



March 6, 2019

Back Mountain Chamber
1192 Twin Stacks Dr.
Dallas, PA 18612
(570) 675-9380

Dear Back Mountain Executive Committee,

ACT for America is the nation's largest and most influential national security grassroots advocacy organization. With over 1,000,000 members, we stand for the protection of the United States of America and the Western values upon which our nation was built.

ACT for America has worked with dozens of State Officials and Members of Congress for over a decade now, resulting in the passage of 102 bills on the State and Federal level. We showcase the tolerant and patriotic nature of our nation through our diversity, as well as by fostering a healthy dialogue about the most critical threats facing our nation.

Our mission is to educate, engage, train, and mobilize citizens and elected officials to impact legislative outcomes and ensure the safety and security of Americans against all threats, foreign and domestic, while simultaneously preserving civil liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

This is why ACT for America has a long standing tradition of hosting free, open to the public community events across the country, including our 2019 nationwide chapter tour featuring our Founder & Chairman, Brigitte Gabriel.

Brigitte Gabriel has had the distinct honor of addressing the British Parliament House of Commons, The United Nations, Members of the United States Congress, The Pentagon, The Joint Forces Staff College, The US Special Operations Command, The US Asymmetric Warfare Group, the FBI, and many others. In fact, just last month, Ms. Gabriel returned from Geneva Switzerland where she was the keynote speaker at a dinner gala attended by United Nations ambassadors and world business leaders.

As one of the world's leading experts in National Security and a survivor of real life terrorism, Brigitte Gabriel offers an invaluable perspective that world leaders, diplomats, and businessmen seek out.

Hosting Brigitte Gabriel in the Wilkes-Barre area would serve as a resource for the local community to come together in support of our nation's freedom -- not to denigrate anyone based on their religion or political affiliations.



Former Hazelton Mayor and United States Congressman Lou Barletta stated,

“During my time as Mayor and as a member of Congress, I was proud to work with Act for America on issues of national security, like stopping terrorism, securing our border, and supporting law enforcement and our military. Act for America advocates for the safety of every American, regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. Bill Leandri is a friend and has been a leader in our community for many years. It is a shame that the Southern Poverty Law Center is smearing a good man and organization simply because they disagree with them politically.”

The Southern Poverty Law Center’s claim that ACT for America is a “hate group” could not be further from the truth. As stated on our website, ACT for America has never, and will never, tolerate any bias, discrimination, or violence against anyone, based on their religion, gender, race, or political persuasion.

Anyone who traffics in prejudice, or advocates violence in any way towards any individual or any group, does not speak on behalf of, or represent, ACT for America.

We want to be very clear: The Southern Poverty Law Center's continued fallacious and deceitful attacks will not prevent ACT for America from hosting community events nationwide in defense of our nation’s freedom and values.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has a long standing history of targeting and harassing our organization and its members -- as it attacks so many organizations with whom it disagrees politically in order to advance its radical leftist agenda. The SPLC even went so far as to list renowned African American neurosurgeon Dr. Ben Carson on its supposed “Extremist Watch List.” Further, after including Islamic scholar Maajid Nawaz on its “Field Guide to Anti Muslim Extremists,” it was forced to pay Mr. Nawaz a \$3.375 million settlement.

The attacks against Mr. Leandri are the latest examples of this kind of hateful behavior by the SPLC. The hateful and vicious attack on this honest American citizen, simply because he was scheduled to host an ACT for America speaking event at a local church, is reprehensible, and the people of Pennsylvania should be outraged. Freedom of speech is one of our fundamental rights. The Founding Fathers knew the importance of being able to speak freely and debate issues in order to learn and grow as a nation. It is through this rigorous debate of ideas that America became the greatest nation in the world, setting the standards of freedom across the world.

Never before America were people free as citizens and empowered to let their ideas grow, prosper, and shape a nation; this is all part of what makes America exceptional.

Today, the use of political correctness has become so abused that anyone who voices his or her opinion contrary to “politically correct” thought process is immediately tagged with some form of disparaging label such as racist, bigot and hateful. This exploitation has gotten so out of control that this name calling accusation is weaponized to manipulate academic, social, and political discussion. The result is a social paranoia which discourages free thought and expression. It’s like living in a totalitarian state in which you are afraid to say what you think. People’s opinions are held captive to fear.



Is this the America we want to be living in? Southern Poverty Law Center has become the weapon used to undermine everything our Founding Fathers stood and fought for. They and anyone who supports their organization should be ashamed. These unconstitutional and fascist tactics will not be tolerated by our organization and should not be tolerated by the people of Pennsylvania.

It is our privilege to continue serve with our friends, volunteers, and fellow patriots for the cause of freedom in local communities across the country.

Respectfully,

ACT for America

