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A phrase often attributed to Saul Alinsky, author of 'Rules for Radicals, is, "Accuse your opponent of what you are doing to create confusion and to inculcate people against evidence of your own guilt." Although attribution for this quote may be spurious, it continues to resonate. It has also been said, "If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it." To rephrase: The more an outlandish lie is repeated, the more believable it becomes.

Psychological projection is part of our common experience. It's a tactic as old as time itself. As Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the snake, and the snake then blamed God himself, so too do the former leaders of the HOA and CSD, Eric Wolf, Lisa Ricommini (Garret Clancy's wife), and Richard Levy, CPA, among others, continue to blame everyone but themselves for the very things they have done and continue to do with impunity. Conveniently, they also seem to have "forgotten" that it was their poor judgement and improper actions that directly resulted in an 11 million dollar liability against Bell Canyon, creating our worst financial crisis in our history. Our current HOA board is tackling all this. The current board was forced to take out a loan and has been able to stabilize our financial situation, keeping dues increases and special assessments to a minimum. Despite all the hubbub, this recall is not about protecting the fire department, but, in my opinion, protecting Eric Wolf and the others related to a lawsuit that was filed to claw back the money we lost as a result of their breach of fiduciary duty and not acting in good faith, creating an 11 million dollar debt against the Bell Canyon HOA--YOU and ME.

Consider the lies about the current board to "justify" the recall from the 5 "independent" opposition candidates, all closely tied to the the BCWFD, and most importantly its primary strategist, Eric Wolf. To paraphrase, they say that the current board is evil, creating controversy, conflict, dissension, polarizing, hates the BCWFD, has committed elder abuse, and is lying to the Canyon. Is it not they who are being divisive, polarizing, and untruthful? Who initiated and has advocated for this recall? It seems the BCWFD has morphed into a cash cow and a political action committee (PAC) that serves Eric's purposes.

How has our current board truly acted? What have they accomplished in only a few months? They've demonstrated their fiscal expertise, bringing about the stabilization of our finances. They've successfully settled 12 lawsuits, all of which were inherited from the prior board, thereby eliminating ongoing legal expenses and a huge, uncertain cloud of financial liability hanging over us. There are 2 legal initiatives to claw back our money. These are 2 contingency lawsuits about which the attorneys are so confident they'll prevail that they're prosecuting under an agreement whereby we pay nothing if we lose. A focused forensic audit has been completed that, unfortunately, has confirmed the misappropriation of HOA funds by Eric Wolf, Richard Levy, CPA, and Lisa Ricommini, all members of the prior HOA board and intimately related to the "fire department." Our current board has successfully contracted for professional management of our HOA. Despite our thin finances, they found the money to replace the BCCC roof which had been neglected for years by the prior board to the extent that there

is substantial structural damage, which will require further renovation. The BCEC's arenas are recently renovated, a sorely needed new drag attachment for leveling the arenas' surface was acquired. Fresh paint is next, with more to come. Our long-neglected road maintenance program has finally gotten restarted. This board has been more transparent than any board in memory.

Per the DA's letter and LAFCo's report, there were both perceived and actual conflicts of interest when Eric Wolf and Richard Levy, CPA, were on both the CSD and HOA boards at the same time. Can you imagine the conflicts of interest created if the fire department, controlled by Eric, Richard, and Clancy are also controlling the HOA via the 5 "independent" opposition candidates?

The BCVWFD has ignored all requests to meet with the HOA to discuss their many mutual concerns. As stated on the Certificate of Insurance, without the policy, the Certificate alone is inadequate to ensure the HOA is truly fully protected. The Certificate the fire department provided states, "IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s)." This is an exact quote without any emphasis added.

It's no coincidence that the same leadership (board members) of the "fire department" are also the same board members who deferred critical maintenance and got the HOA into our debt crisis. They are also the same people, when in control of the CSD, who squandered \$100,000s of your tax dollars on legal fees fighting LAFCo and the HOA. It's no coincidence that all the "independent" recall candidates are associated with the "fire department." They are all joined at the hip. They may say they're independent or not friends with Eric Wolf, but one gave a gift valued at just shy of \$200 to Eric Wolf, and the others appear in pictures with Eric Wolf at private and public events. The loss of the BCVWFD's DMV issued exempt license plates, and use of the Water Works District's fire hydrants are the consequence of their misleading those government agencies. Bell Canyon Strong and Bell Canyon United are likely the brainchild of Eric Wolf. In my opinion, Eric Wolf, with Richard Levy, CPA, and Lisa Ricommini at his side, is the puppet master hoping to control the HOA board from behind-the-curtain. Though it may cost the Canyon hundreds of thousands of dollars to cancel the lawsuits on contingency, these suits cost us nothing to prosecute. These suits will likely be stopped, and recovery will be zero if the recall succeeds. Rather than potentially reducing our debt without risk of increasing it, we would trade more debt to get Eric and his lawyer friends off the legal hook.

THINK CAREFULLY--WHAT IS REALLY BEST FOR BELL CANYON AND YOU

- ◆ HAS THE CURRENT BOARD DELIVERED ON THEIR PROMISES TO THE CANYON?
- ◆ IS TRADING THE CURRENT BOARD, WHICH HAS KEPT ITS PROMISES, FOR A BOARD THAT APPEARS TO HAVE ERIC'S UNSTATED ENDORSEMENT TRULY IN OUR BEST INTEREST?
- ◆ IS PRESERVING THE FACADE OF A "FIRE DEPARTMENT," NOW KNOWN TO BE UNRECOGNIZED BY VENTURA COUNTY, UNABLE TO USE FIRE HYDRANT WATER TO FIGHT FIRES, CREATES LIABILITY FOR US ALL, AND IS VIEWED AS UNDESIREABLE AS A STOP GAP BY VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT TRULY IN OUR BEST INTEREST?

VOTE NO on the recall