

July 12, 2001

John Gordon, U.S. Attorney
1200 U.S. Courthouse
312 North Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90018

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Enclosed is a letter that PEER sent today to the San Bernardino Grand Jury and California Attorney General Bill Lockyer regarding recent actions and statements by San Bernardino County elected officials. We ask that your office also look into these actions and statements for possible violation of Federal laws.

While we recognize that canceling a Memorandum of Understanding and trash dumping pass are completely within the authority of these elected officials, we are concerned that the actions were taken solely to create the opportunity for incendiary anti-government rhetoric. Following the two events described, a press release by the local Assembly member contained even more inflammatory language, referring to "family livelihoods being destroyed by rogue bureaucrats in cahoots with environmental extremists..." We are very concerned that:

1. The events represent a concerted effort to prevent the Bureau of Land Management from complying with a federal court order; and
2. That the increasingly inflammatory rhetoric by authority figures will be taken as permission by the unstable individuals to commit violent acts against federal employees and their families.

Please advise us if there is any action that you can take under federal laws to address the above.

Sincerely,

Karen Schambach
California Coordinator.