

Press Release

COUNCILMEMBER KANSEN CHU

For Immediate Release July 23, 2014 Contact: Annie Ghijsen office: 408-535-4938

Rally for Fox News to Fire Bob Beckel over Racist Remarks

A rally will be held by the office of Councilmember Kansen Chu at San Jose City Hall, in front of the Rotunda, July 29th (Tuesday) at noon. This rally calls for Fox News to fire Bob Beckel over his alarmingly racist remarks during *The Five*, a Fox talk show, on July 10. (Please refer to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwwK0cO3z-o)

Councilmember Chu believes: "To attack one immigrant group is to attack all immigrant groups. And attacking on the basis of ethnicity, religion, gender, and language is never acceptable." The remarks made by Beckel do not only offend the Chinese immigrant population, but also the immigrant population that makes up Silicon Valley. The United States is a country of immigrants, a land of opportunity, and in the past has offered refuge to those fleeing their homeland across the world. Councilmember Chu came to the United Sates in 1976 from Taiwan to pursue a degree in engineering at California State University, Northridge. Upon receiving his Masters degree, he worked as an engineer at IBM for 18 years before becoming a small business owner and school board member.

"Today, I am a public official giving back to and helping the American people and my community, regardless of their race or religion. I am shocked at Beckel's offensive words. In Silicon Valley, immigrants have been major contributors to the building of the region into the most technologically advanced in the world." Councilmember Chu urges local high-tech engineering groups and individuals to participate in the rally for the personal affront they have received from Beckel.

His "apology" was perhaps even more shocking; he blatantly refused to recant any of his comments, stating that "there are too many China apologists in this country". This attack on Chinese immigrants to the United States, especially those working in the high-tech industry, is disgusting and repugnant, and shows alarming ignorance and racism unworthy of being on a major national news network. His "apology" has only strengthened the argument that Fox News should remove Beckel.

Councilmember Chu concludes: "As a Chinaman I stand with all immigrants in the United States calling for Fox News to fire Beckel for his offensive and racist remarks made on air about the Chinese immigrant population in the United States."

###