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March 15, 2018

Women Speak Out Against Mickey Kasparian Endorsement Of Lori Saldana

Saldana called on Kasparian to resign over multiple sexual harassment allegations, but is now taking his political support

SAN DIEGO – In a stunning display of shameless political opportunism, Lori Saldana has taken the political support of Mickey Kasparian, an accused sexual harasser who just months ago [she demanded step down from office](#) in response to allegations of sexual harassment, gender discrimination and workplace abuses. [Saldana's endorsement was announced today.](#)

[The Voice of San Diego reported last week](#) on Saldana's abrupt change on sexual harassment, writing, 'A year ago, Saldaña was one of [dozens of women](#) who called on Kasparian to resign in a letter', but, 'Now with [Saldana's] fundraising struggling, she can thank [Kasparian] for giving her a boost.'

Brigette Browning, President of San Diego's Hotel Workers' Union, said:

“What kind of person would call for a sexual harasser to resign and then turn around and ask him for money for her campaign?”

“First, Saldana abandoned Bob Filner’s victims to curry favors with a powerful politician and now, she’s once again betrayed survivors of sexual harassment, in a desperate effort to get financial contributions for her floundering political campaign. It’s shameless and unforgivable.”

Sara Kent, a local environmental advocate and organizer of the letter calling on Kasparian to resign, which Saldana signed, said:

“Lori Saldana trashed the women who took legal action against Mickey Kasparian’s alleged gender discrimination, quid pro quo sexual harassment and workplace abuses, saying they were ‘weaponizing their victimhood’.”

Carol Kim, a leader of San Diego’s Building Trades Council and a San Diego Convention Center Boardmember, said:

“Despite her reputation for being a progressive female leader, I have learned over the years that Lori Saldana will say or do anything to advance her political career, even embracing a sexual harasser and begging for his political contributions.

“Saldana betrayed survivors of Bob Filner’s sexual assaults, endorsing Filner and opposing calls for his resignation, even while having first-hand knowledge of Filner’s abuse. This is despite the fact that she consistently heaps criticism on the Democratic Party and others. Now, Saldana is taking campaign money and political support from the same sexual harasser she called on to resign just months ago.

“I find it impossible to reconcile the inconsistencies in her character. It’s incredibly disappointing but this is the moment that it’s clear the emperor truly has no clothes--Lori Saldana doesn’t care about #metoo,

she's just a shameless politician who's all about #me."

Fletcher campaign consultant Rose Kapolczynski, said:

"Lori Saldana is shameless. Saldana has abandoned survivors of sexual harassment to go begging for campaign cash from their harasser.

"San Diegans need change at the County, not someone like Saldana who, instead of standing up for women, stands with the abuser, hoping he will give her the cash to prop up her failing campaign.

"Of course, this is the same Lori Saldana who backed Bob Filner, after having firsthand knowledge of Filner's abuse, so we shouldn't be surprised that Saldana would seize any opportunity to advance her political career."

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