

Mr. Scurti~ I don't really do FB much, but when I opened up my personal page today, I was surprised to see this message from you dated March 3rd asking me to join "the WC resident's page". First of all, please understand that I represent the people of the 3rd District.

You live in the 4th District; your Councilman is Dario Castellanos.

West Covina no longer has "at large" councilmembers who represent all residents city-wide, and for that you can thank James Toma, Corey Warshaw, and Lloyd Johnson. Fred Sykes was also behind that, too.

So if Voting Districts are not to your liking, I suggest you begin an effort to change that. Good Luck.

In the future, I will not be responding to any other messages from you to this FB account. You should understand that being a member of the elected city council is a part time job, but a very busy part time job. Most weeks are filled with meetings with department heads at city hall, and reviewing staff reports that contain pertinent information regarding upcoming city council meetings.

There is a lot to take in, understand and review. Council Meeting Tuesdays are filled with lots of reading and preparation, and counting the 6 pm closed sessions that precede regular council meetings, my responsibilities to the 3rd District usually consumes my whole Tuesday.

The rest of most weeks keep me busy, and I embrace the challenge. I'm sorry (not sorry) but I will not be joining any WC social media pages anytime soon;

Not the "WC Residents" page

Not the "WC Forum" page

Not the "WC Insider" page

or any others for that matter.

My landslide victory in the 3rd District keeps me busy, and I have no desire to spend all day and night on Facebook. Some people have forwarded to me screenshots of comments from the forum page and Sue's resident's page, and I have read some pretty hateful remarks by you and others about me and my husband.

Why would I ever join a page containing that much hate directed at me?

I've seen comments by you and Jay Meader (and others) meant to insult and degrade, day in and day out, even though Forum and Residents page rules say that personal attacks are not allowed. That's funny, because all you do is personal attacks, AND you tolerate it from anyone else who cares to bash me or my family. Your buddy Steve lied and lied again about me during the campaign, posting EVERY DAY saying our campaign was stealing his little yellow yard signs from South Hills Plaza.

What a small man he is.

My husband asked him in a private message to remove his campaign signs, because we had exclusive permission to place our campaign signs there. Steve doubled down and lied some more to everyone, saying he had "permission" to do so.

Everyday, he would place new signs, and everyday, his signs (and others) were removed by grounds maintenance.

But the DIAZ campaign signs always remained. Isn't that interesting? He convinced a lot of people of his lies, and we are fully aware of his venomous attacks to date. He eventually and finally removed his signs from the premises because he was TOLD TO DO SO by the owners.

But not before he doubled down AGAIN with more lies saying that his permission to place his campaign signs had been "rescinded".

That was also a lie, but a lot of his followers, including you, ate it up. He boasts of his integrity, when in fact, he has none whatsoever.

An interesting fact that was never revealed and Mr. Bennet never knew was that the facilities ground manager at South Hills Plaza is a young man named A.D. who happened to be my daughter's first boyfriend when they were both 16 years old. We have known one another for years.

He showed us a utility room on the property FULL of ALL of the opposing candidate's signs (that Steve DAILY accused our campaign of stealing) that were actually removed by the landscape staff. And everyday Steve Bennet told more and more pathological lies to everyone.

My husband discussed this issue with one prominent member of your hater page, and he told Bill that he suspected Steve was lying about the signs all along.

And he was right. He keeps on saying that he "doesn't mind" that he lost the election, but his actions speak much louder than his denials. In fact, if losing doesn't bother him, he never was a serious candidate to begin with.

Regarding my name... This is not the 1940's or '50's anymore, Don. A woman can get financing on a car or a home all by herself. A woman no longer needs a man's permission or signature to do so.

She cannot be forced to use her husband's name when running for elected office, and your insistence that I shouldn't be allowed to use my family name is very racist and sexist of you.

If a woman wishes to use her family name when running as a candidate for elected office, it is perfectly legal and acceptable for her to do so. It has been done many times over, and your permission or approval is not required. It doesn't even matter if you don't "like it". We laughed about a bunch of old white guys convincing Latinos to hate on me, that was pretty funny, but hey~ sometimes a moth can't resist the flame.

None of that matters, It didn't hurt me at all. Understand that there is not one drop of Elliott blood running through my veins, and I will always be Rosario Diaz.

My name connects me to my lineage, heritage, culture, and my first language. Sorry (not sorry) but you can't take that away! And if you think you're hurting my feelings by pointing out my nickname is "Ginger", you're wrong.

My close friends all call me Ginger, a name I gave myself when I was 9 years old. You're not letting any cat out of the bag there, either. You like to say that I hid my husband during the campaign, but, you and Bennett and Meader and Shewmaker spent all 11 weeks of the campaign making sure everyone knew that I was married to Bill Elliott (it wasn't a secret then, never has been, never will be).

I was the candidate, not him.

Steve also likes to say that I never posted a photo of my spouse during the campaign (that's not true)... but we all noticed that there were zero photos of Steve's beautiful wife on his campaign page. I wonder why? Hmmm...

Your never-ending insults and put downs resembles an echo chamber, regurgitating Steve's lies over and over and over again because he came in last place in a field of four. What a sore loser. Like an impetuous child, he never conceded the election or congratulated me on my victory, either. That speaks volumes about Mr. Bennet. If he had won, I would have reached out to him and congratulate him on his victory... In spite of all his hatred expressed for me.

My commitment to win a seat on the city council overshadowed all three opposing candidates, and I outworked and outsmarted every one of them, including Steve.

I walked every precinct, and knocked on every voter's door in my district, and you know what?

The voters like me. You trashed me for working hard and placing more yard signs than all the other candidates put together. Every one of those yard signs were hard fought and hard won, and the word Jealousy comes to mind.

I was out there winning votes while the others were busy on FB trashing me.

I have never met either you or Jay Meader, but that never stopped you from bashing me, every day since I declared myself a candidate. I am so thankful for the tremendous support earned gained on Mardina, Bennet's own street~ he was absent and virtually invisible during the campaign (except on FB), and that speaks volumes about how weak a candidate he was, even in his own neighborhood.

They were all wrong, they all underestimated me, and they all went down in flames. I am very proud of my victory in District 3, and nothing you or your fellow haters can say will ever take that away from me.

You all seem tp really enjoy bashing women. Does it make you feel powerful? More like pathetic. I was elected to the West Covina City Council, not the West Covina Forum.

I am not required, obligated, or even inclined to participate in any local social media page, let alone an echo chamber with no rules whose members relentlessly attack my husband. You seem really angry, Don, your hatred of Tony Wu has really got the best of you.

So again, if you have any comments or complaints, please take them up with Councilman Castellanos. He is your representative, not me. Please do not contact me any more.

I wish you well, and may God Bless you and your family. West Covina Councilwoman Rosario Diaz