

Subject: Mark Ridley Thomas



PAULA MARSHALL <paulamarshallnucci@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

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Dear Council member,

I am writing to express my concern at the City Counsel for seeking to suspend Council member Mark Ridley Thon pending resolution of the recent charges. Looks to me someone acted too quickly.

The last I checked, a person is innocent until proven guilty. So then, Mark Ridley Thomas should not be penalized finds him guilty. I'm no lawyer but I know that much. Your vote to suspend him deprives his constituents of their re mention the democratic process. Didn't he agree to step down until this is resolved? Why is it that the Democrats still angry about Al Franken. It was a photo! He was a comedian and that woman was paid by Fox news to discre about Al.

If it comes up for a vote, please vote for the democratic process by voting against the motion to suspend Mark Rid

Thank you,

Paula Marshall Nucci

Subject: REQUEST TO NOT SUSPEND MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS FROM



Jessica Adjei <jessica.adjei@sbcglobal.net>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, paul.krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

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Greetings to Council Members:

Rev. Alvin Tunstill, Pastor of Trinity Baptist Church is encouraging offices to please be understanding and exercise patience in the judgment of Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas until he has had an opportunity to present himself in court. Please, do not suspend him at this time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Blessings,

Jessica Cunningham, Administrative Assistant

Trinity Baptist Church

2040 West Jefferson Blvd.,

Los Angeles, CA 90018

Phone: 323.735.0044

Fax: 323.735.0219

Email: <http://www.jessica.adjei@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: PLEASE DO NOT SUSPEND MR. MARK RIDLEY THOMAS



Kathy Jones <amosayers@aol.com>
to Karly.katona

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Hello,

Please give Mark Ridley Thomas a fair chance to clear his name and not Rush to Judgment. He has been an excellent public servant and deserves the public's, yours, the City's, and the County's support until he is able to clear his name.

Let his faithful and tireless service to all communities be the basis for your decision to support and not suspend Mr. Thomas. Let him decide to resign or do what is in his and the public's best interest.

I urge you to stop suspension and please support Mr. Mark Ridley Thomas during this unfortunate circumstance as it is being investigated and resolved.

Sincere Regards,

Kathy S. Jones
Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Fwd: SHAME on YOU! You have failed the City of Los Angeles!



Mary Jones <mary.jones@lacity.org>
to Karly Katona, Fernando Ramirez

Wed, Oct 20, 12:00 PM

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FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bridget Gordon** <bridget.gordon@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Oct 20, 2021 at 12:48 PM

Subject: SHAME on YOU! You have failed the City of Los Angeles!

To: <gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org>, <Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org>, Bob Blumenfield <bob.blumenfield@lacity.org>, <councilmember.raman@lacity.org>, <paul.koretz@lacity.org>, <nury.martinez@lacity.org>, <mrodriguez@lacity.org>, <mhd8@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, <mike.bonin@lacity.org>, <councilmember.lee@lacity.org>, <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>, <kevin.deleon@lacity.org>, <joe.buscaino@lacity.org>

Cc: <Debby.Kim@lacity.org>, <Karo.tarossian@lacity.org>, Lisa Hansen <Lisa.hansen@lacity.org>, <Najeeba.sye@lacity.org>, <Joan.Pelico@lacity.org>, <Ackley.padilla@lacity.org>, <Christine.jerian@lacity.org>, <Solomon.rivera@lacity.org>, <Curtis.earnest@lacity.org>, <Karly.katona@lacity.org>, <Chad.molnar@lacity.org>, <Hannah.lee@lacity.org>, <Jeanne.min@lacity.org>, <Jennifer.barraza@lacity.org>, <Jenny.chavez@lacity.org>, <mary.jones@lacity.org>, <reba_stevens2003@yahoo.com>, Bridget Gordon <bridget.gordon@gmail.com>

Dear City Council,

I LIVE IN THE 10th DISTRICT!

You are dishonorable and so wrong on so many levels. Shame on you, your "Special Vote" today is a travesty of j YOUR place to remove a City Council Member on allegations of anything.

Every one one of you must be voted out of office for not doing your job! Every person in the city of Los Angeles effort in conjunction with local media and the Los Angeles Times.

What does doing your job look like? Ending homelessness, ending the pandemic, assuring neighborhoods are safe assuring the children of Los Angeles are getting fair and equal educational opportunities, ending racism, focusir fairness in everything you do.

CLEARLY, IF MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS WERE A WHITE MAN OR A LATINO MAN, YOU WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN THIS RA ACTION!

SHAME ON YOU.

As stated, I live in the 10th District, for years we have lived with limited, distracted rep grossly neglected our community infrastructure and the well-being of residents.

I vehemently oppose any suspension of Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas.

Subject: Re: MRT Support



Paula Drake <pdrake@ourweekly.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to ackley.padilla@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, chad.molnar@lacity.org, christine.jerian@lacity.org, councilr

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

My concerns are the rush to judgment as it relates to Mark Ridley-Thomas. I am a tax payer and concerned citizen which Mark serves. I believe in due process. What happened to innocent until proven guilty?

In the recent years we have witnessed local police offices murder innocent people and yet they retain their job until

I am outraged that the council is being judge, jury and executioner in the recent charges brought against Mark Ridley-Thomas

Concerned Citizen
Paula Drake Miller

—

Have a*’”)

,. .’ ,. .*’”) ,. .*’”)
(,. .’ (,. .’ onderful day!

Our Weekly, LLC

8732 S. Western Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90047

(323) 905-1305 direct

(323) 776-1030 e-fax

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Picture

To God Be The Glory!

Subject: Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas

**moniquejudson@aol.com**

Wed, Oct 20,

to nury.martinez@lacity.org, kevin.deleon@lacity.org, gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, mhd8@la

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Dear Council President Martinez:

I am reaching out to you as a resident of the City of Los Angeles and someone who has know and worked with fo over 25 years. I strongly request that you take the right action with regard to Councilman Ridley-Thomas - wl continue to serve the citizens of the 10th Council District.

I understand as the leader of the Los Angeles City Council you must make tough decisions, please do not make such as this one based on emotion and reports from the news media. Councilman Ridley-Thomas deserves wh for - to continue working while he fights for due process. The City, County and State are in a better place becau and dedication of Mark Ridley-Thomas. He is a true servant for the community.

Thank you for your time and please stay on course - we have a real bad homeless problem - and we know we i Thomas to get some control of it.

Best,

Monique Hudson

Subject: Fwd: INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY?



Vincent Harris <vmharris9291@gmail.com>
to curtis.earnest

Wed, Oct 20, 10:

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

FYI. Below please find the email I sent to Council President Martinez last night.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Vincent Harris <vmharris9291@gmail.com>
Date: October 19, 2021 at 10:11:09 PM PDT
To: councilmember.martinez@lacity.org
Cc: contactcd4@lacity.org
Subject: INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY?

