

**From:** Julee Stover <[jstover@charter.net](mailto:jstover@charter.net)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 3:36 PM

**To:** Tony Viramontes <[Tony.Viramontes@longbeach.gov](mailto:Tony.Viramontes@longbeach.gov)>; CityClerk <[CityClerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:CityClerk@longbeach.gov)>

**Cc:** Taylor Anderson <[Taylor.Anderson@longbeach.gov](mailto:Taylor.Anderson@longbeach.gov)>

**Subject:** Public Comment for Wednesday, December 7, Equity & Human Relations Commission meeting at 6:00 pm via Zoom

**-EXTERNAL-**

To Whom It May Concern:

I would please like to submit the following public comment to be read at tonight's December 7 Equity & Human Relations Commission meeting being held via Zoom/teleconference at 6:00 pm, as I am unable to participate due to an event for my child being held at the same time. This comment will address the talking point as to the controversial behavior demonstrated by Commission Chair, Alyssa Gutierezz.

**Public Comment:**

While I understand the initial goal of this particular meeting discussion point is to address some controversial statements that Keyona Montgomery made in the local Long Beach Politics group on Facebook, I would like to ask the commissioners to also consider the comments made to me by the Chair of the Commission on Equity & Human Relations, Alyssa Gutierezz, in the same forum, as she is the leader of a commission, whose overarching goal is "**A: To furnish the opportunity for the promotion and encouragement of positive human relations among community members, groups, and institutions and to consider, promote and develop programs for the reduction of tension, conflict, or violence which may arise from intolerance, prejudice and discrimination based upon race, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, or mental or physical disability.**"

As demonstrated below Alyssa jumped into a conversation Keyona and I were having and were in agreement on (financial tactics of PACs and independent expenditure committees) and accused me of being "likely anti-worker and likely racist and/or classist." While Keyona and I had conversed many times on the LB Politics FB group, this was the first time Alyssa had ever interacted with me. Here is her comment:

