Exhibit: 13F
### Location of Incident
**HARNEY COUNTY, OR**

### Cross Street
**MALHEUR NATIONAL WIL**

### Dispo
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### Synopsis
- **Was there a witness to the crime?** No
- **Was a suspect arrested?** No
- **Is a suspect named?** No
- **Can suspect be located?** No
- **Can suspect be described?** No
- **Can suspect be identified?** No
- **Is stolen property identifiable?** No
- **Is there an unusual M.O.?** No
- **Is significant physical evidence present** No
- **Is this a major injury/sex crime?** No
- **Are there unique circumstances?** No
- **Is there a good possibility of solution?** No

### Solvability Points
- **Property Damage $** $0.00
- **Property Damage Listed** No
- **Property Damage Attached** No
- **Domestic Violence** No
- **Victim Senior Citizen** No
- **Hate Crime** No
- **School Related** No
- **Gang Related** No
- **Child Abuse** No
- **Force Used** No
- **Pursuit** No
- **Press Release** No
- **UCR** 26
- **Solvability Points** 0
- **Count Code** 13
- **Disposal** INV

### Assigned To
**Dave Ward**

### Reviewed By
**Dave Ward**

### Date
**42441**

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**CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System**

**Printed By/On:** 56567 / 07/17/2019 08:58:09

**Licensed to:** HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF’S OFFICE
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- **PRINCETON OR 97721**
- **STATE ASSEMBLY WOMAN**
- **BURNS OR**
- **DREWSEY OR 97904**
- **HESPERIA OR 97720**
- **BURNS OR 97720-0000**
- **Unk OR**

**City, State, Zip Code:**
- **MNWR**
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- **BURNS OR**
- **DREWSEY OR 97904**
- **HESPERIA OR 97720**
- **BURNS OR 97720-0000**

**SSN Local ID # State # FBI #**

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**Type:**
- **999.999 INVESTIGATION**

**Attempt:**
- **1**

**Investigation Seq:**
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Printed By/On: 56567 / 07/17/2019 08:58:11
CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System
Licensed to: HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Page 4 incident 1512255

Names

999.999 INVESTIGATION

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On November 5, 2015 While on duty for the Harney County Sheriff's Office I was contacted by Ammon Bundy by telephone at which time he stated that he was in Harney County, Oregon and requested to meet with me in person to discuss the resentencing of Dwight and Steven Hammond on charges through the federal court system.

November 5, 2015
Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne made contact with me at the Harney County Sheriff's Office in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. We met in my office and I asked Harney County 911 Supervisor (Dorothy) Missy Ousley to sit in on the meeting with me.

During my conversation with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne they informed me that the Hammonds had been wrongfully convicted of terrorism by the federal government. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne also informed me of their beliefs that the United States Federal Government held no authority by constitution to own and manage land under Article 1 Section 8 para. 17 of the US constitution. Therefore, under their beliefs, Dwight or Steven Hammond could not have committed a crime. Furthermore, Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne stated that the government had "convicted the Hammonds of terrorism" and "without due process."

Mr. Bundy made accusations that the Hammond family had been the victims of years of oppression and criminal actions against them by the BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other government agencies in order to drive the Hammond family off of their family land. Mr. Bundy claimed to have documentation and evidence to substantiate these claims.

I informed Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I was not familiar with the Hammond case and would need to look into the details of the case for myself. I also asked Mr. Bundy to provide me with the evidence he claimed to possess showing criminal actions against the Hammonds. Mr. Bundy stated that he would do so (he still has not).

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both expressed to me that the federal courts system had no constitutional authority to sentence Dwight and Steven Hammond to prison, therefore it was my constitutional authority as Harney County Sheriff to "stand up for the people" and tell the federal court that the Hammonds would not serve one more day in prison. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both expressed that the afore mentioned federal agencies operating within Harney County were "unconstitutional" and told me that it was my duty as sheriff to kick them out of Harney County.

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both gave ultimatums of what would happen if I did not prevent the Hammonds from returning to prison.
Mr. Bundy stated "if you don't do your job, we will bring thousands of people here to do your job for you." Mr. Bundy went on to state that they would create "extreme civil unrest in the community."
Mr. Payne made a statement to the effect of with that many people "we won't be able to control what they might do."

While Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne were giving ultimatums, Dispatch Supervisor Ousley stated that she has been friends with the Hammonds most of her life and wanted to know where Dwight and Steven Hammond stood on Mr. Bundy's and Mr. Payne's position. Supervisor Ousley stated that she knew Dwight and Steven Hammond were planning on turning themselves in to fulfill the sentence from the court.

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both stated that it did not matter what Dwight and Steven Hammond
thought. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne made the argument that the Hammond's were "like a battered housewife" and could not make that decision for themselves. Bundy stated that "the government has kicked them and beat them down to the point they can't make that decision."

During this conversation I made it clear to Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I was aware of what had taken place near the Bundy Ranch in Nevada. I explained with no uncertainty, that any such behavior would not be tolerated in Harney County. I told both of them that I would not tolerate violent or unlawful behavior in this county from either law enforcement officers or private citizens.

I stated that they were welcome to protest and work through lawful channels to seek solutions for the problems they had with the court sentence of the Hammonds. However, I absolutely would not stand for violence or bloodshed in this community. To this Mr. Payne replied "that's what will happen if the Hammonds spend one more day in prison."

I again told Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I would look into everything I could find pertaining to the Hammond case. I also stated that I would look at evidence which would support their argument of federal employees committing crimes against the Hammonds if it were provided.

As they were leaving my office, Mr. Payne looked at me and stated "I don't want to have to come back from Montana."

Throughout this first contact Mr. Payne and Mr. Bundy referred to portions of the US Constitution to support their stance. It is my belief based off of this interaction that Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne were attempting to intimidate me into bending to their will through their threats of bringing thousands of people to create extreme civil unrest and possible bloodshed. Mr. Bundy went into great detail about the great "victory" they had won over the "Feds" in Bunkerville, Nevada in April, 2014 when "the people" stood against the government and the government was forced to retreat, because "federal laws are unconstitutional and the Feds know it, that's why they had to retreat." Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne tried to convey to me that was the reason no-one had or could be arrested from the Bundy Ranch incident.

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne also spoke to me about the victory the people had won in Josephine County, Oregon at the Sugar Pine Mine incident. Again, they explained how a great victory was won because the people armed themselves and stood against the government and the "Feds" were powerless because the constitution did not grant the federal government the authority to own land or enforce laws.

Mr. Payne openly carried a firearm on his hip throughout the encounter and spent the majority of the interaction staring intensely at, or through me. I felt as though he wore the firearm to my office in hopes of provoking a 2nd amendment argument.

During the course of the interaction on November 5, Mr. Bundy did the majority of the talking and Mr. Payne mostly interjected, steering the conversation in the direction he wanted it to go, when Mr. Bundy got off of course.

(2) Within an hour of Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne leaving the sheriff's office on November 5, 2015, I received a phone call from former sheriff, Richard Mack, of Arizona. Mr. Mack contacted me on this date in regard to the Hammond case. During this conversation Mr. Mack extended an offer for help from
his organization, the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, in dealing with government overreach in the Hammond case. Mr. Mack spoke very highly of the Bundy family and I did not believe it was a coincidence that he called me at that time.

During that same week I had received a phone message from Nevada Assembly Woman Michele Fiore in regard to the Hammond case. After speaking with Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne, I returned Ms. Fiore’s phone call. Ms. Fiore was very pleasant to speak with and seemed genuinely concerned about the Hammond resentencing. Ms. Fiore spoke very highly of Ammon Bundy during this conversation. I told Ms. Fiore about the demands, ultimatums, and threats of civil unrest and possible bloodshed made by Bundy and Payne and I appealed to her to encourage them to work through legal channels for a peaceful resolution to their perceived injustice.

(3) Over the next several weeks I would receive multiple phone calls from Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne pushing their stance that the sheriff is the only constitutional authority in the county, and that if I did not stand up to the federal government, they were going to come to Harney County and do that job for me.

During one of these phone calls Mr. Bundy became very agitated with me when I again stated that they were welcome to protest and work through lawful channels toward finding resolution to their issues with the Hammond case, and that I would not tolerate the actions that took place in Bunkerville happening here. Mr. Bundy raised his voice to the point of yelling and said "why do you keep saying that, it is very offensive.” I told him that I said it, because I had researched what had happened in Bunkerville and did not want it to happen in Harney County.

Beginning November 6th, Ammon Bundy began posting material, calls to action, and letters to the Bundy Ranch facebook page as well as a Bundy Ranch blog website with the intent of provoking an emotional response from people.

Note: see attached documents for more details.

November 17, 2015
I was flooded with emails and phone calls demanding that I stand against the federal court sentence and prevent Dwight and Steven Hammond from returning to prison. Many of the messages were laced with profanity, name calling, threats of violence, and accusations that I was unconstitutional and failing to uphold my oath of office.
So many phone calls were coming through the dispatch center that it prevented the 911 dispatchers from being capable of doing their jobs effectively.

**ACTION NEEDED**- HAMMOND FAMILY UPDATE
The post on the Bundy facebook page stated many people had been working with the Harney County Sheriff "in an effort to influence him to stand and protect the Hammonds."
"He is checking the facts and will make a decision soon."
"Federal agents, which reportedly flow through his office, are also influencing the Sheriff."
The post goes on to give the Harney County Sheriff's Office contact information and ask people to contact the Sheriff to express their disapproval.
NOTE: See attached documents for further details.
On November 19, 2015
Ammon Bundy requested to meet with me at the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. Mr. Bundy brought ten people with him to meet with me on that date, and at least six of the group were openly carrying firearms. I believe the intent of this meeting and show of force was designed with the intent of attempting to intimidate me into using my position as sheriff to act unlawfully on their behalf.