The presumption of innocence until proven guilty is a fundamental feature of the U.S. justice system. Your I suspend Council Member Ridley-Thomas for alleged crimes that took place before his latest tenure on the unfair and overly punitive. The proposed action denies his constituents representation during critical deliberations concerning redistricting, the COVID-19 pandemic and serving the un-housed.

There are long term implications for the empowerment of constituencies at a time when representative democracy is under assault by elements in our society who seek to deny the historically disenfranchised a voice. Is TH intent? Will YOU be able to represent the distinct needs and interests of the CD10 neighborhoods, constituent communities?

If Mark Ridley-Thomas is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law, why deny him his livelihood meantime, particularly if the alleged crimes preceded and have nothing to do with his current assignment? exactly are you saying to others who may be awaiting their day in court? "We have no personal knowledge of misconduct, but you can no longer earn a living. Moreover, despite a three decade career of public service unparalleled achievements pursuing controversial public policy outcomes, from criminal justice reform to transportation to project labor agreements to health care access to housing to environmental stewardship to neighborhood empowerment, his constituents forfeited the presence of a champion of their causes. Our action is based on not proven in a court of law before a jury of his peers."

REALLY?

Is this the justice you upheld when you took your oath to the Constitutions of the U.S. and California?

Who will represent CD-10 with a seat at the table?

Please permit Councilman Ridley-Thomas to continue representing his constituents during Council deliberations not suspend him. Give him the opportunity to earn a living until he has his day in court. Unless you've already

Subject: MARIK RIDLEY THOMAS RUSH TO JUDGEMENT



Lillian Carter <carterkidbznz@aol.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to Christine.jerian@lacity.org, Soloman.rivera@lacity.org, Curtins.earnest@lacity.org, Karly.katona@lacity.org, Chad.

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

What happened to innocent until proven guilty? Mr. Thomas has been a wonderful help in the community and before this case is presented before the courts is unfair. You are showing the community what African America for so long, we, **BLACKS ARE NOT GIVEN A FAIR CHANCE**. Show us you care about our community and black people. I am life long Los Angeles City resident and I am tired of seeing how there are different sets of rules for others.

Lillian Carter
310.877.5141

Subject: Fwd: MRT NOTE -DRAFT



Educating Young Minds <educatingyoungminds@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 6:1

to Ackley.padilla, Christine.jerian, Solomon.rivera, Curtis.earnest, Karly.katona, Chad.molnar

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Educating Young Minds** <educatingyoungminds@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Oct 20, 2021 at 5:55 AM

Subject: Fwd: MRT NOTE -DRAFT

To: <nury.martinez@lacity.org>, <mrodriguez@lacity.org>, <mhd8@lacity.org>, <councilmember.price@lacity.org>
<mike.bonin@lacity.org>, <councilmember.lee@lacity.org>

Good Morning,,

Our nation and this city is built on principles that every and woman has certain inalienable rights. Like everyone Mark Ridley-Thomas has a right to defend himself. As the legal process unfolds, he should be given the ability his important work serving the people of Los Angeles. God forbid should you too one day may need support of members and not have access to them.

Policemen who have killed innocent Black men and women have a union that protects them and they are often the office and in different capacities as any charges against them are reviewed. Often, they continue to get paid process.

We live by laws that have been instilled in us including that you are innocent until proven guilty. Why should this Councilman Ridley-Thomas? Is he not deserving of this basic right?

I want my tax dollars to support all of you....and uphold your quest for justice until proven guilty, regardless of re council district. You members of the City Council are elected to uphold the laws and rights of ALL citizens, inclu council member Mark Ridley-Thomas.

How you vote today will have a significant impact on the people in this district and this region. Your decision will council members to come as well. Will you vote for one man's right to defend and seek justice for himself, or ar other political operatives?

Give Councilman Ridley-Thomas the ability to provide valuable service to the people of this city and the opport commitment to us.

Thank you,
Angeles Echols

—

Educating Young Minds, Inc.

1807 Crenshaw Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90019

Subject: vote against the motion to suspend Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas



Levi Carey <levijcarey@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear L.A. City Council Member:

I'm writing this email to ask that you vote against the motion to suspend Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas. I am very aware of the 20-count indictment against him, I am just as aware that he has been found guilty.

As a resident of the tenth district, I elected the Councilmember to represent my interests. Your suspension of the vote to believe to be premature— would disenfranchise that vote and effectively bring to an end the critical work that has been doing and silence a voice that has for so long spoken to the concerns and needs of a segment of the community that is so often overlooked.

I urge you not to make this rush to judgement and to vote against this motion.

Sincerely,

Levi Carey

Tenth District Resident

Subject: Motion to Suspend Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas



L.A. Focus Newspaper <lafocus@aol.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

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Dear L.A. City Council Member:

I serve as the publisher of L.A. Focus Newspaper which has a readership upwards of 120,000, but I am someone who is fielding a great many calls from those who fear that suspending Mark Ridley-Thomas is the voice of someone who has done so much to empower their community and represent their interests

I also write today as a private citizen who believes this move to be unwarranted at this time, given that it is not a conviction and that our democracy calls for us to presume someone innocent until proven guilty would unduly penalize a man who has been found guilty of nothing and a community that elected him based on his needs and concerns. A job he has committed himself to for four decades and the evidence of which is evident throughout South Los Angeles.

I urge you to vote no on this motion and to be a voice for the community that elected Mark Ridley-Thomas—they—a community that has been empowered by the work he has done and is doing, particularly in the area of homelessness where there has been no greater advocate.

Please vote no.

Sincerely,

Lisa Collins
Publisher

L.A. Focus Newspaper | First Ladies High Tea | 310.677.6011
www.lafocusnewspaper.com | @lafocusnews

Subject: 10th Council District Representation



Kerman Maddox <kerman@dakcomm.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to nury.martinez, gilbert.cedillo, mrodriguez, paul.krekorian, bob.blumenfield, Marqueece Harris-Dawson, councilmen

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Council President Nury Martinez-

I'm writing to express my opposition to the motion to suspend City Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas from the Los Angeles City Council because any effort to remove him from serving should be done by the people in the 10th Council District who elected him.

Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas was elected to represent the 10th Council District of Los Angeles in 2020 and he has served with distinction. I'm aware of his pending indictment, and he and his attorneys will have their day in court to make their case. I am aware that in America a person is innocent until proven guilty and everybody is guaranteed due process under our Constitution.

Councilman Ridley Thomas has already confirmed he will not attend future City Council meetings or participate in committee meetings. He clearly is doing everything in his power not to be a distraction to the Los Angeles City Council.

