



Attacks by Candidate on Judge Curiel, Continued Wisconsin GOP Support for Trump Criticized in Milwaukee last Friday.

MILWAUKEE – During a press conference last Friday, Wisconsin Latino leaders spoke out against **Donald Trump's** racist attacks against Judge Gonzalo P. Curiel and challenged Sen. Ron Johnson's decision to hold open the Supreme Court vacancy for Trump to fill.



Responding to Trump's statements that a federal judge couldn't be fair based simply on his Mexican-American heritage, Sen. **Ron Johnson** and House Speaker **Paul Ryan** criticized Trump, yet the two are backing Trump's presidential bid and Johnson continues to hold the Supreme Court seat open for Trump to fill by refusing to give fair consideration to Supreme Court nominee Judge Garland. Ryan continues to ignore the ongoing bigotry of Trump's campaign by categorizing Trump's latest racist attacks as "out of left field."

Key statements:

Wisconsin State House Representative JoCasta Zamarripa:

"As a legislator, I work on issues critical to the community I represent, whether that's working to combat discrimination, support immigrant families, protect voting rights. Donald Trump stands against everything that we stand for.

"Ron Johnson has said that he won't support Trump if he "crossed a line." How is it possible

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Written by People for the American Way
Tuesday, 14 June 2016 08:22 -

that launching racist attacks against a federal judge doesn't cross the line? And how can Johnson justify holding open the Supreme Court vacancy for someone who shows such disregard to our courts and the Constitution?"

Christine Neumann-Ortiz, Executive Director of Voces de la Frontera:

"Trump's racist comments against Judge Curiel exposes the true character of the man. He is both a bully and a fraud. He is a bully because he uses personal attacks and threats to try to get his way, and he is a fraud because he is a swindler through projects like Trump fake University, his string of bankruptcies, and his made-in-China products.

"The failure of Senator Johnson and US Speaker Paul Ryan or Governor Walker to pull their support, is dangerous. Their own policy proposals are a dressed up version of Trump's, but Trump's appeal to growing a white supremacist movement through hate and violence, is a threat that extends beyond an election, and should be aggressively condemned and marginalized."

Freya Neumann, Citizenship Coordinator at Voces de la Frontera:

"I came to this country almost 40 years ago from Mexico, and I became a naturalized citizen to challenge stereotypes and combat the racism I experienced and witnessed far too often in Milwaukee. Sadly, in 2016, racism has increased because of Trump's hate campaign.

"I am though so happy to see many people who are becoming US citizens because like me, they understand that they must stand up to racism by education, voting, speaking out, and demonstrating. Shame on our Wisconsin Republican leaders who disagree with Trump's message but continue to support him as president; for the US constitution, the founding document of this nation, upholds the ideal that all people are created equal."

Michael Keegan, President of People For the American Way:

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“We now know that Trump has no problem launching racist attacks against judges, and we know that President Obama’s Supreme Court nominee Judge Garland is superbly qualified and has earned significant praise from Democrats and Republicans alike. So why is Ron Johnson holding open the Supreme Court vacancy for a Trump nominee instead of calling for hearings and a vote for Judge Garland?

“It’s time to call the question: Senator Johnson needs to support a fair process for Judge Garland, or else he stands in solidarity with Trump’s racist attacks on our judiciary. He can’t do both.”

For follow-up questions or interviews, please email media@pfaw.org .