

The Facts on CA48

Claim	Backup
<p>Marni is leading the charge against ICE's terror tactics. Marni pushed to take ICE to court for its abusive practices and blew the whistle against ICE weapons training in our community.</p>	<p>Von Wilpert Introduced Resolution Authorizing City Attorney To Take Legal Action Supporting Minnesota And Illinois' Lawsuits Against Trump Administration, Asserting "ICE's Enforcement Actions Must Comply With Constitutional Protections." "The San Diego City Council voted Monday to authorize the City Attorney's Office to take legal action supporting constitutional lawsuits filed by the states of Minnesota and Illinois against the Trump Administration. The move comes after the council approved a resolution introduced by Councilmember Marni von Wilpert, chair of the city's Public Safety Committee, opposing what she described as 'aggressive and unlawful enforcement tactics' by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)... The resolution asserts that ICE's enforcement actions must comply with constitutional protections, including due process and equal protection under the law. Von Wilpert emphasized that federal agencies have a responsibility to uphold civil liberties while carrying out their duties." [Fox 5/KUSI, 2/4/26]</p> <p>San Diego City Council passes resolution opposing 'excessive' ICE tactics. The resolution also allows City Attorney Heather Ferbert to take legal action on behalf of San Diego to support Minnesota and Illinois lawsuits against DHS, ICE and CBP. [NBC 7/KNSD, 2/2/26]</p> <p>Councilwoman Marni von Wilpert, chair of the Public Safety Committee, was joined by Councilmembers Sean Elo-Rivera and Vivian Moreno in bringing forward the resolution, which would allow City Attorney Heather Ferbert to take legal action on behalf of San Diego to support Minnesota and Illinois lawsuits against the Trump Administration via DHS, United States Immigration Customs and Enforcement, and United States Customs and Border Protection. [Times of San Diego, 1/29/26]</p> <p>Von Wilpert Called on the City of Escondido to Cancel Their Contract with ICE. "San Diego Councilmember Marni Von Wilpert is pushing for the agreement to be terminated. She represents District 5, which is just south of Escondido, and is</p>

	<p>running for Congress in the newly redrawn 48th district that will include the City. “We can show the city of Escondido we have to stand up to Trump and Kristi Noem’s unlawful tactics and pull ICE back and out of our communities,” she said. Von Wilpert has launched a petition arguing that taxpayer-funded facilities should not be used by ICE. “What ICE is doing is un-American, it is not immigration enforcement, and we here in local government need to use all the resources we can to protect our communities against these unlawful tactics by ICE,” Von Wilpert said.” [CBS8/KFMB-TV, 1/25/26]</p> <p>“A San Diego City Council member running for Congress is calling on Escondido to cancel its contract with the federal government that allows Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to train at the Escondido Police Department’s outdoor shooting range. “City resources should be used to keep all communities safe — not to train Trump’s deportation forces,” said San Diego Councilmember Marni von Wilpert, who is one of nearly a dozen candidates for the 48th Congressional District seat held by Rep. Darrell Issa. [The San Diego Union-Tribune, 1/26/26]</p> <p>“This contract was not approved with the public vote, and the city council never had an opportunity to vote on this contract in Escondido,” San Diego City Councilmember Marni von Wilpert said. von Wilpert is calling for her counterparts in Escondido to end the contract. “It’s just what we’re seeing is so chaotic and un-American. We need to end this contract and not allow ICE to do further damage to our communities,” von Wilpert said. [ABC 10/KGTV, 1/28/26]</p>
<p>Marni is a former prosecutor where she sued chemical polluter Monsanto for poisoning California’s waterways.</p>	<p>Von Wilpert Is A Former Civil Prosecutor, Sued Monsanto Over San Diego Bay Pollution. “When [von Wilpert] returned home to Scripps Ranch, she started working for City Attorney Mara Elliott as a civil prosecutor. ‘I go after corporations for polluting our environment, violating privacy rights or not treating their workers fairly,’ she said. Her cases have included suits against Experian for selling data, Monsanto for polluting San Diego</p>