If the people in the 10th Council District are so annoyed by these allegations against Councilman Ridley Thomas, they should use the authority through the recall process to remove him from office. I am a longtime business owner, who employs many people in many parts of our city - including from Council District 10. Any motion to suspend him from the Los Angeles City Council would be a disservice to the constituents of the 10th Council District who elected him to serve them, and represented by the person they recently elected in 2020 to serve them.

Thanks in advance for considering my request.

Regards

Kerman Maddox

Managing Partner

Dakota Communications

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: kerman@dakcomm.com

(310) 815-8444

www.dakcomm.com

Subject: Motion to suspend Mark Ridley Thomas



Alis Collins <aliscollins2@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

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To the Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

My name is Rev. G. Mansfield Collins and I live in the heart of Leimert Park and the district represents Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas. I understand that you've made a motion to suspend our Council despite the fact that he has been found guilty of nothing.

This directly impacts my ability to have my concerns adequately represented by the official I —along with others— duly elected to serve me. Mark Ridley-Thomas has not violated any of his official duties as a relative to Section 211 of the City Charter nor has he been convicted of any misdoings during his tenure as supervisor.

The move to remove him from office assumes that he is not innocent until proven guilty and appears to be an attack against a man who has—for the past four decades—dedicated his life to community service.

This rush to judgement is premature and should be voted down. The Bible perhaps put it best: "Judge not, lest you be judged."

Sincerely,

Rev. G. Mansfield Collins

Subject: Motion to Suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas



Mariah Garcia <garciamariah168@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

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Good Morning Council Members,

The motion to suspend Councilmember Ridley-Thomas is uncalled for, he has previously stated he will refrain from attending council meetings. I asked that you allow him to serve his constituents, a major source of support for the community, through his leadership he has helped many people. If he leaves, he will leave the district without representation.

I urge your reconsideration.

Best,

Mariah Garcia

Subject: Mark Ridley Thomas Council Position



Lorna <wilsonlornaga@gmail.com>
to lorna wilson

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Los Angeles City Council Members,

As a family member and friend of several people who reside in District 10 I am writing to request your consideration of Mr. Ridley Thomas in his council position while the matters at hand are being investigated. Unfortunately we are living in a culture where people are quickly demanded to be demoted from a position for indiscretions that often are minimal compared to other activities engaged in by others in similar situations.

I ask for your willingness to give Mr. Ridley Thomas the courtesy of continuing in carrying out his duties to District 10. It is a fair opportunity to have the charges against him addressed through the judicial system. It is fundamental for an American to be convicted without a fair hearing and opportunity to be heard. To remove him from his role before being found guilty is an injustice. Please give a full assessment to the allegations and the circumstances as you make your decision.

Kind regards,

Lorna Wilson
Concerned Citizen

Subject: Fwd: No Adverse Action Against CD10's Ridley-Thomas



Mark Ridley-Thomas <mark.ridley-thomas@lacity.org>
to Karly Katona, fernando.ramirez

Wed, Oct 20, 10:1

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Thanks,
Cindy

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jackie Kimbrough <jackie.kimbrough@yahoo.com>

Date: October 20, 2021 at 9:17:57 AM PDT

To: Nury.martinez@lacity.org, gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Joe.buscaino@lacity.org, Kevin.deleon@lacity.org, Councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, Councilmember.lee@lacity.org, mike.bonin@lacity.org, Councilmember.price@lacity.org, mhd8@lacity.org, mrodriguez@lacity.org, Paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, paul.krekorian@lacity.org, mark.ridley-thomas@lacity.org

Subject: No Adverse Action Against CD10's Ridley-Thomas

To the Honorable Members of City Council,

As a concerned constituent of the 10th Council District, I am writing to urge to take any adverse action (including suspension, demand for resignation, e against Councilman Mark Ridley- Thomas. Despite what the Charter may al are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

That concept should be extended to a man who has accomplished tremendo on behalf of his CD 10 constituents as well as the city as a whole. In a distr comprised largely of people of color, people who are poor, people who are h it would be a travesty for us not to be represented by our elected councilma Today's LA Times reported a statement by a councilman that "...the council make sure that residents of the 10th District receive the same level of atten service as everyone else." This statement rings hollow and untrue. Our dis be left without a voice if this adverse action is taken. This is simply not acc

Jackie Kimbrough

Subject: Support of MRT



Vonda Hines <vray78@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to Ackley.padilla, Bob Blumenfield, Chad.molnar, Christine.jerian, Curtis Earnest, Hannah.lee, Jeanne.min, Jennifer.k

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

To whom it may concern,

This email is to express my deep concern over the motion to suspend Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas from h Council District 10. Councilman Ridley-Thomas has agreed to step back from his role in order for the City Cour business with minimal distractions. The motion to suspend him is unnecessary and is a rush to judgment. Dem process and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. This motion to suspend sends the wrong messag of our great City. Councilman Ridley-Thomas has a history of integrity and working to educate and empower o motion ignores the important work and contributions that Councilman Ridley-Thomas has made and removes h prematurely. The constituents of District 10 deserve representation by the Councilmember that they elected. Th I ask that it be rescinded or that all Councilmembers vote no on this shameful, biased, and unwarranted action.

Sincerely,

Vonda Hines-Heard

Subject: Mark Ridley Thomas



Chip Matthews <ChipMatthews@sbcglobal.net>
to Karly.katona

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Councilmember Katona,

I am writing to express my concern and dismay at the City Counsel for seeking to suspend Councilmember Mark I his position pending resolution of the pending charges.

The proposed suspension and vote today are wrong for several reasons:

1. A person is innocent until proven guilty. For this reason, Mark Ridley Thomas should not be penalized until a co guilty.
2. Your vote to suspend him deprives his constituents of much needed representation, so it is aggressively violativ process.
3. This motion and vote appears to be punitive and vindictive since he has voluntarily agreed to step down as the resolved.
4. Finally, Mark Ridley Thomas is doing so much good for so many. Suspending him will delay many homeless prc critically important services that have been spearheaded by him.

Please vote to table or withdraw today's motion. If it comes up for a vote, please vote for the democratic process t motion to suspend Mark Ridley Thomas.

Thank you,

Chip Matthews

Phone (213)840-2356

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: No on Suspension of Councilman Ridley-Thomas



Trenyce Williams <trenycemwilliams@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to Debby.Kim, Karo.tarossian, Lisa.hansen, Najeeba.syeed, Joan.Pelico, Ackley.padilla, Christine.jerian, Solomon.riv

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Greetings,

This email is to express my deep concern over the motion to suspend Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas from his Council District 10. Councilman Ridley-Thomas has agreed to step back from his role in order for the City Council with minimal distractions. The motion to suspend him is unnecessary and is a rush to judgment. Democracy calls for the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. This motion to suspend sends the wrong message to the constituents. Councilman Ridley-Thomas has a history of integrity and working to educate and empower our communities. This important work and contributions that Councilman Ridley-Thomas has made and removes him from his position prevents constituents of District 10 deserve representation by the Councilmember that they elected. This motion is unfair and should be rescinded or that all Councilmembers vote no on this shameful, biased, and unwarranted action.