The group left an armed guard outside of the sheriff's office while Ammon Bundy and nine others entered the building to meet with me. I did not ask them to disarm, as I felt their intent was to again attempt to spark a 2nd amendment argument and make accusations of constitutional infringement.

I had Harney County Corrections Corporal John Miller accompany me while I met Mr. Bundy and the people he brought with him, Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, BJ Soper, Brandon Curtiss, Brandon Rapola, Brooke Agresta, Joseph Rice, and three other people consisting of an older couple who were Bundy family friends from Nevada, and an older gentleman from Florida who claimed to be writing a book.

This group had representatives of the Pacific Patriot Network (Brandon Rapola), Oath Keepers (Joseph Rice), Bearded Bastards, Idaho III% (Brandon Curtiss and Brooke Agresta), Central Oregon Constitutional Guard (BJ Soper), Operation Mutual Defense (Ryan Payne), the Bundy family (Ammon Bundy and friends) among others.

Brandon Rapola spoke of his involvement during the Bundy Ranch incident in April 2014. Mr. Rapola expressed that he had gone there willing to give his life to stand against government oppression and tyranny, Mr. Rapola stated he had explained to his "little boy" why he was leaving and might "not come home." Mr. Rapola stated he was a Marine veteran and spoke about what skillsets he brought to the table.

Joseph Rice stated he was former Army and had participated in the Sugar Pine Mine incident in Josephine County, Oregon. Mr. Rice stated I could contact Sheriff Dave Daniel for information about that incident, which I did at a later date.

Sheriff Daniel stated Mr. Rice had spoken to him several times pertaining to the Sugar Pine Mine incident in Josephine County. Sheriff Daniels said the militia type groups who came in for that event had set up perimeters, set up ambush sites/kill zones, and conducted roving patrols in the area of the Sugar Pine Mine. Sheriff Daniel stated he and his office had very little to do with the incident and suggested if possible, that I distance myself from this situation as well.

Unfortunately, I was not able to do so, as these militia groups and associated persons specifically targeted me with the intent of forcing, intimidating, or bullying me into supporting their position, and/or breaking the law by interfering with a lawful and binding court sentence.

Brandon Curtiss stated he was a former police officer of 12 years and is the president of the Idaho III% group. Mr. Curtiss made the statement that they "will bring more people to town than you and your four deputies can handle."

Brooke Agresta stated she is the intel officer for the Idaho III% group. Ms. Agresta stated that she has researched me. Ms. Agresta stated that she knows everything there is to know about me. Ms. Agresta also made a very passionate speech about how they would back me if I would stand against the government and prevent the Hammonds from going to prison, but, if I did not stand with the Hammonds, they would not stand with me.
NOTE: Brandon Curtiss and Brooke Agresta were both adamant that I needed to get into contact with Sheriff Glenn Palmer of Grant County, Oregon to find out what kind of people they were. They made statements that they had a working relationship with Sheriff Palmer and that he had called them in to assist with government overreach while dealing with issues involving the US Forest Service.

BJ Soper stated he was former Army. Mr. Soper was representing the Central Oregon Constitutional Guard. Mr. Soper stated that they could deploy into the area and remain self-sufficient without re-supply for several weeks.

Ryan Payne stated he was former Army. Mr. Payne has stated to me that he was an Army Ranger on several occasions. In my opinion, he does this because he is attempting to be intimidating, as evidence suggests he was not an Army Ranger. Mr. Payne made a point during the November 19 visit to ask me if I "remember the last thing I told you the last time we met?" When I answered that he had stated he "didn't want to have to come back from Montana", Mr. Payne confirmed that was correct. This was done in the group setting and I believe was an attempt to make me feel intimidated.

Ammon Bundy did a good portion of the speaking during the group meeting on November 19. Mr. Bundy, as well as the others mentioned, gave multiple ultimatums and threats of extreme civil unrest if I did not support their stance and interfere with the Dwight and Steven Hammond sentencing. There were also demands that I use my authority as sheriff to start kicking the "unconstitutional" government agencies out of the county.

Aside from ultimatums, this group of people made accusations of tyranny, overreach, intimidation, and land grabbing by the federal government against the Hammond family. Arguments had been made that the Hammonds had been kidnapped, convicted of terrorism, forced off their land, falsely accused, tried without a grand jury indictment, corrupted court/trial/jury tampering by the government, victims of double jeopardy, that they were not afforded due process, among other claims and that again, it was my duty as sheriff to stand between the Hammonds and the federal government and if I did not, these people were going to organize thousands of people to come to Harney County and do that job for me.

I pointed out again on this date that Ammon Bundy had agreed to provide documentation to me that proved the accusations they were making on behalf of the Hammonds, and that he still had not provided the evidence promised, only written opinions. Mr. Bundy stated "Yeah, I still need to get that to you."

On November 19, 2015 I explained the way the case against the Hammonds had progressed through the system from the investigation through the resentencing of the Hammonds after the first judge failed to impose the mandatory minimum sentence required by law. I explained that it was a lawful and binding sentence. I also explained that the Hammonds themselves had expressed that they intended to turn themselves in to fulfill that sentence and that I had no intentions of interfering.

The response I received was that it did not matter if the Hammonds planned on turning themselves in. It was my duty to kick the federal government out of Harney County and the Hammonds complying with the sentence did not absolve me of my constitutional duties. Furthermore this group told me the Hammonds would not turn themselves in to the federal prison system if I "would stand up to the government" and demand they back down.
At one point during this meeting, one of the group stated they were going to email me some information they wanted me to read. I stated that they needed to put a subject title that I would stand out from the rest, as I was receiving hundreds of emails and phone calls pertaining to the Hammonds and could not keep up with them all. At that point, Ammon Bundy smugly stated "We turned the heat up on him this week."

The meeting ended with Ammon Bundy giving an ultimatum of "sheriff, you have one week to do the right thing, or we’re going to do it for you."

Prior to Mr. Bundy and his associates leaving the Harney County Sheriff’s Office, I provided Mr. Bundy with documentation which showed the information he was spreading, both verbally and via internet, was incorrect and asked that he clear up his details. Included in the documentation was a copy of the police report from former Harney County Sheriff David Glerup, who investigated the Hammond fires. Also included was a copy of the grand jury indictment, which Ammon Bundy stated never took place. I also provided a copy of the 57 page re-sentencing transcripts, which proved a great deal of Mr. Bundy’s arguments regarding the Hammonds to be false.

I also provided copies of these documents to Brooke Agresta, who had introduced herself as the intel person for the Idaho III%.

Again, I provided this information to this group of people to help clear up the facts regarding the Hammond case in hopes of preventing further posturing, attempts of intimidation, and cyber bullying from Mr. Bundy, his family, and his associates.

This meeting occurred in the courthouse law library. Mr. Bundy had everyone introduce themselves and explain what their role was in being there.

NOTE: After the group meeting, Mr. Payne requested to speak with me in private, which I did. During this conversation Mr. Payne tried to distance himself from being seen as a leader, stating he didn't ask to be in a leadership position with this group. Mr. Payne also stated during this conversation that he was not trying to be threatening when he stated he didn't want to have to come back from Montana. Mr. Payne also stated that he was working with a group of people out of California to "replace the existing form of government."

During the November 19 meeting, someone asked a question about the possibility of the federal government taking the Hammonds into custody early. I stated that option was not on the table and would not happen.

I later read a posting on the Bundy Ranch facebook page in which Mr. Bundy posted that I gave him information that the Feds were going to raid the Hammond home and take them back into custody earlier than their report date if they continued to have contact with the Bundy family.

That statement was yet again another example of Mr. Bundy’s willingness to deviate from the truth and meant to provoke an emotional response from Bundy Family supporters into continuing their online and telephonic bullying directed at me and my office.

NOTE: See attached documentation for further details.

November 20, 2015
I received a phone call from a very agitated Ammon Bundy. Mr. Bundy stated that federal agents had called Dwight Hammond’s lawyer and told him that "the feds" were going to have the Hammonds killed if they continued to have contact with the Bundy family. Mr. Bundy stated that Dwight Hammond told him that his life (Ammon’s) was in danger as well. Mr. Bundy demanded that I investigate these death threats made by "the feds" through the Hammond attorney.

Directly after this phone call from Ammon Bundy I called the Dwight Hammond residence. I spoke with [redacted] who was apprehensive about speaking with me on the subject and gave me Dwight’s cell phone number. I contacted Dwight Hammond and told him about the phone call from Ammon Bundy and asked if he had received death threats. Dwight said "no we’re alright." Dwight and I had an otherwise pleasant conversation about getting together sometime and discussing something other than the issue at hand. He did not seem to be or state that he felt threatened in any way.

Ammon Bundy posted a very emotional video on social media on this date in which he claimed the Hammonds lives to have been threatened for having communication with the Bundy family. Mr. Bundy’s video provoked many emotional responses from the Bundy following on social media.

After Mr. Bundy posted his video proclaiming federal agents had made death threats toward the Hammonds via their attorney, I began receiving more angry/threatening emails and phone calls, to include death threats directed at law enforcement.

Note:
1. Starting in mid- November and forward, Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters continued to attack me through phone calls, emails, and social media.
2. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began conducting surveillance on local law enforcement and their families.
3. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began arriving in town.
4. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began passing flyers around the community trying to gain support for their cause.

November 21, 2015
After a constant bombardment via email and telephone from Bundy supporters regarding the resentencing of Dwight and Steven Hammond, I began to respond to the emails with a letter explaining my stance, a letter which outlined the flow of the case, and a copy of the court transcripts from the resentencing.

