

## Media Smears Pro-gun Women's Group

Infowars reported on May 3 about a pro-Second Amendment group of women in California calling themselves the “Mamalitia,” a portmanteau of “Mama” and “militia,” who recently got negative media coverage and had to cancel some of their events as a result. Mamalitia describes itself as a “nonpartisan women’s group that supports the Constitution and the uplifting of women. We are made up of professionals, homemakers, women trained in natural medicine, business owners, and women who actively learn how to be self-sustaining if and when needed.” Infowars reported that CBS Sacramento ran a hit piece on Mamalitia, which has led to members of the group being harassed by leftist “terrorist organizations.”

The CBS Sacramento piece was published on April 29, and featured quotes from a left-wing academic and a politician making Mamalitia members look like domestic terrorists encouraging violence. Professor Richard Carpiano from the University of California, Riverside reviewed posts from the group’s Facebook page that featured the women holding firearms and concluded this meant Mamalitia was “extremist.” Professor Carpiano told CBS Sacramento, “When you’re showing pictures of you with weapons [and] you are advertising services to train people in firearms, there’s no reason whatsoever to think they’re not pushing some extremist view.”

CBS Sacramento did not ask Professor Carpiano why posing in pictures with lawfully purchased guns or encouraging training in the proper handling of firearms is indicative of extremism, or what he meant by his use of the word “extremist.” Does Professor Carpiano consider Antifa to be “extremist,” or is it only people on the right side of the political spectrum who fit that description? CBS Sacramento reported the professor’s personal opinion, unsupported by any facts, in a way that made him sound as if he were the authority on who is an “extremist.”

CBS Sacramento also interviewed Democrat State Senator Richard Pan, who ac-

cused Mamalitia of trying to harass public officials when in truth they were merely engaged in lawful protests. “Not only did they protest the public health measures but they then employed tactics to bully and intimidate people,” Senator Pan told CBS Sacramento. Once again, CBS Sacramento reported Pan’s statements without offering any countering opinions or a defense of the Mamalitia group. Does Senator Pan also view the type of public activism that Mamalitia engaged in as problematic when it’s done by Black Lives Matter, or is Pan only upset when his political opponents exercise their First Amendment-protected rights?

As could be expected, violent left-wing groups such as Antifa came out of the woodwork to begin harassing members of the Mamalitia group and their families once the article was published. Infowars reported that the group has now canceled all public appearances to protect the mothers in the group and their children. Mamalitia published a press release on May 2 explaining what it was dealing with due to the misleading and inflammatory reporting by CBS Sacramento: “Mamalitia community has canceled all public meet and greet events due to media attacks, irresponsible reporting and false claims that have invited terrorist organizations to threaten our women and children. In a time where all should be embracing and encouraging strong women with goals to protect their home and family, the media and politicians try to create a story that puts those same women and children in danger. Though Mamalitia is making this change to our process, the organization will not allow these extremists to intimidate and change the narrative of the organization’s mission: Mamalitia is a community of constitution loving women that recognize our empowerment comes from fully engaging in our children’s education, our wellness, food and financial sovereignty, and overall skills. We are committed to building the world we want to live in, getting back to our roots while empowering women from every walk of life.”

## Paper Carrier Shoots Thief

The *Columbian* reported on May 7 about a shooting in Clark County, Washington,

that involved a would-be thief who tried stealing the vehicle of a man delivering newspapers. According to investigative documents related to the case, the paper carrier had left his vehicle unlocked and running while he made deliveries to a nearby building. During the time the paper carrier was away from his vehicle, a 29-year-old man armed with a knife and wearing rubber gloves entered the vehicle and intended to steal it, but the paper carrier quickly returned and caught the suspect sitting in the driver’s seat. The paper carrier was lawfully carrying a handgun, and he pulled it out when it looked as if the would-be car thief was reaching for something near the car’s center console. Fearing for his life, the paper carrier fired multiple shots at the suspect before retreating into the building and calling 911. Police soon arrived and the mortally wounded suspect was pronounced dead at the scene.

As law enforcement investigated what occurred, they identified a man who was an associate of the deceased suspect, whose statements to police corroborated the paper carrier’s version of what occurred. The associate of the deceased suspect told police that both he and the suspect had done methamphetamine earlier in the day and had just driven to the area when the suspect noticed the open, running vehicle and said he would steal it. The associate then said he began driving away when he saw the paper carrier return and shoot the suspect as he tried to steal the car. The Clark County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office reviewed the case file and stated that they would not charge the paper carrier for his actions. “[The paper carrier] unexpectedly encountered a stranger inside his vehicle in the darkness of early morning. These circumstances would cause alarm to any reasonable person.... [The paper carrier’s] fear was not unreasonable under the circumstances. [The paper carrier] stated that he was acting to defend his own life from a criminal threat. We do not believe that we can prove otherwise, beyond a reasonable doubt,” the office stated in their letter, as reported by the *Columbian*. ■

— PATRICK KREY