Respectfully,
Trenyce Williams

Subject: Council Member Mark Ridley Thomas



louis chase <tesfaye81@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to To: "gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@laci

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

I write with regards a motion before you today concerning a distinguished and honorable me Thomas. It is my understanding that he did inform City Council President, Nury Martinez that voluntary step back from Council duties so as to avoid discomfort and distractions at this crit

The resolution seeks to diminish the councilmember's representation of his constituents, w admirably. Thirty years of public service to this City and County of Los Angeles and notwiths that he has not had his day in court to be stripped of his livelihood at a time when he needs It goes against our principles of compassion, common decency and justice.

I urge you to vote against this resolution.

Best regards,

Rev. Louis A. Chase
Retired United Methodist Clergy



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Verizon
Walt Disney Company
WellPoint
Wells Fargo Bank

Date: October 20, 2021

To: Los Angeles City Council Members

From: Earl "Skip" Cooper, II, President/CEO
Black Business Association

Subject: Statement in Support of Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas

On behalf of the Black Business Association, headquartered in Los Angeles, the oldest active ethnic business support organization in the State of California, I submit this statement in support of Los Angeles City Council member, the Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas.

Councilman Ridley-Thomas has been an advocate and an exceptional public servant throughout his entire adult life for the community-at-large, those who are often underserved and, of course, his constituency. His deep commitment to the people of the greater Los Angeles area is self-evident.

Regarding his current legal situation, Councilman Ridley-Thomas deserves the full respect of all of the Los Angeles City Council members and should receive the opportunity to fully serve his constituency, the people who elected him to office, without the threat of removal by the Council.

I thank you for your consideration and not a rush to unfair judgement.

Respectfully

Earl "Skip" Cooper, II
President/CEO

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Black Women's Network

California Black
Chamber of Commerce

California Council of Black
Chamber

National Black
Business Council

The Greenlining Institute

The National Association
of African American
Chambers of Commerce

The National Black
Chamber of Commerce

Pan African Film & Arts
Festival

Recycling Black Dollars

The U.S. Black Chamber
Of Commerce

Zambia-USA Chamber of
Commerce

Vermont Slauson Economic
Development Corporation

MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

Los Angeles Minority
Business Opportunity
Committee

Southwest Los Angeles
County Small Business
Development Center

U.S. Small Business
Administration
Los Angeles District Office

Southland Business
Development Partnership

The Urban Leadership Project

USC Business
Expansion Network

Subject: Councilmember Mark Ridley Thomas



Charisse Bremond <cbremond@brotherhoodcrusade.org>

Wed, Oct 20, 9:

to nury.martinez@lacity.org, gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, counci

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

October 20, 2021

Dear Council President Martinez,

The Brotherhood Crusade is aware that the City Council will be voting sometime to Councilmember Mark Ridley Thomas. The Brotherhood Crusade believes this is unfair judgment to have this vote today. As a non-profit that has served the community for 53 years, the Council will not move forward on this vote. Councilmember Mark Ridley Thomas has been a servant for 40 years and deserves his due process.

In closing, I implore you and your colleagues not to suspend Councilmember Mark Ridley Thomas. Council District 11 deserves to have representation at this time. The community and the Brotherhood Crusade support Councilmember Mark Ridley Thomas through this process.

In solidarity and hope,

Charisse Bremond Weaver

President/CEO

Brotherhood Crusade

200 East Slauson Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90011

cbremond@brotherhoodcrusade.org

www.brotherhoodcrusade.org

Subject: Special Agenda Item re: Councilmember Ridley-Thomas



Alex Johnson <alexmartin.johnson@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 9:01 AM

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfeld, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Council President Martinez and Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

I write to you as a resident of the City of Los Angeles, a former resident of Council District 11 and someone who has known Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas both professionally and personally for well over a decade. For over 30 years, the Councilman has been a dedicated and tireless leader representing our communities. He has an undeniable track record of steadfastly fighting to uplift the most disenfranchised and empower communities to promote equity and justice. His leadership has been deeply felt across the City to address the most critical crisis of our time – namely, advocating for additional resources and programs to prevent and end homelessness for the tens of thousands of vulnerable men, women and children who are suffering across our City and region. The Councilmember has pushed back that he has not committed a crime, and has informed the City Council of his willingness to step back from his role so that the council can avoid unnecessary discomfort and distraction.

The motion being considered today to suspend the Councilmember is a direct attack on our constituents ability to be adequately represented. **There is no need for this motion.** Assertions that the Councilmember should be afforded the presumption of innocence and that the motion is a rush to judgement. Moreover, this situation is distinct from those of former members of the Council and should be treated in that manner. Councilmember Ridley-Thomas is not alleged to have violated his official duties as a member of the Council. And I want to emphasize that he plans to fight the charges, allegations, leveled against him. Accordingly, the Councilmember is deserving of his day in court. At this very early stage in the process, I implore you to afford him the presumption of innocence as our democratic process demands of every citizen. **Do not suspend the Councilmember and leave Council District 11 without representation.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Subject: Support on the motion for Mark Ridgley-Thomas



Byron Smith <pastor_bls@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Hello and good morning President Nury Martinez and the Los Angeles City Council.

I would like for the Los Angeles City Council President Nury Matinez and Council members to recon Council person Mark Ridgley-Thomas from his council office. I ask for you all to do so because, I be Council person Mark Ridgley-Thomas without due process and allowing for the allegations against h through the court process, would be a rush to judgement and would be unfair in the sight of the co community. Therefore, I ask and pray that President Martinez and the Los Angeles City Council wo Council men Thomas remain in office and allow for him to go through due process within the courts

Sincerely,

Pastor Byron L. Smith Sr., M.Div.,M.A., D.Th.

Subject: Motion to Suspend Councilmember Ridley-Thomas



Grace Thambiah <gracethambiah@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

I write to urge your reconsideration of suspending Councilmember Ridley-Thomas from the Council. The situation is different from those former members of the Council and should be treated as such. Councilmember Ridley-Thomas did not violate his official duties and has pledged to actively continue to work for his constituents. Given his previous communication to step back from Council activities, I do not support this motion.

By suspending Councilmember Ridley-Thomas, Council District 10 will be left without representation and you will be hurting his constituency. Councilmember Ridley-Thomas has been a champion for the needs of homeless people, without his leadership on the issue a vulnerable population will be also impacted. He has been the backbone to the community of South Los Angeles for decades.

