

Lopez, Maria [COB]

From: Elizabeth Levy <elizabethjlevy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Page, Leon; COB_Response
Subject: comment for agenda item 8

Dear Mr. Page, I am submitting the following comment for agenda item #8 for the meeting on 9/15. Due to chronic health issues I will be unable to comment in-person and I am requesting to have the following comment read into the record. Thank you, Elizabeth

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Dear Orange County Board of Supervisors,
I am a licensed MD living in Orange County. Regarding Agenda item #8 relating to the allocation of resources and personnel for the Health Care Agency, I would like to call the Board's attention to the questionable credentials and integrity of Dr. Clayton Chau, our current public health director. Recently, the local paper Voice of OC reported that Dr. Chau's PhD degree is in fact from a known diploma mill. In response to being confronted with this information, Dr. Chau pleaded ignorance and waved away concerns about his fitness by citing his active California medical license. As a fellow licensee, I must respond to ensure that this deflection is called out for what it is: a scandal. A medical license is a lawful permit to practice diagnosis and treatment of disease. It is not a magic wand of "anything goes." Licensed MDs have a duty to the public to be truthful about their credentials. A fake PhD is a serious breach of trust. A qualified leader must inspire trust and Dr. Chau cannot. As a result, he is unsafe for public leadership, and he must resign his position. The officials who chose him for this role should also be held accountable for their failure to competently vet Dr. Chau as a candidate. The Board must exercise whatever power it can to ensure that Orange County's leadership is strong during this extremely difficult time. Our leaders must lead by example.

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Physicians for Justice
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