



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

STATEMENT

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Councilmember Gloria Comments on San Diego Padres and San Diego Gay Men's Chorus Incident Resolution

SAN DIEGO, CA (May 26, 2016) – Councilmember Todd Gloria today released the following statement regarding the announcement from Major League Baseball (MLB) that they had completed their investigation of the incident that occurred during the game on Saturday, May 21, which prevented the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus from singing the National Anthem. The statement came after meetings held this week between the San Diego Padres and both the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus and San Diego LGBT Pride.

"I want to commend the San Diego Padres and Major League Baseball's swift action towards thoroughly investigating the unfortunate events which prevented the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus from performing our National Anthem," Councilmember Gloria said. **"I was heartened by the dialogue among all parties and appreciate them using this as an opportunity towards building a deeper relationship between their organizations going forward. I look forward to seeing the proud men of the Chorus singing our Anthem at an upcoming Padres game, a win for all involved."**

The investigation found no malicious intentions behind the incident, and the San Diego Padres have issued a public apology and welcomed the Chorus to return to a future game to perform the National Anthem. The DJ who had been previously dismissed has been reinstated. The completion of this investigation builds on a number of historic efforts made by the Padres towards being inclusive of the LGBT community:

- Padres were the first MLB team to host a Pride Night in 2001.
- Padres have held an Out at the Park/Pride Night event annually since 2008.
- In 2011, Padres became the first professional team to sign the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network's "Team Respect Challenge" pledging to promote an inclusive environment among San Diego school athletes regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.
- In 2014, Padres were the first team in Major League Baseball to invite MLB Ambassador for Inclusion Billy Bean to speak to players and front office staff.
- In 2015, Padres held a pregame ceremony inviting Athlete Ally and representatives from the San Diego Unified School District to join club executives and on-field personnel to collectively sign the Athlete Ally pledge of inclusion.

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