Your reconsideration of this motion to suspend Councilmember Ridley-Thomas is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Grace Thambiah

Subject: Constituent request re: Mark Ridley-Thomas



Jill Frank <jillfrank44@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Council Members,

Please allow our democratic process to proceed. Do not take hasty action to suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas. Why I haste to media and political pressure, rather than assess with respect and diligence, the person and the circumsta

You, as our Los Angeles City Council members, have the unique power to lead us through this crisis. Please be th you to be. Please accord MRT the respect of due process that each of you would expect.

Sincerely,

Jill Frank
Mar Vista

Subject: DO NOT SUSPEND COUNCILMEMBER MARK RIDLEY THOMAS SUPPORT IS RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL



LUTHER HENDERSON <llh3realestate@aol.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 8:11

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

We support Council member Mark Ridley-Thomas' right under the United States Constitution to a trial in a court of law. He is innocent until proven guilty by a jury of his peers. Nury Martinez' suspend Council member Ridley Thomas will have the effect to suspend his salary and benefits for his family. **Suspension from the council at this time is un-American punishment benefit of trial.** Do not suspend Council member Ridley-Thomas as he has already communicated his willingness to step back from council meetings and committee assignments.

Suspending a member without due process of law, can be seen and compared to what the U.S. Senate attempted to do with now Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Suspension of him would be considered a "High Tech Lynching" of yet another African American man.

We urge you to do the "right thing." Do not suspend Council member Mark Ridley-Thomas.

THANK YOU!!

Dr. Luther L. Henderson, III
Professor of Music and Humanities Emeritus
Los Angeles City College

Patricia G. Siever
Professor of History Emeritus
West Los Angeles College
Former Vice President
Board of Governors
California Community Colleges
Former Vice President
Board of Education
Culver City Unified School District

Luther Henderson
Broker - Associate, Realtor
Realty Executives Westside
6133 Bristol Parkway, Suite 325
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 936-2590 Direct
(310) 737-1992 Ext. 309 Office
(310) 737-1052 Fax
LLH3RealEstate@aol.com &

Subject: Please read re: Mark Ridley-Thomas vote this morning



Philura Williams <philura.williams@yahoo.com>
to Philura Williams

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Councilpersons...

I am writing to express, as a resident of District 10 in the city of Los Angeles, my deepest concern about the break in service and representation from Mark Ridley-Thomas as a result of today's vote.

As a citizen of this country, I believe that individuals are innocent until proven to be guilty. A decision to remove Thomas from his duties as councilperson prior to due process playing out gives the perception that he will not be afforded that presumption. Likewise, as a leader and an advocate on some of the most pressing issues for (homelessness) and as the person constituents of our district have voted to best represent us, his service remains during this critical time in our community.

While matters that precede his current assignment of service are being investigated, it would seem unfair to take that presumption of innocence until it is proven otherwise. Doing so would mean District 10 will not be receive representation our vote called for an indefinite period of time. To remain true to the tenets of our constitution and not lose the valuable service the constituents deserve, I respectfully request that he not be removed from his position. He should be allowed to continue to serve while distancing himself from the public eye. To publicly remove him from his position would not only undermine all of the work and dedicated service he has given to the Los Angeles community over the few decades as public perception of his guilt - whether true or not - would be harmful to any future service he provides which he engages, particularly if and/or when he is found to be innocent through due process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Philura Williams,
Resident of District 10 in Los Angeles

Subject: Mark Ridley-Thomas vote this morning



AWilliams <awilli68@gmail.com>
to Anja Williams

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Good Morning...

I am writing to express, as a resident of District 10 in the city of Los Angeles, my deepest concern about the potential and representation from Mark Ridley-Thomas as a result of today's vote.

As a citizen of this country, I believe that individuals are innocent until proven to be guilty. A decision to remove Mr. Ridley-Thomas from his duties as councilperson prior to due process playing out gives the perception that he will not have been afforded a fair trial. Likewise, as a leader and an advocate on some of the most pressing issues for the council (i.e. homelessness) and the constituents of our district have voted to best represent us, his service remains needed during this critical time in our city.

While matters that precede his current assignment of service are being investigated, it would seem unfair to not afford him the presumption of innocence until it is proven otherwise. Doing so would mean District 10 will not be receiving the representation he is called for an indefinite period of time. To remain true to the tenets of our constitution and to not lose the valuable service he deserves, I respectfully request that he not be removed from his position, that he be allowed to continue to serve without being removed from the public eye. To publicly remove him from his position would not only undermine all of the work and dedication given to the Los Angeles community for the past few decades as public perception of his guilt - whether true or not - could hinder any future service to the city in which he engages, particularly if and/or when he is found to be innocent through due process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anja Williams,
Resident of the 10th District

Subject: Mark Ridley-Thomas



Bernard Pendergrass <bernard.pendergrass@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to ilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, paul.krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Good Morning. I email you as a concerned citizen of the 5th Council District and someone who has benefitted from Thomas' leadership and community service over the years. His commitment to the city of Los Angeles' and it's citizens the very least he deserves an opportunity to respond to these allegations, while simultaneously representing his constituents elected to do. I humbly ask that the Council reconsider this morning's pending suspension vote.

Thank you.

Bernard Pendergrass

Subject: Oppose Suspension of Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas



Janet Kelly <janetdkelly@yahoo.com>
to

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

It has come to my attention that Council President Nury Martinez put in a motion to suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas.

I must say as a thirty year resident of Los Angeles and a resident of South Los Angeles this is premature and quite frankly a rush to judgement.

Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas like any citizen of our city and our nation deserves the process, which makes this motion unfair, unjust, and undemocratic. It is for this reason I support suspension of Councilmember Ridley-Thomas who needs to fulfill the duty he was elected to and his constituents - represent his region and lead on pressing issues of the city.

I urge you to oppose this motion and choose to operate in fairness until there is an outcome charges.

Sincerely,

Janet Denise Kelly, MBA

Facebook: www.facebook.com/janet.d.kelly

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/janet-ganaway-kelly/15/789/2b0>

Subject: VOTE NO on motion to suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas



robinwww@aol.com

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Good Morning,

I have been a long-term resident of Los Angeles for more than 60 years. As a property owner in Los Angeles, I was deeply saddened to hear about the City Council motion to suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas from his council district. It is my understanding that the City Council does not have the authority to take such action. Therefore, I am requesting that the council not rush to judgment and allow the Federal government to conduct a thorough investigation in a manner that does not negatively impact the innovative and much needed work that is being conducted in District 10 by Mark Ridley-Thomas and his staff. I firmly believe that a NO VOTE on this motion will be in the best interest for the residents of District 10. Please VOTE NO.

Subject: Tenth District Representation



Kikanza Nuri-Robins <knurirobins@gmail.com>

to

Wed, Oct 20,

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Good Morning.

