



ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY
**DEPUTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEYS**
CIVIC ACTION COMMITTEE

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS
CALL ON THE VOICE OF OC TO RETRACT OR CORRECT ITS INACCURATE STORY**

In February of 2022, the members of the Association of Orange County Deputy District Attorneys (“AOCDDA”) voted and endorsed Todd Spitzer for District Attorney.

Last week, Todd Spitzer scheduled an all staff townhall and invited employees to submit any questions on any topic. During his tenure, Spitzer has participated in two other District Attorney townhalls where he faced questions submitted anonymously by his employees. The organizations that represent prosecutors from the District Attorneys office – specifically the Association of Orange County District Attorneys (AOCDDA), AOCDDA’s Civic Action Committee (AOCDDA-CAC), the Orange County Attorneys Association (OCAA), District Attorney Women’s Network (DAWN), and the Association for Inclusion Diversity and Equity (AIDE) – solicited and collected questions from its members. These five organizations then submitted the questions, as written by individual members, to Todd Spitzer for the townhall.

Today, in a story entitled “Prosecutor Revolt Brews Over DA Spitzer’s Ethics, Prompting Scathing Questions of Their Boss,” the Voice of OC grossly mischaracterized the list of questions submitted as “an open letter to Spitzer”. The document containing the list of questions, which the Voice of OC links in their story, explicitly states in its preamble that the groups were “facilitating the

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submission of questions anonymously from our members...” and “[w]hat follows is the list of questions gathered by these groups, only edited for clarity or to avoid repetition ... None of our organizations is involved in this meeting beyond gathering these questions.” Yet, the Voice of OC ascribes these questions as having been generated by the leadership of AOCDDA, AOCDDA-CAC, OCAA, DAWN, and AIDE and constituting a “united front” against Spitzer. This is utterly false.

The story goes on to claim that AOCDDA and CAC “are now signaling they could pull their [endorsement].” That is blatantly inaccurate. CAC has taken no action to withdraw the endorsement.

The questions asked by our fellow prosecutors focus on a wide-range of important and relevant issues, including salaries and benefits, Covid-19 policies and procedures, promotions, and working conditions. Yet, the Voice of OC has slanted its coverage to focus on those questions that are the most sharply critical of Spitzer.

“Like any office, our members have legitimate concerns and grievances. We applaud Todd Spitzer’s willingness to field tough questions from his employees,” said Cyril Yu, Chair of the Civic Action Committee.

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