

## **Rep. Susan Davis Says Mayor Should Step Down**

Despite his inclusive vision for San Diego, Mayor Filner has lost the confidence of San Diegans to lead. He has taken advantage of the trust the voters placed in him - and lost both the promise and capacity to ignite positive change. His behavior, if not illegal, is reprehensible.

The stories that are coming forth, even though they are not formal complaints, resonate with people because they have seen the Mayor's inappropriate behavior. Women do not make up these stories and these charges are not levied without great courage. The mayor's lack of understanding of the debilitating effects of sexual harassment, intimidation, and bullying is an affront to all.

Although we have never had a smooth relationship, I have respected his passion for our city and his interest to change the way business is done. But all of that is now lost because he did not have enough passion for the city to curb his incomprehensible and unacceptable behavior.

Sexual harassment has no place anywhere and the mayor's office should be a stunning example of proper decorum both with the public and with city employees. The mayor's office should not be a center for sexual harassment and bullying in the workplace. The image of our city is on the line as the mayor is someone we all should look up to.

My compass tells me that someone accused, no matter how flawed, deserves a chance to respond. The mayor has acknowledged his problems but seemed to back away. I am glad he is getting the help he clearly needs; however it is doubtful he would be able to continue and be an effective mayor. After much thought, I join with those who are asking him to step down so the victims and our city can move forward.

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