5:46



## Comment

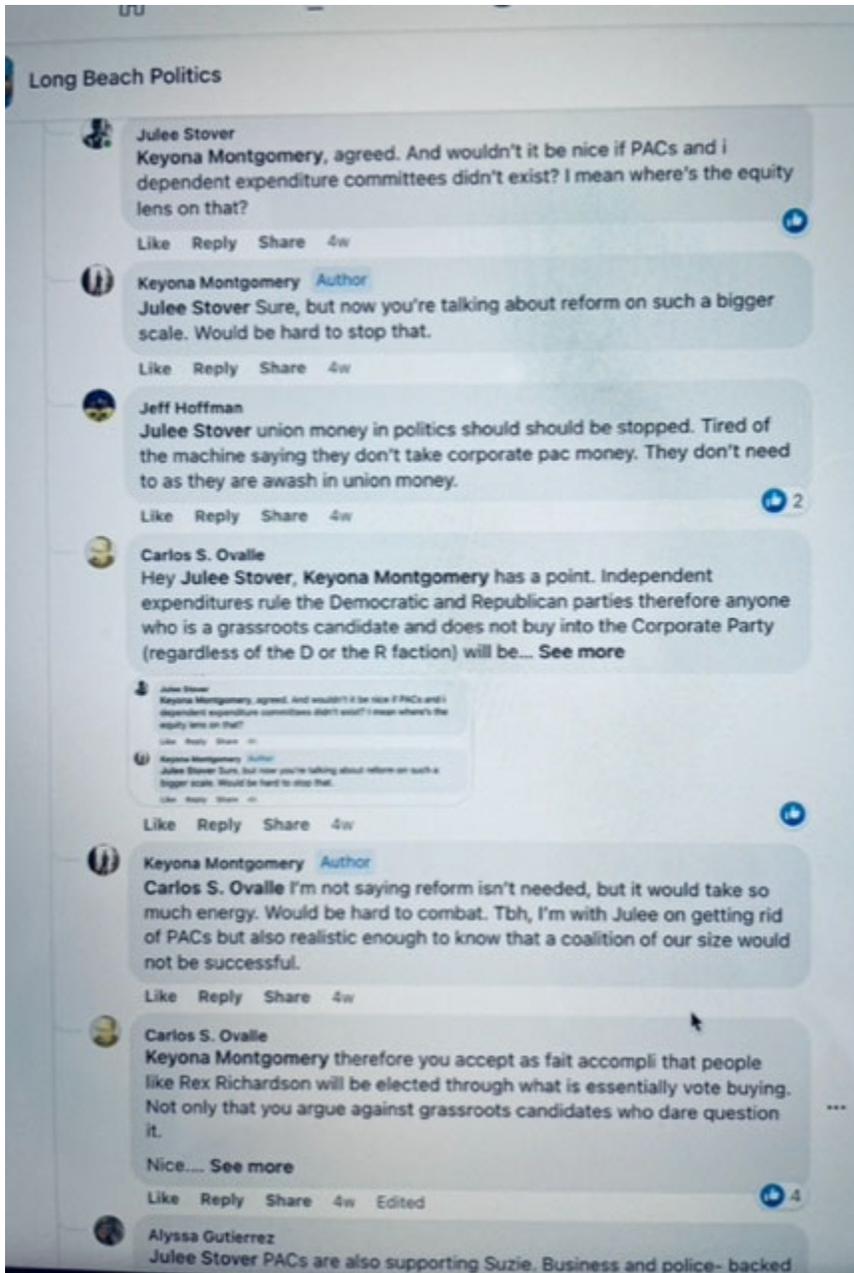


**Alyssa Gutierrez**  
**Julee Stover** PACs are also supporting Suzie. Business and police-backed PACs. Hmmmm I wonder why? Because she consistently uplifts the needs of business and the elite over working class families. The fact that you have a problem with labor unions helping to elect people who will fight for working families tells me you are likely anti-worker and likely racist and/or classist.

2d Like Reply

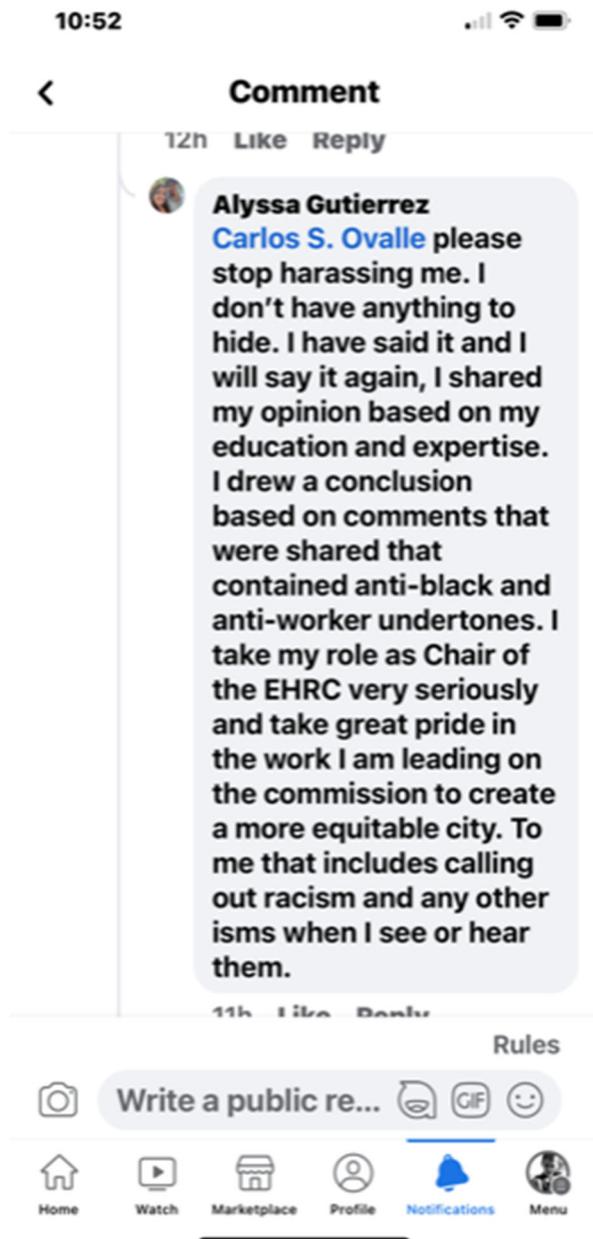


I've included an image of the preceding conversation prior to Alyssa jumping in with the comment to establish there were no elitist, racist, or classist comments made. [Please double-click for clarity]



She then double-downed last night on this interpretation and said the following to community member Carlos Ovalle about it:

“I drew a conclusion based on comments that were shared that contained anti-black and anti-worker undertones. I take my role as Chair of the EHRC very seriously and take great pride in the work I am leading on the commission to create a more equitable city. To me that includes calling out racism and any other isms when I see or hear them.”



WHAT anti-black and anti-worker undertones is she referring to?! I asked her on that same thread this morning to please point out in our conversation examples of me displaying any kind of anti-black or anti-worker sentiments, as I'm sure she would want the same if the situation were reversed. She has not responded.

She along with her fellow commissioners signed a Code of Conduct and Ethics Statement that requires some of the following key behaviors:

- \* I will treat others with dignity.
- \* I will treat all colleagues, the public, stakeholders, and anyone transacting business with the City with respect.
- \* I will not permit personal interests to impair my judgment or actions

Closing thought: Is unprovoked divisive behavior the kind of leadership Long Beach wants on a commission whose main objective is to create unity among people of different backgrounds?

I appreciate the thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Thank you,  
Julee Stover