November 24, 2015
In response to the information I had begun sending out in emails, Ammon Bundy posted a video on the internet and Bundy Ranch facebook page.

Action Needed to Protect the Hammonds
Hammonds Need to be Protected (Action Needed)

In the video Ammon Bundy talks about the Diamond Valley of Harney County, Oregon and how the land was all taken from the ranchers by the federal government. Mr. Bundy goes on to make his constitutional argument against the legality of the federal government owning land.

Mr. Bundy goes on to express his "disappointment" in Sheriff David Ward for taking the stand that
the Hammonds had received due process. Mr. Bundy continued on to state that the Hammonds had been labeled as terrorists by the government.

Mr. Bundy makes a speech about how the government is after the land and the resources, because all wealth comes from the land, the government can then control the people.

Note: For further details the video can be found on the internet by typing the above title in to the search engine.

November 27, 2015
Bundy family posts a letter in response to me not interfering with the Hammond re-sentencing.

"SHERIFF WARD IS FEEDING YOUR INFORMATION TO THE FBI (HAMMONDS)"

The letter goes on to state "Sheriff David Ward (the Hammonds sheriff) has unfortunately fallen to the influences of federal agents and has taken an adverse position against the Hammonds."

"We would also like to warn anyone that has contacted the Sheriff; he has been feeding your information to the FBI. We have reached out to him several times over the last week to try to understand his motives, but he refuses to take our calls or answer our messages."

The letter continues on and is written to provoke emotional responses from readers, such as follows:
Frank Lavoie Revolution has taken notice, and Karma is certain, as is revenge & retribution. The arrogant & treasonous (sheriff Ward and the FBI,) are not immortal nor invulnerable, and have engendered the hatred and wrath due any traitorous fools.
Like · Reply · 4 · November 27, 2015 at 6:53pm

Forrest Good Sheriff Ward is worthless if he can't backup his OATH ,he will go down like the rest of them
Like · Reply · 16 · November 27, 2015 at 10:43am

Doug Douglas The Lord's Wrath is Mighty. His Justice is Sure.
They are coming for you Ward.
Maybe not today, but soon.
Like · Reply · 1 · November 28, 2015 at 8:58am

NOTE: See attached documents for further details.

December 07, 2015
Ryan Payne came to the sheriff's office while I was out of town for the OSSA winter conference. Mr. Payne met with Harney County Sheriff’s Lieutenant Brian Needham.

Lt. Needham contacted me on that date and informed me Mr. Payne had attempted to convince him that the sheriff was acting against the constitution and that it was Lt. Needham’s duty to remove the sheriff from office by any means necessary.

December 2015
Other events that occurred throughout the month of December 2015 are as follows:
1. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters attempted to rent a building that had an over
watch of the sheriff’s office and courthouse.

2. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters put out calls for shooters and armed bodyguards to protect Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne with orders to use lethal force to prevent arrest.

3. Ryan Payne posted on social media stating they were going to camp around the Hammond Ranch and secure it from law enforcement.

4. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began making threats and using intimidation tactics toward anyone speaking out against them.

5. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began pushing their agenda with citizens at coffee meetings.

6. Bundy/Payne militia associates began showing up at local churches and attempting to seek support for their agenda from local clergy.

7. Throughout the month of December 2015, local law enforcement continued to have meetings to discuss issues arising from Bundy/Payne militia associates.

8. Armed Bundy/Payne militia affiliated persons began doing things to intentionally provoke traffic stops in order to have confrontations with police.

9. Bundy/Payne militia used switched license plates or no plates on vehicles when conducting surveillance, harassing citizens and/or seeking confrontation with law enforcement.

NOTE: from approximately mid-December it was estimated that armed Bundy supporters outnumbered local law enforcement more than two to one within the community and were actively attempting to provoke law enforcement into traffic stops.

December 11, 2015
Received email from Ammon Bundy:
"Please review and understand the NOTICE: Redress of Grievance as attached. We expect action to be taken to defend the rights of the people in Harney County. We have many resources to assist in informing you of how an Evidential Hearing Board works."

"the federal government does not have authority to administer property inside a State (Article 1 Section 8 Clause 17)."

"The proper authority to prosecute the Hammond's is the County not the U.S. Government. The County DA took a look at the charges and decided not to prosecute. The issue should have ended at that point."

"Federal agents have verbally expressed desire for the Steen Mountain Ranch to add to their already unconstitutional control. They have been vindictive towards the Hammonds for years"

"Informed People in Harney County and across these United States will not allow this action to take precedent or continue. It is your job to make sure justice is administered. The people do not want to protect justice for you."

Note: See attached documents for more details of this email.

The attached Redress of Grievance was addressed:
"We the People - United Individuals of these States United: Coalition of Western States (COWS), Pacific Patriot Network (PPN), Bundy Family and Supporters, Oregon Oath Keepers, Idaho III%, Central Oregon Constitutional Guard, Oregon Tactical, Oregon Bearded Bastards, Liberty Watch"
Washington, Nevada Committee for Full Statehood, Rural Heritage Preservation Project, Liberty For All (LFA) [continuous names below]
December 11, 2015
NOTICE: Redress of Grievance
Notice to agent is notice to principle; notice to principle is notice to agent

   Sheriff David Ward, Commissioner Dan Nichols, Commissioner Pete Runnels, Justice of the Peace Donna Thomas, District Attorney Tim Colahan, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Governor Kate Brown"

It restates the same arguments which Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne and many of their supporters had already received answers to on multiple occasions. Mr. Bundy had personally been given a copy of the police reports, grand jury indictment, and resentencing transcripts pertaining to the Hammond case. These documents clear up the details and negate a good portion of the demands in the "Redress of Grievance."

Again, Mr. Bundy had offered to provide evidence proving these allegations on multiple occasions, but failed to do so. To date, all that has been provided on behalf of this argument has been nothing more than rhetoric and opinions written by Ammon Bundy and/or his supporters.

Mr. Bundy and supporters had received answers to the grievances outlined, however, these answers have been ignored, twisted/misrepresented, or deemed as treasonous and met with threats and/or allegations of wrong doing against myself and other elected officials.

The Redress of Grievance ends with threats and ultimatums:
"We need not remind you of your lawful duty to act on these matters as insisted, nor of the consequences if you knowingly neglect your duty. USC 18.2382, 18.2071, 18.2076, 42.1983, 42.1985, 42.1986

In light of the information presented, we require your thoughtful response within 5 days of the date of this notice. If we do not receive your response within 5 days, we will have no choice but to understand that you do not wish to do your duty and are content in acting in negligence to your solemn oath to the people who have placed you in this fiduciary position and in defiance of your obligation to defend the Rights and Liberties of the people. Therefore, govern yourself accordingly.

Respectively,
We the People - United Individuals of these States United"

NOTE: see attached documents for further details.

NOTE: Mr. Bundy's email letter along with the Redress of Grievance was posted online on multiple web sites. It appeared to me this was done with the intent of provoking a response from Bundy Family followers and other militia type citizen groups, Mr. Bundy was successful in doing so.

December 11, 2015
Ryan Payne and Corey Lequieu came to the Harney County Sheriff's Office and wanted to speak with me. During this conversation Ryan Payne introduced Corey Lequieu to me and referred to him as
being "a ranger, like me." (Payne claims to have been an army ranger.)

During this conversation Mr. Payne stated "we met your parents through complete accident and they threatened our lives." I stated that did not sound like normal behavior for my parents, and asked him to please give me further details. Mr. Payne refused to elaborate on the subject and stated that he just wanted me to know my parents had threatened them.

NOTE: Mr. Payne was openly carrying a pistol on his hip at this time and stated he had come directly from the American Legion where he and friends had a verbal confrontation with my parents. Mr. Payne went on to state that my mother had said that I had received death threats from people supporting their (Bundy/Payne supporters) cause. Mr. Payne asked me if I believed he was involved in making the threats. Up to that point, I did not necessarily believe Mr. Payne to be directly behind the death threats received.

During this conversation I stated to Mr. Payne that I believed he would be man enough to look me in the eye and tell me whether or not he intended to take my life, Mr. Payne stated "I'm not here to discuss that right now."

Note: Based on my training and experience, most people would state they had no intent to have someone killed. Mr. Payne's answer struck me as very unusual and I immediately felt that he did have knowledge of threats made.

Mr. Payne attempted to convince me that "the Feds" would send me threats in order to "poison" my mind against him. I discussed this with him for a few minutes and explained to him that I do take into consideration every avenue while looking into these things.

Toward the end of the conversation, Mr. Payne asked Mr. Lequieu to allow us to speak in private. Mr. Lequieu left and Mr. Payne asked if he and I could speak elsewhere, as he implied that my office could be bugged. Mr. Payne asked me to leave my cellphone as well, because "they" can listen through your phone.

I felt apprehensive about stepping outside of the office with Mr. Payne to speak with him, as I had recently received a courtesy copy of an email from Brooke Agresta in which some of the associated "Patriot" groups had been discussing my abduction and delivery into their hands for a trial on the charge of TREASON.

However, I did step outside of the sheriff's office where Mr. Payne and I had a private conversation. At this time, Mr. Payne stated to me that he felt the government is "going to come for me at some point" and wanted to know whether I "would stand with" or "against" him.

I told Mr. Payne "I will uphold the law." At this, Mr. Payne showed emotion in his eyes for the first time that I recall from any conversation clear back to November 5, 2015. Mr. Payne stated he was probably not going to come back to my office for any future conversations and left.