I am writing to ask that you take no action to end or limit the work of Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas.

To restrict his work in any way now, punishes him unjustly before he has been tried. It also deprives the residents important representation.

Please, do not take any action against him today.

Kikanza Nuri-Robins, EdD MDiv
she, hers [Here's why](#)

1835 Cochran Place, Los Angeles

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Cell 323.939.1034

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**KIKANZA NURI-ROBINS | CONSULTING**

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Subject: Mark Ridley-Thomas



**Daniel Wolk** <dannowolk@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear City of Los Angeles Council Members and Heads of Staff:

I have had the honor to work (on a subcontracting basis) as a professional facilitator with Avis Ridley-Thomas at the Institute Angeles. I am writing to urge you **not** to suspend Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas from City Council.

I happen to live in Chicago, where, among other things, I have written a number of freelance pieces on the City of Chicago. Beyond my limited capacity, I have become knowledgeable about governmental ethics. Here in Chicago, we have very similar problems of corruption as Los Angeles. In the last few years, no less than three sitting aldermen have been indicted on "play-to-pay" or similar charges, including the longest-serving (and probably the most powerful) alderman in Chicago history, Edward Burke. The charges against him are even more serious than those against Mark Ridley-Thomas. Our City Council, however, did not force him to resign, though they did pressure him to step down as Chair of the Finance Committee (the most powerful leadership position). Even in Chicago, we do not consider any leader guilty until a court or other adjudicatory board to be guilty. Two other alderpersons, Carrie Austin (the second-longest serving one) and Paul Lightfoot (nephew and grandson of previous Chicago mayors) have also been indicted on corruption charges and both are still honorable members of the City Council.

I hope that the Los Angeles City Council will obey the fundamental legal and ethical principle of "innocent until proven guilty" reminded of Sen. Robert Menendez, who was indicted for federal crimes back in 2015, but eventually (three years later) the charges were dropped. He is still the respected Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. I believe it would reflect poorly on the Los Angeles City Council if they voted to impeach him, especially if his charges were eventually to be dismissed as well — a real possibility.

Though I am not an Angeleno, I know enough about your local politics to understand that Mark Ridley-Thomas still has enormous influence in the inner-city neighborhoods of South Central Los Angeles, where he has long been a major force to alleviate the problems of poverty and lack of political democracy. It is a long-standing principle to "let the voters decide". Please honor that principle as well.

Sincerely,  
Daniel P. Wolk



## Subject: Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas

---



**Brad Johnson** <brad@postandbeamhospitality.com>

Wed, Oct 20,

to Bob Blumenfield, Karly.katona@lacity.org, Karo.tarossian@lacity.org, Lisa Hansen, ackley.padilla@lacity.org, chad

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

To whom it may concern,

This correspondence is meant to express a strong objection to the motion to suspend Councilman Mark Ridley Th office. Respectfully, due process must be extended to the Councilman.

Sincerely,  
Brad Johnson



## Subject: Re: Council File: 21-1203 - please oppose

---



**Mary Lee** <mmlee2@sbcglobal.net>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Re: Council File: 21-1203

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

I urge you to vote in opposition to the motion introduced by Council President Nury Martinez seeking to suspend Council Member Ridley-Thomas. This motion is ill-advised and would be extremely harmful to constituents of the 10<sup>th</sup> district and to a resident of the 10<sup>th</sup> District, and this action would strip elected representation away from residents of my community who cannot afford to lose it. Issues such as homelessness and police reform are urgent and require experienced leadership that Council Member Ridley-Thomas has consistently demonstrated. We are already seeing the results of his work in reducing crime at Leimert Park. It would be devastating if the progress underway is squandered. Instead, his common sense, collaboration, and leadership should be replicated in other areas of the city which are contending with similar challenges.

Further, this proposed suspension is uncalled for, as Council Member Ridley-Thomas can continue to serve his community while the legal system reviews the allegations against him. Please reject the call for unnecessary and detrimental action and support the motion.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Lee





**October 19, 2021**

To LA City Council  
President Nury Martinez and Councilmembers

Regarding: The potential suspension of Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas

My name is Natalie Cole. I am the Publisher & CEO of Our Weekly media. Our Weekly is largest audited-circulation African American owned newspaper on the west coast. I am a former Commissioner for the City of Los Angeles having served on the Information Technology and CRA boards. I feel compelled to go on record against the vote that LA City Council President, Nury Martinez has called for the suspension of Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas from the city council of Los Angeles. First, Ridley-Thomas has been an unwavering public servant since the 1960s. He has dedicated most of his adult life to serving the people of Los Angeles. He has recognized and proactively addressed countless concerns over the years, often prior to being requested to do so from his constituents. He is on the very short list of the most respected African American leaders in California politics. His record has been impeccable.



I am disappointed and outraged at members who have called for Ridley-Thomas to resign and that President Martinez has called for a vote as he has not been proven guilty of anything. Second, this act is nothing short of a rush to judgement and I would think that the city council would and should walk lightly on this concern and not move so assumptively as if he has been found guilty. I implore you to allow the legal process to unfold and for now, assume that Mark Ridley-Thomas is innocent.

**Sincerely,**

*Natalie Cole*

**Natalie Cole**



8732 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90047 – Phone 323/905-1300



## Subject: Suspension of Councilmember Ridley-Thomas

---



**Cherly Burns** <cherlyburns294@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 19,

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Honorable Councilmembers,

I strongly urge you to reconsider the suspension of Councilmember Ridley-Thomas. His dedication to the community of Los Angeles has been no short of commendable. He has dedicated his life to improving the lives of those in his district supervisorial district.

By suspending Councilmember Ridley-Thomas you are undermining the progress of a district that needs his leadership. As Councilmember I have witnessed first-hand the positive changes that have taken place in the community primarily of people of color by suspending him you will further hurt minorities. Without his leadership we will be

I ask that you reconsider your stance and allow him to continue the work he is doing. Every person is innocent till

Thank you,

Cherly Burns



## Subject: Tomorrow's Vote on Mark Ridley-Thomas

---



**Tracy Cooper** <tracycooperla@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 20, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear Councilmembers,

It brings me great sorrow to hear about tomorrow's vote to suspend Mark Ridley-Thomas. Councilmember Ridley is a pillar of strength to the community of South Los Angeles. Over his impressive tenure as an elected official he has improved the lives of his constituency. His hard work culminated in the opening of the MLK hospital as a result the to care and many people have greatly benefited.

The suspension would destabilize the community and negatively impact communities of color. I strongly urge you councilmember Ridley-Thomas.

Thank you,

Tracy Cooper



## Subject: Mark Ridley-Thomas

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**Ms. Cole** <robinrcole1@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 19,

to Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mhd8, councilmer

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

No one removed Trump.

