

# [***Protester Threatening to 'Murder' City Council Goes Viral***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BSR-P171-DY68-11WK-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 436 words

**Byline:** Jon Jackson

**Highlight:** The protester was later charged for her actions during a city council meeting in Bakersfield, California.

**Body**

A video of a [*protester*](https://www.newsweek.com/pro-palestinian-protest-blocks-traffic-near-academy-awards-venue-1877705?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) threatening members of a California city council with murder has gone viral after it was shared online by [*conservative social media*](https://www.newsweek.com/conservative-influencers-struggle-countering-bidens-messaging-1797437?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) accounts.

The protester, identified by local media as 28-year-old Riddhi Patel, was arrested inside Bakersfield City Council chambers on Wednesday and later charged with felony counts for her threats to the council.

Patel, who can be heard in the video mentioning Palestinians, made the threats while she spoke during a portion of the council meeting that allowed comments from the public.

The main subject of her remarks were security upgrades at city council meetings that include metal detectors. The additions, which were being used for a trial period, were later unanimously approved by the council at Wednesday's meeting.

"You guys want to criminalize us with metal detectors," Patel said to the council. "We'll see you at your house. We'll murder you."

Patel added: "I hope one day somebody brings the guillotine and kills all of you motherf\*\*\*\*\*\*."

The conservative X, formerly [*Twitter*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), account [*Libs of TikTok*](https://www.newsweek.com/libs-tiktok-chaya-raichik-twitter-anonymity-identity-1699445?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) [*posted a clip*](https://twitter.com/libsoftiktok/status/1778834177548292539?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1778834177548292539%7Ctwgr%5E49aafedfb0aa626efe403553788dd3aec67707f7%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpublish.twitter.com%2F%3Furl%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ftwitter.com%2Flibsoftiktok%2Fstatus%2F1778834177548292539) of Patel's remarks on Friday afternoon. The post has over 1.6 million views as of press time.

Collin Rugg, co-owner of conservative commentary outlet Trending ***Politics***, later shared Libs of [*TikTok*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/tiktok?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'s video. His post has garnered more than 139,000 views.

KGET TV, an [*NBC*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/nbc?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) affiliate station in Bakersfield, reported that city council meetings "have been filled with tension" in recent weeks "as pro-Palestinian protesters urged council members to pass a cease-fire resolution for the Israel-Hamas War."

The station spoke with a councilman who was present during Patel's outburst, and he said the council "will not be intimidated."

"To have that type of a threat, in that type of public setting is completely inappropriate, unproductive and is deeply concerning," Councilman and Vice Mayor Andrae Gonzales told KGET.

Gonzales continued: "Sit at the table like adults and exchange ideas, go back and forth really trying to figure out how we can find a path together. Making real threats to elected officials and decision-makers is not the way to influence others. Nobody on the city council will be intimidated to action."

The United Liberation Front, a pro-Palestinian group, said [*in a statement*](https://unitedliberationfront.com/pr41024) after the Bakersfield incident that it "condemns any statements that threaten public officials" and that Patel's words are "counter to our values and do not represent United Liberation Front."

*Newsweek* reached out to the city of Bakersfield's public communications office and the Bakersfield Police Department via email on Friday for comment.

[*Link to Image*](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2377740/stock-image-phone.jpg)

**Graphic**

Stock image of a phone

Getty Images

This stock image taken on March 23, 2022, in Gothenburg, Sweden, shows a man's hand holding Iphone 13 Pro max with social media apps against the background of a laptop. A video of a woman threatening members of a city council went viral on social media on Friday.

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