After Mr. Payne left the sheriff's office I contacted [redacted] via phone.
stated that [redacted] were [redacted] in Burns, Harney County, Oregon when three men and a woman showed up. [redacted] said they had looked around in the building and then stated it was a strange setup for a VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars.) [redacted] stated these people were passing out flyers and making statements about "making that sheriff stand up and do his job." [redacted] she informed them that [redacted] and confronted them about their accusations that the sheriff doesn't do his job.

I asked [redacted] at what point she threatened their lives. [redacted] said "I never threatened them." She went on to state that she had told them that threats had been made against me and that they would arm themselves and stand with me if anyone were to come after me. [redacted] 45-70 would put a big hole in a person.

December 11, 2015
I received a letter from[redacted] Dwight and Steven Hammond,

[redacted] states that he has received information that Ammon Bundy has been communicating with the sheriff’s office about Dwight and Steven Hammond. [redacted] states "I write to clarify that neither Ammon Bundy nor anyone within his group/organization speak for the Hammond Family, Dwight Hammond, or Steven Hammond. In addition, I wish to report to you that, as recently Ordered by the U.S. District Court, District of Oregon, Dwight Hammond and Steven Hammond intend to voluntarily report to the designated federal facility on January 4, 2016, as required.

Note: see attached letter for further details.

December 15, 2015
Ammon Bundy leaves a notarized copy of their Redress of Grievance at the sheriff's office for me. Informs Lt. Needham that he will be back to demand an answer from me on the following day.

December 15, 2015
Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, BJ Soper, Jason Patrick, among others hold a town hall meeting at the Harney County Fair Grounds. During this meeting Ammon Bundy appoints/elects a Committee of Safety to represent all citizens of Harney County. Video evidence suggests there were approximately 20 or less Harney County Citizens in the room at the time of appointment. Furthermore, Mr. Bundy appointed seven people (Melody Molt, Travis Williams, Rick Habein, Tim Smith, Duane Schrock, Chris Briels, and Kevin Johnson) as a governing body with the authority to oversee the militia, convene grand juries, along with other governing type authorities.

NOTE: The appointment of a Committee of Safety can be found in U.S. History pre-revolution as can the Redress of Grievance. This evidence along with statements made by both Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne suggest their intent is/was to re-create the steps leading up to the American Revolution. In an attempt to overthrow our current and existing form of government. This conspiracy is further supported multiple times by their followers/supporters on social media who often and openly cry for "revolution" and "civil war."
December 16, 2015

Ammon Bundy comes to the Harney County Sheriff’s Office and requests to speak with me. On this date Ammon Bundy demands an answer from me regarding the Redress of Grievance he had sent via email and had notarized and delivered to my office.

I state to Mr. Bundy that a good portion of the grievances claimed had already been cleared up with documentation which I had provided to him and others. Mr. Bundy disputed the relevance based on his personal interpretation of the constitution.

I informed Mr. Bundy he also had not provided me with the documents and evidence which he claimed to have that would substantiate his arguments. Mr. Bundy sneered at me and said "I think we're beyond that now Sheriff."

During this conversation with Mr. Bundy I told him I did not want to discuss it with him without Mr. Payne present. Mr. Bundy stated he was not going to ask Mr. Payne to present himself, further stating that anything I needed to say to Payne could be relayed through him. I informed Mr. Bundy that was an issue, as everything I had said to Mr. Bundy up to this point had been distorted and/or misrepresented by Mr. Bundy. I stated to Mr. Bundy that he and Ryan Payne had started this together and could finish it together.

This statement seemed to upset Mr. Bundy and he said "Sheriff you’re playing games, and I think you know… I don’t play games." I stated to Mr. Bundy that I was not, nor do I play games. Mr. Bundy then stated "then let’s just stick with the facts" and started in with his sovereign citizen propaganda. With that I stated that I would get straight to the facts and pulled my bible out of my desk drawer and started to share with him some scriptures which conflicted with his behavior and anti-government agenda.

This seemed to anger Mr. Bundy and he collected everything he had laid out on my desk as quickly as possible and left my office immediately.

NOTE: Mr. Bundy came into my office referring to scripture. Throughout the course of dealing with this Bundy militia incursion into Harney County I had noticed that the Bundy Family and their followers often refer to scriptures to justify their anti-government stance. It has been my observation that with scriptures, much like the constitution and other laws, they only recognize the portions that seem to support their agenda.

December 17, 2016

1. ___________ returned a short time later and were visibly upset. I questioned them as to what was wrong and learned that upon leaving the school on Washington Street, they were followed by a person in a white four wheel drive pickup. ___________ stated that she made five or six turns and the vehicle continued to follow them. ___________ noted that not only were they followed by the pickup, but that a passenger car continued to turn up paralleling them throughout town.

___________ stated that she stopped in the middle of the street and confronted the female driver of the pickup about following her. ___________ said the woman stated it was a misunderstanding and she
thought she had been following her friend. The description of the pickup and of the woman were similar to incidents involving other persons/vehicles involved with similar stalking type behaviors occurring in the community since the arrival of the militia type groups. I escorted [REDACTED] home to assure they were not bothered again.

2. During the third week of December [REDACTED], stated that she had been followed around in Safeway in Burns, Harney County, Oregon while grocery shopping. [REDACTED] was able to recognize Jason Patrick out of the group of four people. [REDACTED] said that upon entry into the store four people, three men and one woman, saw [REDACTED] and had a little huddle. [REDACTED] stated the female in the group followed her throughout the store standing nearby and attempting to listen in on her conversations, to the point that other people [REDACTED] interacted with noticed and asked who was following her around. The woman remains unidentified and the men did not follow [REDACTED]

3. During the third week of December [REDACTED] in Safeway in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. Upon entry into the store, I recognized a man from pictures on Bandon Curtiss’ Idaho III% facebook page in the store. While shopping in the store [REDACTED], several other men showed up in the store whom I also recognized as Idaho III% from social media research I had done. These gentlemen did not speak to or confront [REDACTED] but took turns walking past us on nearly every isle in the store, to include lurking by as we attempted to converse with friends and neighbors.

4. While in the same Safeway store on that same grocery shopping trip I spoke with a Burns resident, [REDACTED] who told me he had put up a sign on a tree in his yard stating BUNDY GO HOME. The sign was fastened to the tree directly below a brightly lettered (black and orange) NO TRESPASSING sign. This gentleman stated to me that out of town Bundy supporters had walked past his NO TRESPASSING sign to knock on his door and confront him about his BUNDY GO HOME sign.

5. During the third week of December I stopped by to visit [REDACTED] Upon entry into their front room I noticed firearms leaned up in every corner and [REDACTED] 10-22 on a table with several high capacity magazines in it. I questioned [REDACTED] as to why they had these firearms out.

[REDACTED] informed me that two to three men in a black four wheel drive pickup with out of state plates had been showing up, parking and watching their home and watching [REDACTED] as he would go check their mail.

6. On December 18, 2015 in the evening hours a [REDACTED], was leaving Safeway when [REDACTED] approached by three males because she was wearing a BLM shirt. They called her a fucking bitch and cunt. They told [REDACTED] they were going to follow [REDACTED] home and burn [REDACTED] house down. [REDACTED] Officer Tiller that drove around for about an hour before returning home. [REDACTED] described the vehicle that they were driving as a big black pickup with no plates.

7. A similar vehicle was described as slowly driving by [REDACTED] home with the occupants yelling out the windows at him after he had created an anti-bullying [REDACTED] directed at the
Bundy/militia bullying and harassment which had started in our community after their arrival to the area beginning in November 2015.

NOTE: stated to me that vehicle's from out of the area had slowly driven past their home on multiple occasions. stated to me that these vehicles would pull into their driveway at times, parking for 30-40 seconds and watch their home.

These actions caused enough stress for the family that they temporarily relocated out of the area due to the stress it was causing.

December 18, 2016
Ammon Bundy emails me a lengthy letter which he also posted online to solicit a response from Bundy Family supporters.

Mr. Bundy states:
"That officers and military equipment have been transported to Harney County to aid in your personal security."

"these officers have been heavily armed, and that the personnel involved have been put on high alert and briefed to use force upon the people as they see fit."

"It is this over reaction for your personal protection that we write to you in disgust. Why have you placed yourself higher than the Hammond's and higher than the people of Harney County?"

The letter goes on to accuse me of failing to protect the Hammonds from the federal government, soliciting a personal protection detail, refusing to do an investigation, and multiple other things.

The letter ends:
"I offer awareness to you and other government personnel that lead or follow your example. The people are in unrest, because of these types of egregious actions. The establishment and purpose of government is to protect and uphold the inalienable rights of the PEOPLE, not to defend itself against the people. It is our duty and obligation as individuals to defend our God-given rights if our government representatives fail to do so, or tries to discard them. We as a people desire to live in peace and tranquility, but will defend our freedoms if necessary, in order to do so. We call upon you Sheriff Ward, and all civil servants, to honorably and effectively uphold the oaths and duties of your sworn offices-to turn your weapons in the defense of the Hammond's rights and truly be a representative of the people, by the people and for the people.
Respectfully,
Ammon"

NOTE: Mr. Bundy’s accusations within this letter were outright lies and it appeared to have been written with the intent of sparking a response (possibly a violent response) from Bundy Family followers as well as other anti-government militia type groups.
December 21, 2015
I received an email from BJ Soper of the Central Oregon Constitutional Guard. In the email Mr. Soper states "I write you this evening to let you know that a plan is in place to hold a rally/march in Burns in support of the Hammond family and Harney County. This will happen on January 2nd."

CALLS TO ACTION were put out on multiple social media sites members of the militia type groups mentioned in this report.

December 23, 2015
in Big -R in Hines, Harney County, Oregon I noticed two men seemed to be following me and I around in the store. I recognized them as Jon Ritzheimer and Blaine Cooper. Both of these gentlemen had been very active on social media, putting out CALLS TO ACTION and CALLS TO ARMS.

