



Karen Alvord

1 hr · 🌐



I made a mistake last Wednesday. I made an assumption that a council member was in attendance at the City Council meeting without wearing a face mask. I didn't realize that he had a clear shield on which was not visible to the TV cameras. At the time, I was concerned for Scott and the other council members who were in close proximity and the possibility of virus spread. Out of concern, worry for Scott and anger at what I thought was a showing of poor leadership and lack of concern for others in attendance at the meeting, I made an emotional, reactive post on my Facebook wall. In the post I expressed my anger and astonishment that a council member was at the meeting unmasked. Even though it was a private post only visible to connected "friends" (with about 20ish reactions before I removed the post), my post was mentioned to the council member by one of my connections.

What followed was a reactive post by the council member in question who stated that I was lying, my post was publicly shared and that I had named him in it (I didn't lie though I admit I was mistaken; I didn't share the post to the general public, nor did I call him out by name). Nonetheless, I understood his frustration and I communicated with him directly to let him know I felt badly for the entire situation and to apologize for my post. I also assured him that I had corrected the information when I realized he was wearing a plastic shield during most of the meeting and that I had removed the post that same evening. I appreciated his response which included his own apology for removing his mask during his closing remarks at the meeting. When his public post was not subsequently removed, I suggested a phone call to resolve the situation. Instead he thanked me for my apology. At the time, I thought that privately apologizing was the most productive way of handling this since my post wasn't public and was removed after the meeting.

However, due to escalating public comments and speculations on his post, I am sharing this post today with my friends here on Facebook, [Councilmember Tracy Mendonsa, District 1](#) (Facebook is not allowing me to tag you personally Tracy), and anyone else that may have seen or heard of my post to bring understanding of the reason behind it and the fact that I made a regrettable mistake by reacting to assumptions. I am truly sorry. I respect all of the council members and the challenge of public scrutiny and realize that, as the spouse of a council member, I really am better off keeping these types of opinions to myself. Lesson learned. Please accept my sincere apology.



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Councilmember Tracy Mendonsa, District 1, Scott Alvord and 19 others



OT Trevizo Villa

A plastic shield alone is still not enough protection especially if he is sitting in proximity of others for more than 15 minutes indoors. A face mask plus a plastic shield is more effective.

2

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Doyle S. Radford

It takes a big person to own up and make amends Karen. I commend you for doing the next right thing.

3

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Hilda Baracosa Zuck

Karen you have so much character to make an apology about a mistake. I know you care and worry about anyone contracting covid especially your family.

3

41 mins Like Reply More



Nancy Bui-Thompson

I appreciate you stating you made a mistake. I never saw the original post. But, if someone was indoors where there were other people around, a clear shield is not acceptable. At the very minimum, a cloth mask should be worn. At this point in time, a blue medical mask is easy to obtain, KN95s are also readily available.

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Anne Nash

This is why I rarely look at FB anymore. There is nobody I know who is more caring, responsible, or aware of what being in the public "spotlight" means than you. It's sad that we've reached a point where there is so much animosity 😞 You are an amazing woman 🙏

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Keeva Coe

Karen, what an unfortunate situation. You are one of the most honorable people I know. And, everyone makes mistakes sometimes. The mistake is not the defining factor, it's how the parties behave once the mistake is realized, that really matters. Your behavior after the mistake was realized is as honorable as ever.

Also, as others have mentioned, wearing a plastic shield does not stop the virus from moving between people. Only a mask does that.

Onward and upward. Sending you a hug tonight.

1

18 mins Like Reply More



Comment as Councilmember Tracy

Post

