

[PDF] Re: Melinda Orbach

From Leah Jack <ljack95060@yahoo.com>
Date Wed 9/24/2025 4:33 PM
To Gautho, Julia <jgautho@ci.capitola.ca.us>

 1 attachment (41 KB)

Letter for your consideration in support of Melinda.pdf;

Here is my letter again.

Thank you,
Leah

On Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 08:25:25 AM PDT, Gautho, Julia <jgautho@ci.capitola.ca.us> wrote:

Good Morning,

Thank you for emailing the City Council. In order for your letter to be included in the agenda packet, please send it in Word or PDF format, or copied into the body of your email. It's possible that your link may not work through our software once uploaded.

Thank you,

Julia Gautho

City Clerk

jgautho@ci.capitola.ca.us

(831) 475-7300 x. 228

From: Leah Jack <ljack95060@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 5:03 PM
To: City Council <citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us>
Subject: Melinda Orbach

Good Afternoon,

I am writing on behalf of Melinda Orbach. You will find my letter attached [here](#).

Thank you for your time and attention,

Leah K. Rogers

Dear Capitola City Council,

I write today with deep disappointment that the Council has allowed a baseless complaint to rise to the level of a public agenda item. To place Councilmember Melinda Orbach on trial for speaking openly about harassment and intimidation is not only absurd—it is an insult to every resident who expects their leaders to stand up for civil discourse, safety, and respect.

Councilmember Orbach has already acknowledged that naming an individual was a mistake she will not repeat, but her comments on April 17 were rooted in truth, transparency, and a mother's instinct to protect her family. She has demonstrated integrity by offering mediation multiple times through the Conflict Resolution Center, and she continues to show restraint in the face of relentless personal attacks. Instead of rewarding good-faith efforts at resolution, this Council is legitimizing harassment by agendizing a code of conduct complaint that has no merit, nor does it create trust from our community members.

The facts are clear: Councilmember Orbach described threatening behaviors accurately. She did not engage in name-calling, slander, or personal attacks—she simply set boundaries that any public servant has the right to establish. For that, she has been met with months of online vitriol, threats of litigation, and political intimidation. Capitola residents should not have to watch their representatives be silenced or driven out by those who would rather bully than engage in dialogue.

I urge you to dismiss this claim outright on September 25. Capitola needs leaders who protect truth and principle, not those who bow to intimidation. To punish Councilmember Orbach for demanding civility is to send the message that harassment works. That is not the Capitola I believe in, and I stand firmly with her.

Leah Rogers
Capitola Resident