	<p>Bay and Instacart for violating workers’ rights.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, 12/9/20]</p> <p>June 2020: City Attorney Announced \$550 Million Total Settlement With Monsanto. “Today, the Office of San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott and twelve other governmental entities announced a proposed settlement of \$550 million in the nationwide class action lawsuit against Monsanto Company and related subsidiaries to clean up cancer-causing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) from contaminated waterways throughout the country... The City of San Diego is represented by City Attorney Mara W. Elliott’s Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE) Unit: Chief Deputy City Attorney Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney Kevin B. King, and Deputy City Attorney Marni von Wilpert.” [San Diego City Attorney Release, 6/24/20]</p>
<p>Marni von Wilpert has a proven record of beating the Republicans.</p>	<p>November 2020: Von Wilpert Defeated Republican In City Council District 5 Election By 6.5%. Von Wilpert won her November 2020 city council election with 53.25% of the vote against Republican Joe Leventhal’s 46.75%. [San Diego County Voter Registrar]</p> <p>District 5 Was San Diego’s “Traditionally Most Conservative District.” “There’s no more closely followed race for the San Diego City Council than the traditionally most conservative district in the city, District 5. It covers Rancho Peñasquitos, Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Ranch.” [Voice of San Diego, 8/22/20]</p>
<p>Marni passed the law in San Diego to protect abortion rights after Roe v Wade was overturned.</p>	<p>Von Wilpert Co-Authored Pioneering Ordinance Declaring San Diego Safe For Reproductive Freedom. “The San Diego City Council passed a resolution Tuesday declaring San Diego a ‘safe city for reproductive freedom and access to abortion,’ a move supporters believe makes it the first city in the nation to do so. Councilman Stephen Whitburn authored the resolution — which passed 8-0 — with Council President Pro Tem Monica Montgomery Steppe and Councilwomen Jennifer Campbell and Marni von Wilpert.” [City News Service, 5/24/22]</p>

<p>Marni prosecuted the drug companies that fueled the opioid epidemic.</p>	<p>Von Wilpert Was One Of The Lead Litigators On San Diego's Case Against Purdue Pharma. [Case No. 3:2019cv00420, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California]</p>
<p>Obama administration labor attorney</p>	<p>Von Wilpert served as a labor lawyer for the Obama administration from 2014 to 2017. After that, it was two years at the Mississippi legal clinic and a one-year clerkship for a judge before joining the Obama administration from 2014 to 2017. She worked for the president at the National Labor Relations Board and in Congress, focusing on workers' rights. [The San Diego Union-Tribune, 12/6/20]</p>

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<p>Ammar Campa-Najjar isn't just a flip flopper on the issues that matter, he's also a con man. He's run and lost three campaigns from four different addresses</p>	<p>Campa-Najjar Has Used Addresses In Jamul, East Chula Vista, And Kensington During Various Campaigns, While Also Apparently Living In Downtown San Diego. "A former candidate for Chula Vista Mayor continues to use an address in the City nearly three years after losing the election, despite being exposed for actually living in San Diego during and after his campaign... Before the 2022 election, [John] McCann exposed videos of Campa-Najjar living in San Diego at the Bankers Hill condo of his girlfriend, Congresswoman Sara Jacobs... La Prensa San Diego interviewed Campa-Najjar when he claimed he lived in an East Chula Vista condo occupied by relatives, including his aunt and uncle, and an adult cousin, but he refused to meet at the condo to show his living arrangements... in previous campaigns for an East County Congressional district in 2018 and 2020, he claimed he was a 'Jamuligan' who grew up in the East County community of Jamul, where his mom and her husband live... After losing the Mayor's race, Campa-Najjar changed his voter registration address to a home owned by Jacobs in the Kensington area of San Diego and continues to use that address now." [La Prensa, 2/3/26]</p>

