

## Letter to the Editor

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### Kearney responds to recall

*Editor's note: District 5 Supervisor Steve Kearney has responded to the recall effort against him. His letter to the Editor appears below. We thought it was appropriate to place it on Page One.*

#### **Editor:**

Apparently serving as supervisor of D-5 includes the challenge of dealing with a recall of office or at the very least serving only one term. From my count since 1982 there have been six recall attempts and only one supervisor served two terms, which included two recall attempts.

In this instance I want to thank the Board of Supervisor's for not certifying the recall. By the very nature of their service, the board agrees to disagree on a wide variety of subjects. Disciplining a member for a policy decision would be wrong. I would have voted the same way and appreciate their support as well as their majority good judgement.

Yes, the board did incur some extra charges to the county, but in my mind it more importantly pointed out the recall system is in need of fixing and the expenses incurred by the board are a fraction of the total cost of the recall.

Consider the costs to the election department as well as those of the business community when their entry doors were impeded. I dealt with this first hand when operating a business during recall attempts, so extend my sympathy to Mar-Val Food Stores and other merchants where signature efforts seemed to regularly dominate their entrance.

On behalf of the county I want to thank the majority of signature collectors who conducted themselves civilly, unfortunately a small number of the group did not follow your good example.

Some concerns brought to my attention include visiting houses multiple times, trespassing, bringing up issues not on the recall petition, promoting the recall during a medical visit, and shouting obscenities at me in a public venue. I am sure my colleagues heard many of the same issues and based on their certification vote accordingly.

In the coming weeks I will address the issues regarding the recall as well as other issues used to obtain signatures but not listed on the petition.

***Truly, Steve Kearney, Calaveras County Supervisor D-5***