

Santa Cruz Chapter American Civil Liberties Union Board of Directors

April 13, 2012

I call for the immediate resignation of Mike Rotkin from the Santa Cruz Chapter ACLU Board.

It is shameful to hold positions of leadership and take pride in the visible trappings of power without demonstrating the requisite honor and integrity that is the public's trust.

He was publicly silent in 1987 when the victim of the District Attorney's bodily injury car wreck is blood tested and he is not.

He was publicly silent in 1994 when overlapping his election the District Attorney directs timecards to be falsified.

He was publicly silent in 2002 when Robert Norse is arrested and charged with disrupting a City Council meeting over a Nazi salute.

He was publicly silent in 2003 when Steve Argue is handcuffed and jailed for political tabling on Pacific Avenue twice.

He was publicly silent in 2010 when Becky Johnson and others are cited for singing political songs on Pacific Avenue.

He was publicly silent in 2010 when Wes Modes is convicted as the only participant in a Do It Yourself New Year's Eve Parade.

He was publicly silent in 2010 before, during and after the Do It Yourself New Year's Eve Parade of 2010, which was preceded by repeated public threats of reprisal from the Santa Cruz Police Department, Take Back Santa Cruz, elected and administrative City government.

He remains publicly silent on crucial local law enforcement abuse of power issues, past and present. No amount of lipstick on the pig will remediate the situation.

These gross omissions must be held accountable.

Mr. Rotkin's continued presence on the Santa Cruz Chapter ACLU Board sustains its deception of complacent cowardice, and justifies its complicit history as the dominant institutional impediment to recognition and response to local law enforcement abuse of power.

It is for this reason those in our community that advocate for local application of values civil rights must demand the resignation of Mike Rotkin from the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Bob Lamonica
Citizen and Resident of Santa Cruz, California