<p>under two different names</p>	<p>Campa-Najjar Petitioned To Legally Change His Name Three Weeks Before 2018 Candidate Filing Deadline. San Diego County court records show Ammar Campa-Najjar filed to change his legal name from Ammar Yasser Najjar on February 15, 2018, and the petition was granted several months later on June 12, 2018 (shortly after the primary election). The candidate filing deadline during the 2018 election was March 9, 2018. [San Diego County Superior Court Case No. 37-2018-00007993-CU-PT-CTL, Filed 2/15/18; California Secretary of State]</p> <p>FEC records show Campa-Najjar initially filed to run for congress in March 2017 as “Ammar Campa-Najjar,” in June 2017 he filed an amended statement of organization using the name “Ammar Campa.” [fec.gov, 3/27/17; 6/1/17]</p> <p>Campa-Najjar Petitioned To Legally Change His Name Three Weeks Before 2018 Candidate Filing Deadline. San Diego County court records show Ammar Campa-Najjar filed to change his legal name from Ammar Yasser Najjar on February 15, 2018, and the petition was granted several months later on June 12, 2018 (shortly after the primary election). The candidate filing deadline during the 2018 election was March 9, 2018. [San Diego County Superior Court Case No. 37-2018-00007993-CU-PT-CTL, Filed 2/15/18; California Secretary of State]</p>
<p>He opposed Trump’s impeachment, supported Trump’s border wall,</p>	<p>Campa-Najjar Expressed Support For Trump Border Wall And Opposition To Trump’s Impeachment. “[Campa-Najjar] also reiterated stances he’s previously made in support of Trump’s border wall and against his impeachment.” [KPBS, 10/11/20]</p>
<p>donated to an extreme gun rights group,</p>	<p>Campa-Najjar Contributed \$650 To San Diego County Gun Owners PAC. According to San Diego County campaign finance records, Campa-Najjar contributed \$650 to the San Diego County Gun Owners PAC in September 2020. [San Diego County Campaign Finance Reports]</p> <p>San Diego County Gun Owners Had Previously Opposed Assault Weapons Ban, Safe Storage</p>

	<p>Measures. [Union-Tribune, 8/16/19; Union-Tribune, 9/11/19]</p>
<p>and said, quote, "I ran for Congress to work with Trump."</p>	<p>"I ran for Congress to work with Trump" – Campa-Najjar interview with Defend East County leader Justin Haskins [KPBS, 10/11/20 - YouTube link]</p>
<p>He was against abortion, then for abortion.</p>	<p>Campa-Najjar Wrote That He Did Not Support "Legal Or Illegal Abortion." Multiple outlets reported that Campa-Najjar wrote in that he did not support "legal or illegal abortion" in a during an October 2020 exchange in the Defend East County Facebook group, with screenshots:</p> <p>"Campa-Najjar, a registered Democrat, was criticized in October 2020 for a live-stream interview he held with Defend East County, a known far-right group whose followers regularly promote right-wing conspiracy theories, make racist statements, and publicly called for violence against Black Lives Matter protesters. Campa-Najjar and the group's leader, Justin Haskins, smoked cigars and drank during the interview... During that same period, as Campa-Najjar worked to garner voter from conservative East County voters, he expressed in a Facebook exchange that he did not 'support legal or illegal abortion', taking a position that seemed at odds with his endorsement by Planned Parenthood, NARAL Pro-Choice PAC, and other pro-choice groups, including the Democratic Party and several prominent elected officials." [La Prensa, 5/7/22]</p> <p>"In 2020, [Campa-Najjar] ran against congressman Darrell Issa to represent California's 50th Congressional District. Running as a Democrat, Campa-Najjar flaunted his proximity to Donald Trump through comments in the Defend East County Facebook group. Campa-Najjar commented that he intended to switch his party affiliation to Independent once elected, and that he did not support 'legal or illegal' abortion." [Left Coast Right Watch, 8/10/22]</p> <p>Facebook later removed the Defend East County group, but Campa-Najjar discussed joining it and</p>

engaging with its members during his interview with Haskins:

Campa-Najjar: **"I joined Defend East County because I wanted to see it for myself...** this group has gotten a bad rap because people are focusing on only one thing and a few bad actors that every group has... I appreciate your leadership on that and what I've seen on the group so far, I don't know if you've done some cleaning of it, but the way it looks right now, aside from the comments about me, I think they're pretty damn good." [YouTube, 10/12/20, [6:00 Mark](#)]

Haskins: "When we got to talking, [Campa-Najjar] **wanted to be on the page**, my exact words to Ammar were that you know, I would not support him, I would not endorse him, but **I would allow him to be on the page just as I would any candidate or politician, so that they could answer questions** and promote themselves. I think that this is an incredible tool that we have, the ability to do, rather than sending in an email to a candidate or politician's public account and who knows if their PR person is gonna get it and respond [*Campa-Najjar laughs*] or when you're going to get it, we have the opportunity here to ask questions directly and get real-time answers." [YouTube, 10/12/20, [1:33 Mark](#)]

Haskins: "I'm glad you... want to be on the page." [YouTube, 10/12/20, [7:52 Mark](#)]