



# BRANDO VILLAPUDUA

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## PRESS RELEASE

### UNFOLLOW SOCIAL MEDIA BULLY 209TIMES

June 8, 2023, Frank Gayaldo of 209Times contacted Councilmember Brando Villapudua threatening to publish an incident that occurred over 20 years ago. Gayaldo's numerous text messages, originating from the Philippines, claimed to be concerned for Villapudua and pretended to be investigative journalism. Gayaldo claimed he was under a time crunch to collect information because someone else was writing the story for the 209Times social media platform.

These text messages come days after 209Times intentionally posted false statements about Villapudua concerning a bar incident that did not occur anywhere close to how 209Times published. The bar's owner, security guards, and bartenders have provided their statements along with other witnesses verifying the true sequence of events. Villapudua demands 209Times publish a retraction of the false accusations and cease further harassment via their social media platform. In response to the incident that occurred in Villapudua's past, the Councilmember remarked:

"The incident Frank brings up from 20 years ago isn't anything I've tried to hide; I was young and reckless and I'm not proud of it but we have to learn from our mistakes and move on. I don't bring it up and no one has asked me about it. Had a real journalist asked me about the event for journalistic purposes, I would understand. Frank is asking for Patrick with intentions to harass me and pressure me to vote to fire the City Manager. I made a mistake 20 years ago and paid my debt. Patrick and Frank want to play double jeopardy and convict me again so they can win a council seat."

"I value free speech as much as anyone. I'm tasked with protecting our First Amendment. What I don't recognize is the value of a social media bully who is attacking people's character and defaming people's character for his personal financial gain. Patrick Sanchez, Frank Gayaldo, and 209Times want to remove the City Manager for personal reasons. I don't support letting one person or a bully dictate who should represent the constituents.

Patrick Sanchez says he will go after me, my family, and my friends because he claims I lied to him. Sanchez believes that because I hired him as my consultant, I owe him my vote to fire the City Manager and anything else he wants. I hired him to do a job, not give him access to votes. Patrick Sanchez "Does Not have my vote!", stated Councilmember Villapudua.

Councilmember Villapudua refuses to allow a social media bully to force him out of his seat. It will not be an easy four years, but we ask for your support by **unfollowing** the 209Times social media platforms and submitting complaints to Instagram and Facebook regarding 209Times failure to meet social media standards.

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