Mr. Ridley-Thomas has done so much for this City over decades and that alone should count, be recognized and a committment of fine service for this City.

Best regards,  
Robin R. Cole



## Subject: Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas

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**dee.pendergrass** <dee.pendergrass@yahoo.com>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

In the matter of councilman Ridley-Thomas and the upcoming vote on the motion to suspend him from his council that this is a rush to judgement. This man has done so much for the community over the course of his career as a suspend him from the council would be a disservice to not only his constituents, but to City of Los Angeles. If Mr. F indicated that he would "step back" so as not to disrupt the council and their agenda, why the motion to suspend Councilman Ridley-Thomas has not had the opportunity to present his side of the story in response to the allegations made against him and yet it appears as though he has been tried and convicted by the very council in which he sits with this vote would be extremely unfair. Is Councilman Ridley-Thomas not entitled to the benefit of the doubt and fellow councilmembers?

I urge you to reconsider voting on this proposed motion and then ask yourselves how you would want to be treated were made against you. Remember, life is funny. The grace you fail to extend to others, you may very well need for point in your future. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Deirdre Pendergrass  
(Encino, CA resident)



## Subject: Fwd: Concern for Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas



**jdupontw@aol.com**  
to karly.katona@lacity.org

Tue, Oct 19, 10:

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: [jdupontw@aol.com](mailto:jdupontw@aol.com)  
To: [nury.artinez@lacity.org](mailto:nury.artinez@lacity.org) <[nury.artinez@lacity.org](mailto:nury.artinez@lacity.org)>  
Cc: [joan.pelico@lacity.org](mailto:joan.pelico@lacity.org) <[joan.pelico@lacity.org](mailto:joan.pelico@lacity.org)>  
Sent: Tue, Oct 19, 2021 5:43 pm  
Subject: Concern for Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas

Council President Martinez,

Your leadership on the LA City Council is valuable as we depend upon our elected members to bring wisdom, experience and knowledge to the table of decision making. You are a champion for the voiceless, I have come to value your keen ear to listen to concerns, your intolerance for "going along to get along", and your willingness to stand for what is right. Thank you for your modeling excellence in public service.

For those reasons and more, I send this communiqué asking that you stand up for the integrity of our criminal justice system, to assume innocence until an accused has been proven guilty. Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas is my council member. We need his representation to be outstanding and still needed to insure the quality of life of the 10th district. It is not completely clear how a decision to remove him would be made by the LA City Council, but I urge you to stand against leaving us without our elected representative. We are not protected or "cared for" in caretaker coverage by the CAO Offices. Until he has had his day in the court system, Councilman Ridley-Thomas deserves to continue his duties and be presumed to be innocent.

Finally, the person I have come to know and respect would step down if his presence hindered his ability to do his job. Over the past 30 years, like you, Councilman/Assemblyman/Senator/ and Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has not shown he is doing the right thing. And I think we can presume that is a part of his character change.

Thank you for considering my request. I welcome your response and questions.



## Subject: Hon. Mark Ridley Thomas

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**rickertutt** <rickertutt@aol.com>

to Rick Tuttle, Rick Tuttle

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Dear members of the Los Angeles City Council:

Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas is entitled to the same presumption of innocence unless proven guilty as much as I am. As my letter published in today's L.A. Times states: "It is one thing for a federal grand jury to bring an indictment against a public servant and another for a jury to arrive at a verdict of guilty." Mr. Ridley Thomas is an able, indeed very able, public servant and the good he can do for the city far outweighs any "distraction" that his presence may cause. Please let Mr. Ridley Thomas stand for the city he was elected to represent, and let him and his legal team make his case before a judge and a jury.

Yours truly,

Rick Tuttle



## Subject: Your Consideration Requested on behalf of Councilmember Mark Thomas



**Janice Martin** <basicjan@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to nury.martinez, gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, councilmember.price, mhd8, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, councilmember.sanchez

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

October 19, 2021

Dear President Martinez and the Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council

It is deeply disturbing that a City Council Motion is being considered to strip a city seal from Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas. This is an unjust rush to judgement. A grand jury indictment is not a conviction. You are moving aggressively without consideration that said he is innocent--as if that matters to you. If you were innocent of a charge, is it your will that your colleagues would quickly dismiss you without consideration? Take your salary and benefits BEFORE you are even arraigned?

For over 30 years, Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas has been a dedicated and tireless leader representing our Los Angeles communities. He has a track record of fighting to protect the most disenfranchised and empower communities in an effort to promote equity and justice. His leadership is deeply significant in addressing the most critical crisis of our time – addressing homelessness with additional resources and policy solutions to prevent and end homelessness for the tens of thousands of vulnerable men, women and children who are suffering across our City region.

The Councilmember has publicly stated that he has not committed a crime, and has requested to continue to serve his constituents until this matter is resolved. He presented you with evidence that considered each of you on the City Council. I ask that you consider Mark Ridley-Thomas and show your best leadership by not hastily rushing to judgement.

Councilmember Ridley-Thomas is deserving of his day in court. At this point in the process, I implore you to treat him as presumed innocent as our democratic process should afford every citizen. "There but for the grace of God go I."

Thank you for your service, and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janice Martin



## Subject: Opposing suspending Mark Ridley-Thomas

---



**larcryer** <larcryer@yahoo.com>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to Debby.Kim, Karo.tarossian, Lisa.hansen, Najeeba.syeed, Joan.Pelico, Ackley.padilla, Christine.jerian, Solomon.riv

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

I am voicing my opinion against suspending Mark Ridley-Thomas from his Council position. While he has been indicted and convicted. He has tendered a letter and offered to "step back" and not attend committee meetings and council meetings until the charges against him.

He is innocent until proven guilty.

Although this process may be called for in the City Charter, everything in the City Charter is not always found in code. What happens with his constituents representation? while he has not been convicted? What if he is not given his due process rights?

While admirable of Ron Galperin to save the taxpayers money, if by some chance you do go through with the suspension without pay when he has not been convicted? Does the suspension call for suspension without pay? All City Council members when they are put on administrative leave or pending an adjudication of a criminal proceeding or investigation it is with pay. To suspend his pay and benefits would be unprecedented. What is the motivation for this? Is there some personal animosity decision?

I look forward to your giving this decision more consideration, before such a decision is made.

Thank you

Linda Cryer

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



## Subject: Proposed Council Action on Mark Ridley-Thomas ahead of legal p



**Clint Rosemond** <clint@lpvinc.org>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, blumenfield, councilmember.ramen, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mhd8, c

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

I am writing this message to the policy-makers of the city of Los Angeles asking them to suspend any proposed action against Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas prior to legal adjudication of any and all pending charges. Those matters will be decided by the Superior Court and any action by the council should reflect, and be based on the outcome of the pending legal action now is to prejudge the matter as to the Council Member's guilt or innocence; a matter that is beyond the legal authority of the Los Angeles City Council that would clearly negatively impact the people of the 10th District.

