

## PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

## **Correspondence Received**

|             |           |            | The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item: |   |  |
|-------------|-----------|------------|--|---|--|
| Agenda #    | Relate To | Position   | Name   | Comments  |  |
| 17.         |           | Oppose     | Dakota Kelley  | Currently, the couple has been honored with several buildings: Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez High School is a public high school in the Boyle Heights, which ranks #586 in California High Schools; b) Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez Learning Center in LAUSD Board District #2; and an impressive statute at the Mendez Historic Freedom Trail and Monument in Westminster, CA.  We should give recognition to the courageous couple launching the Mendez, et al. v. Westminster, et al., case which brought an end to school segregation in California and later across the nation. But not with another building.  However, if anyone's name should be on a court building, it is the attorney. Without the attorney, there would NOT have been a case and no movement to remove any and all barriers to children attending the school of their choice.  David Marcus was the attorney on the case.  Mr. Marcus gathered four families from different districts whose children were also discriminated against to become additional plaintiffs on the case. Marcus filed a federal class action lawsuit in federal court in Los Angeles against four Orange County school districts – Westminster, Santa Ana, Garden Grove, and El Modena (what is now eastern Orange) on behalf of roughly 5,000 children.  The case went to trial in July 1945. Seven months later on February 18, 1946, Judge Paul J. McCormick ruled in favor of the five families. Shortly after the ruling, Governor Earl Warren moved to desegregate all public schools and school districts in California.  Anyone's name to be on that courthouse – it should be the attorney, David Marcus.  Source: National Park Service HR 5754 introduced by Jimmy Gomez (D) |  |
|             |           | Item Total | 2  |   |  |
| Grand Total |           |            | 2  |   |  |

As of: 7/10/2024 4:00:05 PM

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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