

Camarillo Recall Fact Sheet

Vice-Mayor Shawn Mulchay and Councilmember Susan Santangelo are facing a deceitful, wasteful, and unnecessary Recall campaign to remove them from office.

The proponents state **false** reasons for the recall:

They **falsely** claim Santangelo/Mulchay are trying to “defund the police” in Camarillo

- Santangelo & Mulchay voted in favor of increasing the police budget, from \$17.8 to \$18.1 million, in June 2020. In nearly 5 hours of publicly held City budget meetings there were no requests or discussions about decreasing the police budget.
- The City of Camarillo formally issued a Press Release on July 2, 2020 titled “[Camarillo is Not Considering Defunding the Police](#)” when false rumors began circulating on social media sites.
- No requests were made to decrease police funding. No agenda item on such a topic ever existed. Mayor Tony Trembley joined with Santangelo and Mulchay to request a presentation of police use-of-force tactics, policy, and funding to the community.

They **falsely** claim that Santangelo/Mulchay co-authored a resolution that formally endorsed the Black Lives Matter Organization

- Charlotte Craven suggested that Santangelo author a resolution regarding the subject of racial inequality.
- Santangelo solicited Mulchay's help in co-authoring a resolution supporting racial equality and denouncing racial injustice.
- The resolution stated “Camarillo supports and commends its law enforcement professionals who protect and serve our communities.”
- The resolution stated “Camarillo does not support violence or the civil disturbance of our businesses or communities.”
- The resolution further stated “City Council recognizes, as a moral fact, that Black lives matter, and that the consequences of racial inequality impact and reverberate through a multitude of other ethnicities, communities of color, and marginalized groups, including the LGBTQ+ community.” This language does not qualify as an endorsement of the BLM organization.

They **falsely** claim that Santangelo/Mulchay are trying to update the police contract to divert funds away from Camarillo Police

- The most recent contract entered between the City of Camarillo and the VC Sheriff Department is from 1980.....40 years ago. It is outdated and in need of updating.
- The cities of Ojai and Thousand Oaks had also been requesting to review and update their respective contracts with the VC Sheriff's Dept for over 2 years prior.

- Mulchay had privately been requesting a copy of the contract since early 2019 as part of his review of various City operations, financial structure, and organization following his election. It had never been produced because it could not be located.
- VC Sheriff Police funding is NOT tied to or encapsulated within the City's Police contract. Police funding is tied to the City's annual budgetary process, which Santangelo & Mulchay had just voted to approve with increased police funding.
- Mayor Tony Trembley seconded a request to review the Police contract with Santangelo and Mulchay.
- In December 2020 **all five** City Council Members unanimously approved the creation of the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee which explicitly included the task of reviewing the police contract.

They **falsely** claim that Santangelo/Mulchay don't respect our local law enforcement

- Mulchay's Grandfather is a retired Ventura County Sheriff Deputy.
- Santangelo has worked closely with VC Sheriff in her role as a nurse.
- Mulchay has participated in the VC Sheriff ride-along program and Santangelo/Mulchay have participated in numerous Sheriff sponsored community events.
- Santangelo/Mulchay have regularly spoken highly of the work, efforts, and results of the VC Sheriff. There are no quotes, statements, or written comments from either Santangelo or Mulchay speaking poorly of the Ventura County Sheriff Dept.

Background

Proponents of the Recall are targeting Susan Santangelo and Shawn Mulchay for narrow political reasons that stem from their 2018 election upset of a longstanding Council incumbent who's many political supporters, friends, and volunteers comprise the core group of 20 individuals necessary to start a recall petition process. 3 individuals of which have expressed their desire to run for Council seats that are up in 2022.

To get the recall on the ballot the proponents must gather 9,475 valid signatures of registered Camarillo voters. If the Recall qualifies, a Recall Special Election will be scheduled.

City Clerk of Camarillo, Jeffrie Madland, estimates the Recall Special Election would cost City of Camarillo taxpayers approximately \$250,000.

Both Mulchay and Santangelo were elected at-large in 2018, with terms ending in 2022. Along with the election of Councilmember Tony Trembley's in 2016, they represent the first non-incumbent candidates to secure seats on the Camarillo City Council since 1996.

**Do Not hand over your signature and your private information to these petitioners.
They are not telling you the truth!**