Any action taken by the council to deprive Councilmember Ridley-Thomas of his right and duty to represent the people of the 10th district would clearly represent a rush to judgement. I urge you to collectively push pause and allow the legal process to move forward without injecting prejudicial acts by the council.

Sincerely,

Clint Rosemond  
President  
Leimert Park Village, Inc.



# Subject: Fwd: My husband, Mark Ridley-Thomas, deserves basic fairness, and decency by members of the LA City Council.



**Karly Katona** <karly.katona@lacity.org>  
to Fernando Ramirez

Tue, Oct 19, 10:01 AM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Avis Ridley-Thomas** <[ssmartinc@gmail.com](mailto:ssmartinc@gmail.com)>

Date: Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 10:03 PM

Subject: My husband, Mark Ridley-Thomas, deserves basic fairness, respect and decency by members of the LA

To: <[councilmember.martinez@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.martinez@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org)>

Cc: <[Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org](mailto:Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org)>, <[contactCD4@lacity.org](mailto:contactCD4@lacity.org)>, <[paul.koretz@lacity.org](mailto:paul.koretz@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.hai@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.hai@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.price@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.price@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.bonin@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.bonin@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org)>, <[councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org)>, <[Debby.Kim@lacity.org](mailto:Debby.Kim@lacity.org)>, <[Karo.tarossian@lacity.org](mailto:Karo.tarossian@lacity.org)>, <[Lisa.hansen@lacity.org](mailto:Lisa.hansen@lacity.org)>, <[Najeeba.syeed@lacity.org](mailto:Najeeba.syeed@lacity.org)>, <[Joan.Pelico@lacity.org](mailto:Joan.Pelico@lacity.org)>, <[Ackley.padilla@lacity.org](mailto:Ackley.padilla@lacity.org)>, <[Christine.jerian@lacity.org](mailto:Christine.jerian@lacity.org)>, <[Solomon.rivera@lacity.org](mailto:Solomon.rivera@lacity.org)>, Curtis Earnest <[Curtis.earnest@lacity.org](mailto:Curtis.earnest@lacity.org)>, <[Karly.katona@lacity.org](mailto:Karly.katona@lacity.org)>, <[Chad.molr@lacity.org](mailto:Chad.molr@lacity.org)>, <[Hannah.lee@lacity.org](mailto:Hannah.lee@lacity.org)>, <[Jeanne.min@lacity.org](mailto:Jeanne.min@lacity.org)>, <[Jennifer.barraza@lacity.org](mailto:Jennifer.barraza@lacity.org)>, <[Jenny.chavez@lacity.org](mailto:Jenny.chavez@lacity.org)>

As members of the Los Angeles City Council I believe that you deserve to be treated with fairness, respect and decency. Every member of our community deserves the same. I implore you not to rush to judgement. You are not compelled based on unproven allegations.

If unproven and untrue allegations were made against you, I have no doubt that you would want the opportunity to respond as you fought those allegations.

I proudly served the City of LA for 30 years. You all share a responsibility to demonstrate how decent human beings behave themselves when lies are advanced as truths.

You or someone you love could find yourself in the same circumstances.

Please do not punish my husband before the allegations against him are proven "beyond a reasonable doubt." You are an example of how to treat other human beings under difficult circumstances. Or you can be viewed as a group of people who shamefully and disgracefully mistreated a fellow human being.

Nothing compels you to treat another person poorly.

I trust that you will want to be proud of how you conducted yourself during this challenging time of controversy. You are encouraged to use your power wisely and without malice.

Thank you for your serious consideration.



## Subject: Suspension of Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas (MRT)

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**Eulanda L. Matthews** <elyn728@aol.com>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org, Paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, bob.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.raman@lacity.org

**You are viewing an attached message.** City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

As a constituent of the 10th District for over thirty (30) years, I want to express my strong opposition to your cor suspension of Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas(MRT). Such action at this time would not only be premature b Although MRT is facing a Federal indictment, the law of the land has a presumption of innocence until proven g reasonable doubt. I urge you not to rush to judgment and allow our legal system to work. MRT should not be t public opinion. MRT as your colleague, as well as his constituents deserve better.

Sincerely,  
Eulanda Lynn Matthews



## Subject: Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas-- Vote No to Suspend

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**Maisah Howard** <maisah.howard@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 19, 2021

to

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

LA City Councilmembers:

I am deeply saddened and dismayed by the decision to put forth a motion to suspend Councilman Ridley-Thomas necessary steps to clear his name and seek due process in federal courts. This motion feels punitive considering agreeing to step back from meetings and committees which minimizes distractions from council and city business. on the motion to suspend the councilman and allow Councilman Ridley-Thomas, a public servant of more than 30 in court. Council persons should not be tried in special sessions or the court of public opinion. Do the right thing : conscience.

Kind regards,

Maisah Howard



## Subject: Council Mark Ridley-Thomas



**Tyrone Howard** <thoward@gseis.ucla.edu>

Tue, Oct 19, 2020

to gilbert.cedillo, Paul.Krekorian, bob.blumenfield, councilmember.raman, paul.koretz, nury.martinez, mrodriguez, mh

You are viewing an attached message. City of Los Angeles Mail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

Los Angeles City Council

It is with great sadness and disappointment that the LA Council will consider suspending Councilman Mark Ridley elected duties. Ours is a democracy which states that individuals are innocent until proven guilty. Given the four days Councilman Ridley -Thomas has given this city, he deserved his due process. Do not undermine the will of the city district. In a gesture of goodwill the Councilman agreed to step back from his duties. Now it is time for the Council and let the jurisprudence process play out. Vote NO on the suspension of LA City Councilman Mark Ridley-Thom

Sincerely,

Professor Tyrone Howard  
UCLA

—

Tyrone C. Howard, Ph.D.

Professor

Pritzker Family Endowed Chair in Education to Strengthen Children & Families

Director, UCLA Pritzker Center for Strengthening Children & Families

Director, Center for the Transformation of Schools

Director, UCLA Black Male Institute

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University of California, Los Angeles

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(310) 267-4824

(310) 206-6293—fax

Twitter: @TyroneCHoward

Please see a few of my most recent books:

[\*All Students Must Thrive: Transforming Schools to Combat Toxic Stressors and Cultivate Critical Wellness \(2019\)\*](#). International Center For Leadership in Education.

[\*No More Teaching Without Positive Relationships \(2020\)\*](#). Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

[\*Why Race and Culture Matter in Schools: Closing the Achievement Gap in America's Classrooms \(2nd Edition\)\*](#). (2019) Teachers College Press