

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

1816 S. Figueroa Street  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015



**Ruth A. Wong  
Director**

March 14, 2014

Honorable Chair of the Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
822 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Knabe:

At the January 8, 2014 Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission (Commission) meeting Mr. Robert Rosebrock (Constituent and Vietnam Veteran) briefed the body about an August 2013 ruling by Federal Judge Otero, United States District Court. Judge Otero declared illegal 9 Department of Veterans Affairs lease agreements involving non-VA related businesses and nonprofit organizations using V.A. land.

At the Commission meeting, Mr. Rosebrock requested that the Board of Supervisors write a letter to the West Los Angeles Veterans' Administration requesting they not appeal Judge Otero's ruling. The Commission voted that the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors write a letter to the V.A. in support of Judge Otero's ruling.

The Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles has been leasing V.A. property to improve its operating income to various entities for non-veteran use for more than 20 years. After some 15 years, non-veteran entities now occupy nearly one-third of the California Veterans Home Campus. Judge Otero's order explicitly stated that these leasing agreements are unauthorized by law, and therefore void.

As Commission Chair, I would like to inform you that the Commission unanimously agrees with Judge Otero's ruling. The veteran's community strongly supports this issue. We request and recommend that the Board of Supervisors write a letter of support to the Department of Justice. For your information the point of contact is:

Daniel Tenny, Esq.  
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Room 7215  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: 202-514-1838

If you have any further questions or need clarification please contact Ruth A. Wong, Brig Gen (ret) at the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Respectfully,



Bob J. Archuleta, Chair  
Veterans Advisory Commission

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