

**BRIAN KRAMER**  
Santa Ynez, California 93460

September 29, 2017

**SENT VIA FACSIMILE & EMAIL**

Supervisor Das Williams  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
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Santa Barbara, California 93101  
Facsimile No. (805) 568-2534

Supervisor Joan Hartmann  
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Supervisor Peter Adam  
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Supervisor Janet Wolf  
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Supervisor Steve Lavagnino  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
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Santa Barbara, California 93101  
Facsimile No. (805) 346-8404

**Re: Intergovernmental Memorandum of Agreement - Camp 4  
Political Contributions by the Tribe(s) to Supervisor Das Williams  
Public Hearing - - October 3, 2017**

Dear Supervisors Williams, Hartmann, Adam, Wolf and Lavagnino:

I live in Santa Ynez, California. I understand a Public Meeting has been set on unusually short notice for October 3, 2017, to address the tentative "Intergovernmental Memorandum of Agreement - Camp 4" between Santa Barbara County and the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians ("Tribe") to allow the development of Camp 4 which includes 143 homes, tribal facilities, water treatment facilities, roads and infrastructure, among other things.

Supervisor Das Williams is a member of the Board of Supervisors Ad Hoc Subcommittee Regarding Santa Ynez Valley Band of Chumash Indian Matters and he apparently participated in the negotiations for an agreement on behalf of the residents of Santa Barbara County.

Supervisor Williams holds a position of trust and a fiduciary duty to the residents of Santa Barbara County. It appears Supervisor Williams received the following political contributions from the Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians and other tribes:

Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians	\$18,000.00	July 27, 2016
Barona Band of Mission Indians	\$ 4,000.00	September 12, 2016
Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians	\$ 3,000.00	August 31, 2015
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	\$ 2,000.00	2014/2015
Barona Band of Mission Indians	\$ 4,100.00	2014/2015

Neither Santa Barbara County nor Supervisor Williams revealed to the public the over \$31,000.00 in political contributions received from the above tribes, including \$18,000.00 from the Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians. Supervisor Williams has a serious conflict of interest.

**It is requested that Supervisor Das Williams immediately recuse and disqualify himself from any further action or proceedings regarding the Ad Hoc Subcommittee and the tentative “Intergovernmental Memorandum of Agreement - Camp 4.” Moreover, Supervisor Williams must recuse himself from voting on the “tentative” Agreement.**

The manner in which the County’s negotiations were shrouded in secrecy, the County’s inconsistent positions on the environmental issues, the County’s agreeing to support H.R. 1491 to the detriment of those who have a legal right to pursue federal lawsuits to challenge the BIA, and the County’s agreeing to receive a nominal sum of \$178,500 per year, raises serious concerns and questions whether the negotiators were influenced by large political contributions from various tribes to a member of the negotiation team for the County and the public, including a \$18,000.00 political donation from the Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians.

There is an obvious conflict of interest when a member of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee has received major political donations from the adverse party sitting across the negotiation table. The “tentative” Agreement appears to be tainted by undue political influence and must be rejected.

At a minimum, an investigation should be initiated immediately to determine what political influence was involved in the negotiation process of a “tentative” agreement that does **not** protect the environment or rural character to the Santa Ynez Valley and is contrary to everything Santa Barbara County has repeatedly stated in its filings with the federal government and in federal court.

The political contributions received by Supervisor Williams from various tribes, including the \$18,000.00 from the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, should be added to the Agenda for the Public Meeting set for October 3, 2017.

**Please post this letter on the County’s website for the upcoming hearing.**

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at [BrianKramerLaw@aol.com](mailto:BrianKramerLaw@aol.com) or my office at 1230 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 300, Manhattan Beach, California 90266, Tel. (310) 536-9501.

Very truly yours,  
*Brian Kramer*  
Brian Kramer

cc:

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