As they walked past me for the last time in close proximity, I attempted to make eye contact with them, as I intended to confront them. Neither man would make eye contact with me as they walked by. They exited the store immediately as I was alerting them to their presence.

Multiple times during the month of December I was followed from home to the office by vehicles with out of state plates. The first event was a silver colored SUV with Utah plates occupied by three men. The vehicle came speeding up from behind me after I called on duty and pulled onto the highway. The driver of this vehicle was blatantly following too close for approximately eight miles and then passed me in a 45 MPH zone in what I believe was an attempt to get me to pull them over.

There were no other persons on the highway who were put in danger and I decided not to engage the situation, as we had armed militants in town actively attempting to spark confrontation with law enforcement.

The following morning after I called on duty and pulled out of my driveway, a similar vehicle with multiple occupants again came speeding up from the rear at a high rate of speed. The vehicle again slowed down and was closely following me. I turned off of highway 20 south onto Old Experiment Road and cut across to highway 78. The vehicle following me continued on toward town on highway 20.

As I turned on to highway 78, I met a gray colored Subaru station wagon with Montana plates which turned around and followed me back into town.

Neither time was there a vehicle visible on the highway when I left my driveway. Based on my training and experience it is my observation that these vehicles were most likely parked off the side of the road waiting for me to come on duty. I also believe based on my training and experience that these are tactics used when conducting counter-surveillance.

During the month of December 2015 I found tire tracks in my driveway which did not belong to any vehicle I owned. The tire tracks showed an aggressive tread pattern and were similar to tracks found in the driveways of Sergeant Lucas McLain and Deputy Chris Nisbet. This evidence indicates that someone had been parking in our driveways during the hours of darkness, observing our homes.
December 29, 2015
Local law enforcement had received information that militia type groups in the area were planning to hold a meet and greet Tuesday the 29th at 8:30 at Ye Old castle in Burns. With the intentions of allowing people to meet and discuss local events and issues.

Sergeant Lucas McLain and I attended this event to gain an understanding of what they were attempting to do pertaining to the upcoming protest march they were promoting in our community. Sergeant McLain and I also attempted to clear up some of the mis-information being spread throughout our community by these people pertaining to the Hammond resentencing.

We also questioned why these people were putting out "calls to arms" on their social media pages if they were there to promote a peaceful protest. Several people present stated there were no "calls to arms" put out, but "calls to action." Sergeant McLain took out his phone and accessed Blaine Cooper’s facebook page and read the "call to arms" which had been posted.

NOTE: some of the posts advocating the taking up of arms have since been removed by the people posting them.

Ammon Bundy and Jon Ritzheimer both gave speaking presentations during this event. Others present were Jason Patrick, BJ Soper, Corey Lequeiu, Blaine Cooper, among others.

Sergeant McLain and I also confronted them about the stalking type behaviors which their supporters had been showing since coming into our community. I specifically pointed out the harassing type behaviors against members of my family and other members of the community.

We attempted to encourage these folks to work through lawful channels to seek peaceful resolution to their perceived problems with our current government process.

This meet and greet was video recorded by members of their group, but to my knowledge had not been posted to the internet.

Throughout the month of December 2015
1. We held multiple law enforcement meetings regarding the militia type people and activities coming to and happening in the community.
2. We began gathering intelligence on the militia type groups and individuals entering into the community.
3. We began receiving information concerning the protest/rally being planned regarding to the Hammonds returning to prison.
4. Social media increased dramatically revolving around the situation with calls to arms and calls to action being put out by the militia type groups.

December 29, 2015
I was contacted by Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer in regard to the pending protest. Sheriff Palmer told me the protest route was coming very close to my office and jail facility. Sheriff Palmer offered to house my inmates for me in his jail during the protest.
All inmates housed in the Harney County Jail were transferred to the Grant County Jail in preparation for the upcoming protest.

January 1, 2016

I attended a New Year's morning brunch in Burns. As we were getting ready to leave, came into the house and stated that there were two men in a pickup watching the house.

When I came out of the house I witnessed a white four wheel drive pickup with out of state plates, facing away from the house, parked up the end of the street. The vehicle was clearly out of place and did not belong there. This situation made me feel nervous and uneasy. We drove straight home and did not leave the house again on that date.

NOTE: On January 2, 2016 after the armed takeover of the refuge and while we had armed militants all over our community, and leaving home, due to the very real concern for the safety of law enforcement, federal employees, and their families. It was at this time tire had been flattened.

Several days later the gentleman who fixed the tire in Burns explained to that it appeared that someone had stabbed the tire with a round object similar in size to an ice pick, the hole had no debris, and appeared to be very intentional and consistent with a straight in and out stabbing motion. He further explained that it would have taken some time to go flat from the type of hole in the tire.

January 1, 2016

I was contacted by Harney County Corrections Corporal Matt Githens and informed that someone had hand delivered a letter to the sheriff's office for me from Cliven Bundy. The letter addresses Dwight Hammond, Steven Hammond, and myself.

Cliven Bundy also emailed me a copy of the same letter. The letter stated:

"I, Cliven D. Bundy, have been involved for several weeks in the background striving to understand and comprehend your dilemmas in Harney County, Oregon."

In the letter Cliven Bundy give his interpretation of the events involved in the court case pertaining to Dwight and Steven Hammond, claiming the grass was burned on both sides of the fence, the Hammonds were exercising private property rights, and the United States government has no authority over such things within the boundaries of Harney County, Oregon.

The letter further states:
"It is my suggestion, Steven Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Dwight Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Harney County Sheriff David Ward, accept these two ranchers into your jail, notify the United States Solicitor in Washington DC that you have these two ranchers in Harney County jail, that they will remain there indefinitely under your protective custody and the protection of We the People of Harney County and We the People"
of the United States of America.

I suggest an Evidentiary Hearing or a Grand Jury be formed by We the People.

I feel that this action is immediately important, that it should be taken place before 10:00 am Saturday, January 2, 2016. I will hold these suggestions private until that time then I will release this letter to those having state and county jurisdiction and to the media.

Cliven D. Bundy"

NOTE: see attached document for further details.

January 2, 2016
Law enforcement conducted a meeting at Burns City Hall on the morning of the protest. The majority of our local law enforcement attended this meeting as well as eight additional Oregon State Police troopers.

During the meeting it was agreed for law enforcement officers to stay away from the protest and remain out of sight to prevent any type of escalation of the protest or confrontations with protestors. The goal was to allow the protestors to have a lawful and peaceful protest without interference.

Law enforcement resources available consisted of 25 total officers in the county at the time of the protest. Oregon State Police SWAT, FBI SWAT, and Malheur County Sheriff's Office had SERT teams on standby in neighboring counties in the case they were needed.

A protest march/rally made up of approximately 300-500 people met in the Safeway parking lot in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. This group is led by Ammon Bundy, BJ Soper, Brandon Curtiss, and other militia and III% type people. The event was covered by Pete Santilli, a self-proclaimed member of the media, who broadcasted a live feed (not in real time) of the event.

The protest group marched from Safeway up Court Street and past the sheriff's office. As the protestors marched by the sheriff's office they threw pennies and other coins at the building. The throwing of the coins had been advertised on social media to represent the sheriff and other elected officials selling out the citizens. No windows were broken, however, it was later found that in some cases that the pennies were not taken out of the rolls prior to being thrown at the windows.

The protest route also went past the front of the courthouse where they threw pennies as well.

NOTE: there are pictures of Ammon Bundy with a large box of rolled pennies, passing them out to people in the Safeway parking lot on the day of the protest.

Due to our emergency contingency plan for dispatch, we were not able to move our dispatch center to an offsite location for this event. Therefore on the date of the event, I had 911 emergency dispatchers inside of the building which these people were throwing things at.

I also had six corrections deputies inside of the sheriff’s office, armed and ready to evacuate our 911 personnel into the jail in the case that the building became breeched. The deputies were ordered not to engage the protestors for any reason other than the protection of life and limb.
Armed Refuge Takeover

During the protest I received information from Sergeant Lucas McLain that he had just observed Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, Jon Ritzheimer, and several other unidentified people heading south on Highway 205 drive over Wright's Point approximately 10 miles south of Burns.

We later received information from Sergeant McLain that he and Deputy Dan Jenkins had witnessed this group of individuals getting out of vehicles at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Harney County Dispatch received a 911 call from the group who had conducted the armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. They stated that the group of armed men had taken over the Refuge using military tactics.

I was emailed screen shots of a facebook conversation later had in which he described the armed takeover of the refuge.

[Redacted] wrote:
"they took it at gun point"
"gun drawn I feared for my safety and how I could get away"
"I heard they say don't fire unless fired upon"
"they ain't here for peace they want to start a revolution"

NOTE: see attached documents for further details. [Redacted] affiliated with the III% groups supporting this operation.

After the armed takeover of the refuge Lt. Needham and I were contacted by the President of the Josephine County Oathkeepers, Joseph Rice, and another member of his group.

During this contact Mr. Rice stated that Bundy and Payne had people "in the triple digits" on location at the refuge, insinuating that there were already more than 100 armed militants on site.

Mr. Rice and his associate told us that the armed militants had crew served weapons on site.

