



## Nicholas “Nico” LaHood

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During the past several years of serving our community, I have come to understand that there are those who do not care to acknowledge a person's true intentions. Unfortunately, it has become painfully obvious that the Express News falls into this category. There is clearly an agenda to attack me and the District Attorney's office. They continuously ignore the truth and fail to report the facts. I have always been transparent, available and willing to discuss all issues with any member of the community or media. I will never apologize for fighting for our community, specifically those who cannot fight for themselves and families who have been victimized by violence.

While everyone is welcomed to have their own opinion of any public servant or public office, nobody should be allowed to create their own facts, and then serve it up as truth for the public to absorb. I fully expect the Express News will continue this slanted journalism. Many of us see the unsettling reality that journalism is turning from objective reporting to profit-driven opinion creation.

Journalism is an instrument, that if used properly, can teach, illuminate, inspire and serve as a much-needed check-and-balance. But it can only do so if those behind it are determined to use it towards those ends - and not abuse the privilege entrusted to them. Our community is blessed to have many responsible and ethical television, radio and other print media outlets. Our office and I are humbled to enjoy a professional relationship with those groups and are thankful that our community has them to keep alive ethical standards in reporting.

I want to thank everyone for the overwhelming support continuously shown to our office. We are humbled by the trust placed in us.

Let me assure you that the Express News will not deter me, nor should they deter you, from serving our community and standing up to those who promote a misleading agenda

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts and I wish everyone a blessed week.