

*******MEDIA ALERT*******

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pasquarella for Congress
Contact: Helena Pasquarella
Tel: 805-850-3731

helenapasquarella@gmail.com

**Longtime Peace Activist Helena Pasquarella Announces Candidacy for
California's 24th Congressional District Seat**

OJAI, CA– At Ojai's November 28th City Council meeting, Helena Pasquarella will announce her candidacy for the 24th Congressional District, which stretches from cities in Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. Pasquarella has served as Director of Media Relations and Community Outreach at the US Department of Peace, a small NGO based in Ojai, for the past three years. Prior to that, she was an elementary and high school teacher and a photojournalist with the Ventura County Edition of The L.A. Times, The Washington Post, and Ventura County Star.

Pasquarella and a group of concerned citizens are calling for the Ojai City Council to pass a ceasefire resolution that will lead to the beginning of the end of the most recent Israeli/Palestinian war. "The Ceasefire Now Ojai group has energized me and strengthened my desire to make our voices heard by our government officials. They are inspiring me to believe that we can make a difference and bring justice and peace to the world. They have shown me we are indeed stronger together." Pasquarella, who is running as a Democrat, explained. Central Coast Antiwar Coalition organizer Marcy Winograd stated, " I am proud to support Helena Pasquarella for Congress because Helena is the peace candidate who will represent us, the people, not the weapons contractors. Instead of doing the bidding of war profiteers, Helena will serve our district to fund urgent needs at home, such as climate relief, health care for all, affordable housing, quality public education and green jobs. In the 24th congressional district, we need a visionary representative who will transition us from a war economy to a peace

economy so that instead of investing in death and destruction, we invest in our future and our children's future.”

Pasquarella, a first-time candidate, decided to run for Congress after meeting Carbajal at a town meeting earlier this year in Ventura. When she asked how he was going to reduce the \$885 billion a year Department of Defense budget, he told her that he was not going to change his support for the military because the United States needed to be strong. She remembers thinking to herself, “I am not going to just sit here and let this happen any longer. I have to do something. If not now, then when. If not me, then who?” And that was when the seed for running for Congress was planted.

With 75% of democratic voters calling for a ceasefire, and only a handful of representatives signing HR 786, Pasquarella believes that Washington is out of touch with the people. “They are not accountable to their constituents, but rather to the Military Industrial Complex, Big Pharma, and corporate interests who fund their campaigns, putting profits over humanity,” she explained, “I am asking voters to join me on this journey for justice and peace to make America thrive for the majority of folks, not just the privileged few.”

Pasquarella will announce her candidacy at the Ojai City Council meeting at 401 South Ventura Ave, on November 28th at 6:00pm. More information about her platform and campaign can be found at www.PasquarellaForCongress.com.

###

Paid for by Pasquarella for Congress FEC #H4CA24209