A crew-served[1] (crew-serve or crew service) weapon is any weapon system that requires a crew of more than one individual, as opposed to an individual service weapon, to function at optimum efficiency due to its operational complexity, such as requiring one person to load while another fires. The weight and bulk of the system often also necessitates multiple personnel for transportation. Crew-served weapons operated by infantry include high-precision/special application rifles, anti-materiel rifles, medium machine guns, heavy machine guns, automatic grenade launchers, mortars with calibers less than 120 mm (4.72 inches), anti-tank guns, anti-aircraft guns, recoiless rifles, shoulder-launched missile weapons, and static anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

NOTE: We had received information prior to the protest that persons affiliated with the militia groups supporting the protest were attempting to obtain access to a SAW (Squad Automatic Weapon)

A Squad Automatic Weapon is a fully automatic (machine gun) which can either be belt or magazine fed. This weapon has a cyclic rate of fire of 1000 rounds per minute.
Mr. Rice and his associate also stated that the armed militants on the refuge possibly had a .50 caliber sniper rifle and personnel who could effectively hit targets up to a mile away.

Taking the Malheur Wildlife Refuge gave the armed militants access to an approximately 100 foot tall lookout tower, approximately 20 buildings, vehicles, more than 1000 gallons of fuel, power, internet access, computers, and phones.

Based on Mr. Rice’s statements we knew there were possibly more than 100 militants, crew served weapons, and snipers in a 100 foot tower. Mr. Rice expressed to us that it would create an extreme officer safety threat to anyone attempting to go out and remove the militants from the refuge.

Intelligence would later show that initially 12-15 militants had been involved with the armed refuge takeover. The militants divided into several different squad type elements with one group maintaining control of the refuge and the other maintaining a presence in the community, continuing the previous displayed stalking/surveillance behaviors which had been used by these militant groups pre-takeover.

The second element stayed in local hotels such as the Silver Spur in Burns and the Sundowner in Hines, as well as staying in the homes of several local residents.

January 3, 2016
A conference call was conducted with Oregon State Sheriff's to discuss a request for assistance.

Resources began arriving from Oregon Sheriffs, Oregon State Police, and the FBI.

A joint command post was set up in the school administration building consisting of personnel from Oregon Sheriffs, Oregon State Police, the FBI, along with personnel from several other agencies.

Patrol presence was increased in the community through the support of other sheriff’s offices, Oregon State Police, and city police departments from throughout Oregon. This increased patrol presence would continue through February 15, 2016.

January 3, 2016 I receive a message that former sheriff, Richard Mack, president of the Constitutional Sheriffs and Police Officers Association, needed me to call him.

When I called Mr. Mack, he informed me that he had participated in the protest march in Burns, Oregon on January 2, 2016. Mr. Mack told me he did not participate in the armed takeover of the refuge and did not condone it. Mr. Mack stated that Ammon Bundy had invited him out to the refuge, but after learning of the armed takeover, he did not go.

During my conversation with Mr. Mack he told me he had an idea of how I could get out from under this situation with the Hammond resentencing.

Mr. Mack continued on to tell me that I could take the Hammonds into my custody. Mr. Mack further stated that I could simply charge the Hammonds with crimes. Mr. Mack stated the Hammonds didn’t really have to commit the crimes, I could just say they did. Then place them into jail, and tell "The Feds" they couldn’t have them until our charges had been adjudicated.

Mr. Mack’s suggestions significantly paralleled the letter I had received from Cliven Bundy on January 1, 2016.
NOTE: Following Mr. Mack’s suggestions would not only be unethical, but illegal, and would violate Dwight and Steven Hammond's civil rights.

January 4, 2016
Dwight and Steven Hammond turned themselves in to federal prison in California.

I held a press conference addressing the fact that Dwight and Steven Hammond had turned themselves in to federal prison. During the press conference I told the armed militants to go home and end this peacefully.

After Dwight and Steven Hammond turned themselves in, Ammon and Ryan Bundy changed their reasoning for the continued armed occupation of the refuge to a property rights issue and began stating their mission was to return the refuge to the ranching community.

January 6, 2016
I held a town hall meeting at the Harney County Fairgrounds, which was attended by multiple people involved in the armed occupation of the refuge, including Pete Santilli.

It had been stated by Ryan Bundy that they would end the armed occupation of the refuge if the citizens wanted them to.

During the town hall meeting I specifically asked for a show of hands from citizens who wanted the armed occupiers to leave Harney County. An overwhelming majority of 300-500 people raised their hands asking the Bundy’s and their militia to go home.

This town hall meeting was video recorded and documented by multiple press outlets.

Some folks from the community asked that I speak with the Bundy’s and other armed occupiers in person to asked them to leave.

January 7, 2016
A meeting was set up with Ammon Bundy on neutral ground. Tillimook County Sheriff Andy Long, Malheur County Sheriff Brian Wolfe, and I met with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne on Lava Bed Lane, Princeton, Harney County, Oregon.

Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne arrived with an armed escort, as did I.

On this date I spoke directly with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne. I offered to give them a safe escort out of the county and the state without fear of arrest in Oregon if they would leave peacefully.

This meeting with Bundy and Payne was video recorded and again documented by multiple press outlets. Rather than considering my offer of not being arrested and offering safe passage out of the State of Oregon, Ammon Bundy wanted to argue about federal land right issues and Redress of Grievance.

I told Ammon Bundy I was not there to argue, but to make that simple offer. I spoke with Ryan Payne as well while at that location.
I attempted to reason with both individuals and asked them to stop the armed occupation and to work through lawful channels to resolve the issues they perceived with our government.

They refused my offer and continued the armed occupation of the refuge, as well as their armed presence within the communities of Burns and Hines, in Harney County, Oregon.

Throughout the month of January 2016

(1) Several of the militia groups (Oathkeepers, PPN, Central Oregon Constitutional Guard, and III%) who had been involved with the situation prior to the armed takeover began showing up back in the community and providing an over watch and interference for the militants involved with the armed takeover and armed occupation of the refuge.

(2) The FBI had personnel housed at the [Redacted] the airport was gated and guards were posted to prevent unauthorized persons from entering onto the premises. The militia groups had armed support members in Burns who frequently challenged the main gate of our command post located in [Redacted]. They were often armed and wearing body armor when confronting law enforcement officers. These actions occurred regularly for several weeks.

NOTE: The armed militants showed a great deal of interest in the airport on January 2, 2016 and throughout the armed occupation, often making demands that the airport be vacated of law enforcement personnel.

After the armed takeover and occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, I feared that if law enforcement was not present at the airport, it could possibly be taken over as well.

(3) Two more town hall meetings were held at the Burns High School during the month of January 2016 to allow Harney County citizens a platform to speak about their feelings regarding to the armed takeover and continued armed occupation of the refuge.

Pete Santilli was removed from the first meeting and escorted out of the building for being disruptive.

During the second town hall meeting held at Burns High School approximately 50 militia members and refuge occupiers showed up including Ammon Bundy, Brian Cavalier, Blaine Cooper, Jon Ritzheimer, Sean Anderson, Ryan Bundy, and others involved in the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Approximately eight to ten of what appeared to be an advanced scouting team came in first and appeared to strategically position themselves in different areas amongst the crowd on both sides of the gym. Several of these people were disruptive and attempted to agitate the crowd.

A second and larger group of people came in shortly after the first, approximately 15-20 minutes after the town hall had begun. It was brought to my attention that many of these militants were armed, and the militants kept an armed security team outside of the school to intervene if law enforcement officers attempted to make arrests.
This action turned the town hall meeting into a volatile and potentially dangerous situation.

NOTE: these armed militants brought firearms into our high school while students were in the building. The high school wrestling team was still conducting practice behind a plywood partition in the upstairs of the gym when the meeting occurred.

(4) I attended a high school basketball game with Sheriff Gary Bettincourt. During the game members of several militia groups mentioned in this report showed up at the game. BJ Soper and a group of people who can be found in pictures on his facebook page lined themselves along the wall in close proximity to where I was sitting and several of them attempted to stare me down for a significant amount of time until the referee told them to move. This was noticed by several community members who asked me who the group of people staring me down were.

(5) Received information that a militia affiliated person showed up in services at the Burns Christian Church wearing a firearm.

(6) Intimidation and stalking behaviors continue against citizens who speak out against their agenda.

(7) Members of the armed occupation began holding meetings in the community and surrounding communities to present their beliefs about government over-reach in an attempt to sway citizens of Harney County and surrounding communities into supporting their cause.

Law enforcement received information that members of the armed occupation were traveling to Grant County, Oregon. When this information came to light, Malheur County Sheriff Brian Wolfe contacted Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer at my request to let him know it was possible that Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, and Jon Ritzheimer were headed to his community.

Sheriff Wolfe relayed to me that Sheriff Palmer stated he had no knowledge of the armed occupation participants in his community. It was later reported that Sheriff Palmer had been meeting with these people in his community on that date.

Prior to January 26, 2016 law enforcement received information that Ammon Bundy and other leadership involved with the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge were planning on holding a town hall meeting in Grant County, Oregon on January 26, 2016.

January 26, 2016

(1) A tactical traffic stop for the arrest of the leadership involved with the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge was coordinated and conducted using resources from the Oregon State Police and the FBI.

The traffic stop and subsequent arrests took place on highway 395 north of Burns, in Harney County, Oregon as the leaders involved in the armed takeover and illegal occupation were heading to Grant County, Oregon for a town hall meeting.

This resulted in multiple suspects arrested and one suspect deceased.

NOTE: see Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office investigation for further details of events surrounding this traffic stop and death.
Several other persons involved were arrested in the communities of Burns and Hines on that same date.

Subjects arrested and held in custody were transported directly to Multnomah County Jail.

After the arrests of the leadership were made, armed occupiers remaining at the refuge were informed that checkpoints were going to go in and anyone who wanted to leave would have approximately 12 hours to do so.

Multiple armed occupiers left the site on January 26, 2016.

