



Statement on LA City Council Recording

Dear Glendale Community College Community,

As you may have heard, a recently released recording of former- LA City Council President, Nury Martinez and council member Kevin de Leon has been shared. In this recording, we hear the Council President and member discussing the child of another member (Mike Bonin) and the fact that the child is Black, and the father is White. As the recording continued, anti-LGBTQIA+ comments about Bonin were made. These racist and homophobic remarks are unacceptable and inexcusable. The comments attacked the Black and LGBTQIA+ communities; Martinez criticized the child's behavior with a racial slur, then said he "needs a beatdown. Let me [Martinez] take him around the corner, and then I'll bring him back." Martinez also made disparaging comments about the Oaxacan people.

It is appalling that as a woman of color, who in theory should understand the needs of other people of color, was able to conduct herself in this manner just because she did not think anyone was recording. Also, it should be noted that while she had this discussion with de Leon, there were two others (Gil Cedillo and Ron Herrera) in the same office who said nothing to stop the conversation or correct the speakers.

The DEIA committee strongly condemns these statements and behavior; our work as citizens must be to hold our elected and appointed representatives accountable to the ideals of DEIA.

The DEIA committee would like to assure you that we are working to provide more trainings, support, and opportunities for our campus community to engage in meaningful discussions and actions. Our students are the first and foremost concern and in that respect: we want to help our students of color and LGBTQIA+ students feel safe, welcomed, and supported in all aspects while they attend our college. It is with this idea in mind that we want to encourage students, staff, faculty, admin to reach out to the DEIA committee if you have any questions or concerns.

There are links to support resources below and we encourage students to reach out for assistance whenever they need.

Links to articles about this incident and also responses from community constituents are provided as well.

The DEIA committee is dedicated to Creating & Upholding an Anti-Racist and Anti-Bias Learning Environment Focused on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility.

-The Academic Senate Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Glendale Community College

Student Support Services:

- [Student Services](#) are available to help support our students in a variety of ways. Please have students reach out to any resources that are available whenever they need.
- [Student Health Center](#) can provide additional support not listed in the “student services” site. Understanding that mental health is widely needed and underappreciated, we should encourage students to seek help if needed.
- [Multicultural & Community Engagement Center](#) (MCEC) provides support for our LGBTQIA + community as well as other student groups. Having a safe space to feel accepted and welcomed is important and the MCEC is that place.

Links to additional materials:

- [Nury Martinez resigns from L.A. City Council in wake of audio leak"](#)
- [Once seen as a trailblazer, Kevin De Leon tumbles after leaked racist tape](#)
- [The Privilege of Being from Oaxaca](#)
- [For Oaxacans in L.A., city council members racist remarks cut deep](#)
- [Los Angeles LGBT Center Calls for Resignation of City Councilmembers After Anti-Black and Anti-LGBTQ Remarks](#)
- [Will LA City Council fiasco lead to redistricting reform?](#)