

(2026 July 30) CC Supe Antenori's buffoonery-disguised bullying and abuse

As I noted in my mailing of 25 July 2026, the CC BOS has increasingly fallen into line with the MAGA/Project 2025 agenda, in particular in regard to issues of free speech and public oversight.

Although Supes Crosby and Gomez have usually been no more than their predictable caricatures of responsible public officials, Supe chair Frank Antenori has perceptibly become even more performative than usual in his allegiance, acting out his banty rooster imitation of the Great Leader's strut and bluster.

This playing to the choir (NB: a loaded metaphor here) has been particularly noticeable in his abusive treatment of Ali Morse, a county resident who frequently (and always politely) expresses her opinion at public meetings and in emails to County officials.

Recently, he has taken to justifying his obnoxious behavior on the grounds that Ali's expressing her opinion has made her a "public figure" and therefore not entitled to protections against defamation, slander, lies, ridicule and other forms of verbal abuse.

Yesterday, in reaction to Antenori's performance at Tuesday's Supes meeting and accumulating objection to his other recent displays, I sent a letter of concern to County Attorney Lori Zucco and cc'd Tom Chabin at the state Attorney General's office (the AG has oversight of state open meeting and electoral laws and related matters, and so has also been a frequent target of CC Supes).

The bulk of that letter (with minor corrections) is copied below for your information.

Included in the letter were links two public County meetings where Antenori exhibited the kind of inappropriate behavior (to use a polite term) the letter refers to. Links to those examples and to several more are included under the letter.

I strongly encourage you to read the letter and listen to those links and then, if you too find Antenori's name-calling and other adolescent behavior more or less outrageous -- insulting, misogynistic, dangerously obstructive to free speech, unfitting for an elected official, dismissive of the concept of dignity of office, destructive of the principles of democratic governance, etc. -- I encourage you to also express your concerns to Zucco and Chabin (or to your Supe with copies to Zucco and Chabin) but, more important, to write letters to the Sierra Vista Herald-Review and other newspapers and media. Getting the buzz going on social media is useful but a letter in print media has much greater political clout.

And then take the next essential step: in person or online, attend and speak up at Supes' and other County meetings. Antenori's treatment of Ali Morse is a warning bell. We are all at risk. It's time to Pay Attention, let them know you're paying attention, and Make your Voice Heard. Democracy dies without an informed and vocal public.

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

From: Michael Gregory <aztoxics@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jul 29, 2026, 10:05 PM
Subject: re: Is Sup. Antenori's buffoonery slanderous?
To: <lzucco@cochise.az.gov>
Cc: Thomas Chabin <thomas.chabin@azag.gov>

Recently I've had occasion, as I'm sure you have, to hear Sup. Antenori supplement his proforma calls to Ali Morse to speak at public meetings with characterization of Ms Morse by various terms, including "political activist" and "Democrat operative," as well as to intervene in, interrupt and curtail her presentations.

Due to his bantering tone of voice, and the terms themselves, it seems obvious that the intent of the labeling of Ms Morse is at least to mock her and belittle the import of her public comments.

His remarking of her apparel is not only offensive but, again, by calling attention to her person (again, prior to her comments), is at least inappropriate (little more than partisan use of his bully {sic} pulpit); I wonder if it is also illegal.

His apparent defense of his calling her out on grounds that she is somehow a "public figure" rather than a common citizen exercising her right to free speech seems to me incorrect both idiomatically and legally.

In sum it seems to me that Sup. Antenori's interventions are not only out of order and generally inappropriate and beneath the level of customary behavior and dignity of office we should be able to expect from elected officials at public meetings, but very likely slanderous and potentially dangerous to Ms Morse.

Certainly, if in a similar situation Sup. Antenori were to identify me as a "Democrat operative," I would feel not only that I had been demeaned or insulted or slandered or some such (perhaps "doxxed", if I did in fact operate undercover in such capacity), but in addition (knowing the rancor many persons in this county feel toward members, let alone "operatives", of the Democratic Party -- "operative" being a term suggestive of subversiveness or worse), more than a little uneasy about being not just labeled but potentially targeted.

I wonder if Sup. Antentori's antics are legally actionable and what actions, short of filing suit, are available to Ms Morse and members of the public at large to reprimand him and to prevent such behavior in the future.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

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7/14/26 Flood Control District Call to the Public:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00ORiNRRKUM>

(start at 45 seconds)

7/28/26 Library District Call to the Public: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDgWz3Gsf6A>
(start at 55 seconds)

7/28/26 Flood Control District Call to the Public:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWV0M9-7p40>
(start at 1:05)

7/28/26 Regular Meeting Call to the Public: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMoiBL9couk>
(start at 11:45)

7/28/26 Regular Meeting Agenda item #12 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMoiBL9couk>
(start at 1:39:00)