk him out of running...he is adamant and refuses to reason with them” **This never happened.**
6. “Several mayors and council members have called him to tell him not to jeopardize their district” **This never happened.**
7. Johnny is “some carpet-bagger looking to grow his business” **Johnny is a food industry broker-there is no real way he can use this campaign to grow his business. His detailed Contract with our Community platform can be found on his website.**
8. “He is trying to buy people with food” **Objectively false.**
9. “He has no policies, no platform, no ideas” **Our platform is clearly detailed online-both national and local issues.**
10. “We wonder who is behind his decision to meddle in our district” **The Beatrice campaign has falsely spread the idea that there is a dark force trying to stop her from winning. Johnny made the decision to run on his own.**

As a lifelong Constitutional Conservative Republican, Johnny has always upheld a core and critical value: the Reagan 11th commandment: “Thou shalt not speak ill of any fellow Republican.” With this in mind and as campaign director, I reached out to the head of communications who at the time was working with Beatrice Cardenas and informed her about the harm that these lies will do, not just to our campaigns but also to the LA and California GOP (These posts already began horrible rumors about the LA GOP acting as a dark organization that takes down Republican candidates and that they are a useless organization). Appalled and confused by what was posted online, her communications director agreed that, until the primaries are over, Beatrice should not post these slanderous attacks online. The original post was removed. Not too long after, however, similar posts and comments continued to be posted on other pages by Beatrice and, at that point, her communications director no longer worked for her. The Johnny for Congress campaign will not lower itself to such toxic and unhinged levels as displayed by our opponent.

It truly saddens me to see that, while Johnny is on the streets of his district working to recall Gavin Newsom, bring independents over, and convincing Democrats to *walk away* from their party, a fellow Republican sits behind her screen attempting to mobilize haters through **lies**. As an American of Armenian descent, I was particularly upset by her insinuation that a person who was not born here has no right to run for political office. This is not the type of rhetoric that will convince voters to come over. Alongside this, **her pledge to support Judy Chu over a Republican**, should she not make it through the primary, displays a level of hypocrisy one often does not see. Beatrice has made it clear that she would stand with the socialist policies of Judy Chu over the America First policies of Johnny Nalbandian. In the face of these almost never-ending attacks, we will continue to advocate for **unity** in the party.