January 27, 2016
At approximately 4:00 AM, all access to and from the refuge was stopped when FBI and Oregon State Police check points were installed on roads leading to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

I had a phone conversation on this date with Jason Patrick. During this conversation I offered to come and pick him up if he were willing to surrender to me. Mr. Patrick did not take me up on that offer. Mr. Patrick wanted to know if he was going to be arrested. I told him it was likely, however, some people coming off of the refuge were not being arrested, it depended on their level of involvement. Mr. Patrick did come off of the refuge and was taken into custody by the FBI. It was widely reported on social media by BJ Soper and other associated militants that Mr. Patrick was tricked into coming off of the refuge after being told he would not be arrested.

Over the next several days, multiple people who had remained on the refuge surrendered to authorities, or were allowed to leave.

Four armed occupiers remained on the refuge: David Fry, Jeff Banta, Sandy Anderson, and Sean Anderson.

January 26 - February 11, 2016
Negotiations continued with the four remaining armed occupiers.

The dispatched center received a high volume of calls from supporters of the Bundy/militia/armed occupation, including threats of violence and death threats to law enforcement officers.

Protests led by outside militia’s increased in the community.

Sean Anderson, one of four remaining armed occupants, shoots at surveillance airplane. The armed occupiers video record the incident and put it on facebook.

February 11, 2016
The remaining four armed occupiers surrendered to FBI agents at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge after an intense standoff and negotiation.

See Harney County CR # 1601006, 1601009, 1601010, and 1601008 for further details concerning this incident in Harney County, Oregon.
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Officer ID: Dave Ward

Reviewed By: 42441

Date:
On approximately December 07, 2015 I was on duty for the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. On this date at approximately 10:00AM Ryan Payne came to the Harney County Sheriff’s Office wanting to talk with Harney County Sheriff Dave Ward.

I spoke with Mr. Payne and explained to Mr. Payne that Sheriff Ward was not in the office. Mr. Payne asked me who was second in charge at the sheriff’s office. I explained to Mr. Payne that I was second in charge. Mr. Payne asked me if I had a few minutes to talk with him. I told Mr. Payne I did have a few minutes to talk with him.

Mr. Payne was brought into the office and we met in Sheriff Ward’s office. Mr. Payne began the conversation by asking me if I believed in the constitution. When I told him I fully supported the constitution he then began going through his speech about the United States Government and how they were illegally taking the Hammonds to prison and also had no right to own property.

Mr. Payne then began telling me how it was my duty as a law enforcement officer and deputy to protect the people against the United States Government and anyone who supported the United States Government. Mr. Payne continued by telling me that if Sheriff Ward would not protect the Hammonds and kick the United States Government out of Harney County then it was my duty to take over and oust Sheriff Ward from office by any means needed.

I explained to Mr. Payne that there were legal ways to handle the Hammond situation and that he needed to do so through the proper channels such as contacting his legislatures. I also explained to Mr. Payne if he was not happy with an elected official, such as the sheriff, he needed to also handle it through the proper channels such as a recall. Mr. Payne began to become upset and told me again that Sheriff Ward was unconstitutional and that it was my duty to remove Sheriff Ward from office by any means, including but not limited to, death. I told Mr. Payne that I was not going to do anything illegal and that I was not going to remove Sheriff Ward from office.

Mr. Payne did not have anything further to add and the meeting was ended. The meeting lasted approximately one (1) hour.

After Mr. Payne left the sheriff’s office, he sat in the county parking lot and began documenting license plates of vehicles in the parking lot for approximately one (1) more hour.
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**Supplemental**
**HARNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**485 N COURT**  
**BURNS, OR 97720**  
541-573-6156

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**Incident # 1601005**

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**Attempt**
- On or From: 01/13/2016, 14:00, Wed
- To: 01/13/2016, 14:00, Wed
- Reported: 01/20/2016, 17:00, Wed

**Location of Incident** **RITE AID, HINES, OR**

**Cross Street** **HIGHWAY 20**

**County**: 13

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<td>DL Number</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Work Phone</td>
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<td>SSN</td>
<td>Local ID #</td>
<td>State #</td>
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**Synopsis**

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<td>Child Abuse</td>
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**Solvability Points**: 0

**County Code**: 13

**Disposition**: CLSD

**Approved By**: Ryan Delange

**Date**: 01/13/2016

---

**Printed By/On**: 56567 / 07/17/2019 09 04:46

CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System
Licensed to: HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE
On January 13, 2016 at approximately 1400 hours while working for the City of Hines Police Department I responded to Rite Aid in Hines for a Harassment complaint. As I pulled up, I recognized [redacted] standing in the parking lot. I got out and asked [redacted] what was going on. [redacted] advised me that [redacted] were in Rite Aid near the check stand and there were two armed men inside staring at [redacted]. [redacted] advised me that one of the guys started saying something about [redacted] so [redacted] took him to the back of the store until the two men left the store. [redacted] advised me that when they left the store, the two men were waiting for them out in the front. [redacted] told me that one of the men that was wearing a black shirt, camo pants and had a narrow beard started mouthing off to [redacted]. [redacted] told me that Jon Ritzheimer was sitting in a nearby silver Ford pickup and had rolled the window down and yelled at the male to “knock it off” and “get in the truck”. [redacted] advised me that the two men went over to the silver pickup, got inside and it drove away.

I asked [redacted] what happened and [redacted] told me the same thing that [redacted] told me and that the male that was mouthing off to [redacted] had some sort of a tattoo on the side of his neck. [redacted] told me that took pictures of the two males and Mr. Ritzheimer's license plate (copy on file) before they left Rite Aid.

Case on hold until an interview can be conducted with Jon Ritzheimer.
**Crime / Incident (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)**

- **164.345 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF III**
- **164.135 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE**

**Location of Incident**

- **MNWR, PRINCETON, OR**

**Cross Street**

- 43*16'48"N 118*45'11"E

**Dispo**

- Last, First, Middle (Firm if Business)

**BUNDY, AMMON**

- Race: W
- Sex: M
- Age: 40
- HT: 6'-0"
- WT: 220 lbs
- Hair: BRO
- Eyes: (541)

**Address**

- MNWR
- City, State, Zip Code: PRINCETON OR 97721

**S**

- Last, First, Middle (Firm if Business)

**COOPER, BLAINE**

- Race: W
- Sex: M
- Age: 36
- HT: 5'-09"
- WT: 160 lbs
- Hair: BRO
- Eyes: (541)

**Address**

- MNWR
- City, State, Zip Code: PRINCETON OR 97721

**S**

- Last, First, Middle (Firm if Business)

**FINICUM, ROBERT "LAVOY"**

- Race: W
- Sex: M
- Age: 52
- HT: 5'-05"
- WT: 140 lbs
- Hair: BLK

**Address**

- MNWR
- City, State, Zip Code: PRINCETON OR 97721

**S**

- Last, First, Middle (Firm if Business)

**RITZHEIMER, JON**

- Race: W
- Sex: M
- Age: 32
- HT: 5'-05"
- WT: 140 lbs
- Hair: BLK

**Address**

- MNWR
- City, State, Zip Code: PRINCETON OR 97721

**Synopsis**

- Was there a witness to the crime? N
- Was a suspect arrested? N
- Is a suspect named? N
- Can suspect be located? N
- Can suspect be described? N
- Can suspect be identified? N
- Is stolen property identifiable? N
- Is there an unusual M.O.? N
- Is significant physical evidence present? N
- Is there a major injury/sex crime? N
- Are there unique circumstances? N
- Is there a good possibility of solution? N

**SOLVABILITY**

- Continuation Attached X
- Property List Attached
- Property Damage $ 0.00
- UCR 26
- Press Release
- Domestic Violence Case
- Gang Related N
- Hate Crime
- Victim Senior Citizen
- Pursuit
- Force Used
- Child Abuse
- Solvability Points 0
- Disposition DA
- County Code 13

**Assigned To**

- Lucas Mclain

**Report Complete/Ready for Review X**

**CAD/CFS Event #**

**Date**

- 01/13/2016

**Officer ID**

- Lucas Mclain 40827

**Reviewed By**

- Brian Needham Lt.

**Approved**

- YES

**Date**

- 03/15/2016
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<th>Age</th>
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<td>S</td>
<td>PATRICK, JASON SCOTT</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>240</td>
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<td>(541)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>MALHEUR NATIONAL, WILDLIFE REFUGE</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>GRY</td>
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**Notes**
- **V** = Victim
- **RP** = Reporting Party
- **W** = Witness
- **S** = Suspect
- **O** = Other
- **SSN** = Social Security Number
- **Local ID #**
- **State #**
- **FBI #**
- **Cell Phone**
- **Work Phone**

**Incident Details**

**Criminal Report**

**Incident #:** 1601006

**Reported By:** Brian Needham Lt.

**Approved By:**

**Date:** 03/15/2016
On January 13, 2016 I was on duty for the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. At approximately 1030 hours I spoke with [redacted] via phone regarding his knowledge of a fence that had been cut down by individuals that had occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on January 11, 2016. [redacted] was adamant that he had not wanted, nor given permission to anyone to cut down that section of fence between his property and the MNWR property. [redacted] stated his representative had given them permission to drive across his land but nothing more. I asked [redacted] who his representative was and [redacted] stated he wished to not give me that information, and reiterated the only permission given to those individuals was to access his land for travel purposes. [redacted] stated he knew Ammon BUNDY had stated he had spoken with [redacted]. [redacted] stated that was a false statement, because he had not talked with BUNDY or anyone else that has been involved with the occupying of the MNWR.

