

## **COUNCILMEMBER PERTURBED WITH CITY ATTORNEY PLAYING POLITICS** *Councilmember Chris Cate protests Closed Session vote and does not participate*

San Diego, CA: Councilmember Chris Cate protests the Closed Session vote and demands City Attorney Mara Elliot re-focus her efforts from chasing national policies to promoting public safety and prosecuting local criminals here in San Diego.

For the second time this month, Elliot is plunging the City of San Diego into divisive national policies versus doing her duty to put local criminals, such as illegal pot shop owners, domestic violence abusers, and sex traffickers, behind bars.

During her campaign for office, Elliot gave her word to voters that she would not play politics. Unfortunately, within only three short months of being elected, she has already broken her promise to San Diegans by wasting valuable hours of City staff time to pursue national headlines.

Excerpts from a media interview in 2016 with the [San Diego Union Tribune](#):

*"Yeah, it is the most complex job you can imagine. And I've worked really hard to ensure that I'm not political at work for the reason that you're describing because we won't get anything done if I come in playing politics because the Republicans would never trust me because they would wonder if I've got an agenda that I'm trying to carry forward for somebody else."*

"There is nothing about this lawsuit that I disagree with. I have stood, and will continue to stand, with my colleagues and advocate for equal rights for the LGBT community. The fact is, our City Attorney is failing San Diego right now by focusing on bringing divisive 'DC politics' to San Diego. As Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee, I am asking our City Attorney to focus her time on shutting down illegal marijuana dispensaries and combatting sex trafficking. My commitment has always been to bring results to the people of San Diego and I ask that our City Attorney do the same," stated Chris Cate, Council District 6.

"The Log Cabin Republicans San Diego (LCRSD) support the civil rights of transgender youth, students, and adults. LCRSD is however very concerned why the San Diego City Attorney and local LGBT organizations are playing politics at the City Council level on this issue. The Transgender and other minority communities would be better served if the time and resources of the City Attorney office were directed toward the prosecution of crimes against our community and others, as is their function. We highly recommend that the City Council of San Diego direct the City Attorney to focus on the issues of San Diego and our community and aggressively prosecute the criminals preying on them, as is her function," said Gina Roberts, President Log Cabin Republicans San Diego.

*Councilmember Chris Cate available for comment after today's 11:00 a.m. Closed Session.*