

**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact:**

Tracy La (858) 598-7805 | [tracy@vietrise.org](mailto:tracy@vietrise.org)

**VietRISE, Harbor Institute Condemn Alleged Conflicts of Interest, Misuse of Millions of Taxpayer Dollars by Supervisor Do and Former OC Health Care Agency Director Dr. Chau**

**ORANGE COUNTY, CA** - In response to the troubling revelations brought to light by a recent investigation by the LAist, Orange County-based advocacy organizations, VietRISE and the Harbor Institute for Immigrant & Economic Justice, have released the following statement:

“We strongly condemn the alleged corruption and egregious misuse of public funds by Supervisor Andrew Do and former OC Health Care Agency Director Dr. Clayton Chau.

LAist reporters recently uncovered that [Supervisor Do channeled over \\$3 million in public county funds](#) within the last year to a mental health nonprofit agency where his daughter serves as president without disclosing his personal connection to her agency. The nonprofit, Warner Wellness Center, conveniently shares the same office building as Do’s private law office and was not properly registered with the state as a nonprofit until long after the funds were channeled. When voting on this item, Supervisor Do thanked Dr. Chau for his partnership, whose department had recommended the item for the supervisors’ approval.

Similarly, in 2021 the Voice of OC reported that Dr. Chau recommended for approval to the County Board of Supervisors a [\\$600,000 no-bid contract to an organization](#) called Advance OC, which was not registered as a charity with the state either when this vote took place. At the time, Dr. Chau served on Advance OC’s advisory board. Dr. Chau had not disclosed his relationship with the contractor and had not recused himself from being involved in this contract.

**It is through these actions time and time again that elected officials like Supervisor Do and Dr. Chau continue to show that, instead of serving the public, they are more dedicated to lining their own pockets and the pockets of their close circles.** In a time when Orange County families increasingly struggle to pay for food and housing, Supervisor Do and Dr. Chau have repeatedly funneled millions of dollars that should be serving hundreds of thousands of Orange County residents to their close circle of friends, family, and political allies. These actions by Supervisor Do and Dr. Chau – which are so common that they have become “business as usual” – erode public trust in government and contribute to the very inequities they claim they are working to combat.

Again and again, Supervisor Do and Dr. Chau have been at the center of allegations of conflicts of interest and ethics violations involving public funds and county contractors.

**We call for an independent investigation and audit by the appropriate authorities into Supervisor Do and all contracts involving Dr. Chau during his term as OC Health Care Agency Director.** The public has an undeniable right to timely disclosure of the full extent of Supervisor Do and Dr. Chau’s potential ethics violations – justice delayed only deepens the impact of these abuses of power.”