



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

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Steven R. Jones
Mayor

John R. O'Neill
Mayor Pro Tem - District 2

George S. Brietigam
Council Member - District 1

Diedre Thu-Ha Nguyen
Council Member - District 3

Patrick Phat Bui
Council Member - District 4

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Council Member - District 5

Kim Bernice Nguyen
Council Member - District 6

VIA E-MAIL

RBlackmon@RAASNutritionals.com

April 6, 2020

Robert N. Blackmon, Esq.
RAAS Group Companies
3615 Old Conejo Rd.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

Re: Your letter dated April 5, 2020 regarding April 4th event at Garden Grove Park involving Kieu Hoang Productions

Dear Mr. Blackmon:

Your letter addressed to Mayor Steve Jones, Police Chief Thomas DaRé, and City Manager Scott Stiles has been forwarded to my attention for a reply. Although your letter is proffered to pertain to "political disruption of Kieu Hoang coronavirus sustenance supplies" in reference to the Garden Grove Police Department's shutting down of a giveaway event taking place at the City's Garden Grove Park on Westminster Blvd., the City and its police officers take issue with such a claim.

Our officers had no regard to politics. They were only concerned with public safety. The City understood that the event was supposed to be offered by appointment only to facilitate the social distancing required by the Orange County Health Officer's order to prevent further infections of COVID-19 in the County. Instead, the event became a free-for-all that was causing major disruptions to the community and on traffic on Westminster Blvd. and Brookhurst St., two major arterials in the City, as well as in surrounding streets. At a time when the City must be diligent in deploying its officers in the midst of a pandemic affecting every citizen in the community and the nation, the City was forced to redirect and spend precious limited public safety resources to prevent yet another major disaster in our City caused by the large number of vehicles attracted by the event.

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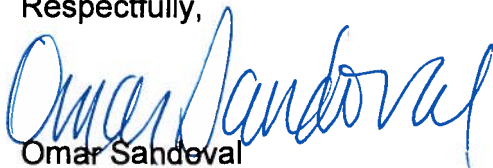
Rather than faulting our public safety professionals for doing the best they can under the current dire circumstances to protect our community, we should be commending them for the great work they are doing in these difficult times.

Although the City appreciates the laudable intent to help and assist the public in these times of need, perhaps an effort to distribute your assistance through the City's nonprofits, our local hospitals, medical clinics, and service groups would better serve the community.

Please note that you are not to hold any such events on City facilities in the future. The City will not issue, nor consider issuing, any permits to use its facilities while the County Health Officer's orders prohibiting all gatherings are in place.

Please contact me should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Respectfully,



Omar Sandeval
City Attorney

cc: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Scott C. Stiles, City Manager
Thomas DaRé, Chief of Police