

Press Conference Remarks - Matt Murdank - October 7, 2026

Members of the press, my fellow citizens of San Andreas, thank you for joining me on this beautiful day. It is a wonder that we are so blessed to live in a state with beautiful weather, a thriving ecosystem, and boundless opportunity.

Just over five years ago, a constitutional convention was held here in San Andreas, establishing the majestic document that is the core of the government of our fair state. "We the people of San Andreas," it reads, "grateful to Democracy for our freedom, in order to secure and perpetuate its blessings, do establish this Constitution." Democracy and freedom, of course, are therefore two of the most sacred founding principles of the State of San Andreas. The twin lights of Democracy and freedom are our protection from, and rebuke of, chaos and disorder.

Unfortunately, there are those who prefer that chaos and disorder. They value coercion over collaboration, intimidation over imagination, and violence over peace. When they think of prosperity, they think of prosperity at the expense of others, rather than prosperity for all. When they conduct their affairs, they are focused only on the consequences to themselves, paying no mind to the havoc they may wreak on others.

Today, I stand before you to condemn political violence in all its forms. I believe, and assert, that free and fair elections are the cornerstone of our Democracy. Unfortunately, not all citizens of our fair state share that belief. In fact, I am disheartened to share with you all today that in only three hours from the time I filed my candidacy for Governor of San Andreas, I experienced two assassination attempts. Terrorists, sent with a message - drop out, or else.

These terrorists were agents of chaos. They told me on both occasions, without fear of consequence, that they had been contracted. A hit on my life, they said. And the first group of them even told me how much they had been paid - fifty thousand dollars. A lesser person might drop out of the race in the face of such a threat - especially because they told me each time that I

would continue to be attacked until I dropped out. A lesser person might hide, or cower, or abandon their principles.

But let me tell you, San Andreas, I am no such lesser person. I am unbowed, unbent, and unbroken. My values today are the same as they ever were, and I am committed to ensuring that this election remains free, fair, and a continued commitment to our State's tradition of the Democratic process.

I trust that my fellow candidates share my commitment to condemning political violence. I offered the opportunity for each of them to speak here today. Unfortunately, I was not able to reach Mr. Fantana, as he does not accept emails, and I was unable to find a valid address for Mr. Vandertunt. Mr. Jacobs, however, the candidate for State Representative, quickly and kindly replied to my email. He asked me to read the following statement:

Citizens of San Andreas, I apologize for being unable to address you myself. I am Matthew Jacobs, a Candidate for State Representative for the Seventeenth Congress. I would firstly want to thank Candidate Murdank for hosting this conference.

If I am elected to the State Legislature, it would be my honor to work with and for the citizens of San Andreas, please feel free to reach out to me via email if you have any inquiries or legislative matters. I implore you all to get involved with your government to ensure it represents you.

I would now like to call out to those present in case Mr. Fantana or Mr. Vandertunt are here today to speak - if so, I would be honored to give them the floor to share their thoughts on this subject.

[Call for Fantana/Vandertunt]

I am saddened that neither Mr. Fantana nor Mr. Vandertunt could join us, though I encourage them to share their thoughts on this matter with the press and the public. My commitment to San Andreas will not waver, and I trust that my fellow candidates will share the same position as soon as they have the opportunity to do so.

[Call for Fantana/Vandertunt a second time]

I am grateful for the time of those who came to join us today, and I look forward to enjoying some refreshments with you afterwards. First, though, I'll be happy to take any questions.

[Call for Fantana/Vandertunt a third time just in case]