[redacted] then informed me that they had already repaired the fence. [redacted] stated there had only been approximately 50-60 feet of fence taken down and it required only 5-6 T-Post to repair. The total cost of repair was approximately $100.00. I asked [redacted] who owned the fence. [redacted] stated the fence was put up by the MNWR. I asked [redacted] if he knew who had taken the fence down. [redacted] stated he had not seen nor spoken to any of the occupiers of the MNWR, but that he knew the people had been videoed taking the fence down by reporters.

[redacted] had no entitlement to the MNWR and that said he does run cattle but he does not depend on the MNWR to run them. [redacted] went on to say the MNWR has been more than neighborly with him and that he has a good rapport with the MNWR. [redacted] stated he was sorry this has happened.

I asked [redacted] if he could provide the GPS coordinates for the location the fence had been taken down. [redacted] stated he would have [redacted], get that information to me as soon as possible.

On January 14, 2016 I received an e-mail from [redacted] with the GPS coordinates from his phone. A copy of the e-mail is attached to this report.

I later watched a video published by OregonLive, http://video-embed.oregonlive.com/services/player/bcpid1949055967001?bctid=4699117493001&bckey=AQ~~,AAAAPLpuSrqE~,a1DdoZJH5WQo4iWaJ1w_CktvJfhQVVG , in the video several people were identified as being part of the occupation of the MNWR and being part of taking down the fence and using MNWR vehicles (see attached face sheet for details).

On January 15, 2015 I received information from MNWR LEO Jon Megan, that he had watched the video of the fence being torn down and identified the vehicles as MNWR vehicles. One of the vehicles was identified as LEO Megan’s patrol pickup and the MNWR biologists F-250 with the MNWR skid steer. The trailer used to bring the skid steer to the location was also identified as belonging to the MNWR. LEO Megan said the video showed the Fish and Wildlife Service Shield on the skid steer as they were taking down the fence.
Additional individuals that have been identified in the video of the fence being taken down are:

Ryan Payne, Ryan Bundy, and Ken Rhoades.
### HARNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Crime / Incident (Primary)**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Incident #</th>
<th>CRIMINAL MISCHIEF III</th>
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<td>1601006</td>
<td>164.345</td>
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**Names**

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<th>WT</th>
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<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>PAYNE, RYAN</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>506</td>
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<td>RHoades, Ken</td>
<td>W</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>250</td>
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**Dispo**

- "V" = Victim
- "RP" = Reporting Party
- "W" = Witness
- "S" = Suspect
- "O" = Other

**Address**

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<th>City, State, Zip Code</th>
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<td>PRINCETON OR 97721-</td>
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**Supplemental**

- Reviewed By: Lucas Mclain
- Approved: 03/15/2016
### Incident Information

**Incident #:** 1601008  
**Occurred:** 01/06/2016 19:00  
**At:** 485 N COURT  
**Type:** Assault IV

### Location

- **Location of Incident:** SODHOUSE LN, PRINCETON, OR  
- **Cross Street:** MALHEUR NATIONAL WIL

### Disposition

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<td>V</td>
<td>ARTHUR, LEWIS</td>
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<td>(541)</td>
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<td>V</td>
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<td>Hair</td>
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<td>W</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>(541)</td>
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### Synopsis

- **Was there a witness to the crime?** N
- **Was a suspect arrested?** N
- **Is a suspect named?** N
- **Can suspect be located?** N
- **Can suspect be described?** N
- **Can suspect be identified?** N
- **Is stolen property identifiable?** N
- **Is there an unusual M.O.?** N
- **Is significant physical evidence present?** N
- **Is this a major injury/sex crime?** N
- **Are there unique circumstances?** N
- **Is there a good possibility of solution?** N

### Connecting Case

**Report Complete/Ready for Review:**  
**DOD/AF Event #:**  
**Connecting Case #:**

### Property Damage

- **Property Damage #:** $0.00

### Officer Information

**Officer ID:** Brian Needham Lt.  
**Reviewed By:**  
**Approved:**  
**Date:**

---

### Sodhouse LN, Princeton, OR

- **City, State, Zip Code:** PRINCETON, OR 97721  
- **Address:** N

### Tucson, AZ

- **City, State, Zip Code:** TUCSON, AZ 85701  
- **Address:** N

### Gilbert, AZ

- **City, State, Zip Code:** GILBERT, AZ  
- **Address:** N

### Mesa, AZ

- **City, State, Zip Code:** MESA, AZ  
- **Address:** N

---

**Printed By/On:** 56567 / 07/17/2019 08:59:26

**CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System**

**Licensed to:** HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE
### Incident Summary

**Incident #**: 1601008  
**Type**: Assault IV  
**Location**: Burns, OR 97720  
**Reported By**: O Payne, Ryan  
**State**: OR  
**DOB**: 07/01/1982  
**Race**: White  
**Height**: 5'10"  
**Weight**: 160 lbs  
**Hair**: Brown  
**Eyes**: Brown  
**Home Phone**: (541)  

**Incident Description**

- **Date**: 07/17/2019  
- **Location**: Burns, OR  
- **Officer**: Brian Needham Lt.  

---

#### Individuals Involved

**Primary Victim**

- **Last Name**: Payne, Ryan  
- **Address**: Burns, OR 97720  
- **DOB**: 07/01/1982  
- **Race**: White  
- **Height**: 5'10"  
- **Weight**: 160 lbs  
- **Hair**: Brown  
- **Eyes**: Brown  
- **Cell Phone**: (541)  

**Secondary Person**

- **Last Name**: Sergeant, Lucas Mclain  
- **Address**: Burns, OR 97720  
- **DOB**: 07/01/1982  
- **Race**: White  
- **Height**: 5'10"  
- **Weight**: 160 lbs  
- **Hair**: Brown  
- **Eyes**: Brown  
- **Cell Phone**: (541)  

---

**Additional Information**

- **Officer ID**: 33137  
- **Reviewed By**:  
- **Approved By**:  
- **Date**:  

---

**Notes**

- **Crime / Incident (Primary)**: 163.160 ASSAULT IV  
- **Attempt**: Yes  
- **Type**: Assault IV  
- **Criminal Report**: 1  
- **Seq**: 1  

---

**Printed By/On**: 56567 / 07/17/2019 08:59:26  
**CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System**  
**Licensed to**: HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE
On January 6, 2016, at about 6:30PM the Harney County Dispatch Center advised me that Ryan Payne had contacted dispatch requesting I call him concerning an altercation that occurred at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

I contacted Mr. Payne by telephone. Mr. Payne told me there had been an altercation at the refuge between his militia group and a group called the Veterans on Patrol (VOP). Mr. Payne would not the individuals involved. Mr. Payne only told me that the VOP were trouble makers. The call ended without any further information.

On this same date at approximately 7:20PM Harney County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Lucas McLain and I were dispatched to the Harney County Hospital for an individual who was assaulted at the refuge and wanted to file a complaint. Sergeant McLain and I responded.

Upon arriving at the hospital we went to the Emergency Room and contacted [redacted] was being treated for a swollen black eye, small lacerations and a possible concussion.

I asked [redacted] and [redacted] what had happened. [redacted] told me that he and [redacted] are members of the VOP. [redacted] stated that three of the VOP had come to Harney County, Oregon to bring supplies to the militia holding the refuge and to try and have Mr. Payne leave the refuge with them to go to a Veterans Hospital.

I asked [redacted] and [redacted] why they had wanted to have Mr. Payne go to a VA hospital. [redacted] that Mr. Payne has made threats of suicide by cop and that with the current situation (the refuge being taken by Mr. Payne and other militia members) that Mr. Payne might try to get into a shootout with law enforcement.

[redacted] said that they arrived in Harney County on January 5, 2016 and set up a camp a short distance from the refuge headquarters outside the militia’s perimeter. [redacted] stated the members at their camp were himself, [redacted]

[redacted] stated they contacted Mr. Payne on January 6, 2016 and tried to get him to leave with them. [redacted] said Mr. Payne refused to leave.

[redacted] said that on the evening of January 6, 2016 that some of the militia members came to their camp and started yelling at them because they had signs up telling the militia to leave and that the press was stopping at their camp before making contact with the militia who had seized the refuge. [redacted] said their were words exchanged and the militia members walked back to the refuge.

[redacted] stated that a short time later [redacted], [redacted] and he walked to the refugee to try to talk with Mr. Payne again. [redacted] said they came to the militia’s check point and began to walk past it and the militia guard threatened to hit [redacted] in the head with a mag light style flashlight.

[redacted] said that while Mr. Arthur was trying to talk to the militia guard, that Blaine Cooper walked up behind [redacted] and punched [redacted] twice in the back of the head. NOTE: See Sergeant McLain's report for the interview with [redacted]
and stated they went to try and stop Mr. Cooper from continuing to assault. said when he approached Mr. Cooper to tell him to stop, Mr. Cooper turned and punched twice in the face.

stated he was able to get between Mr. Cooper and and the assault stopped. Mr. and told me that the militia members then went to a refuge building which was close by and came back out with firearms. and said the firearms were rifles and pistols. said that someone within the militia then gave an order for the firearms to be placed on safety and put back in the building. Neither nor could identify who had the firearms. said that he, and returned to their camp.

I asked and if they threw any punches during the altercation. stated that none of them threw any punches. said that he and were both sucker punched by Mr. Cooper and did not know that they were going to be assaulted.

I asked what his pain level was based on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the worst pain he has ever felt and 1 being no pain. said his pain level was a 7. Photographs were taken of injuries and are attached.

Based on the above information I believe there is probable cause to arrest Blaine Cooper for Assault in the Fourth Degree. A copy of this report will be submitted to the Harney County District Attorney’s Office.
On January 6, 2016 Harney County Sheriff's Lieutenant Brian Needham began an investigation into the assault of two individuals, [redacted] and [redacted], committed by Blaine COOPER. Lt. Needham had interviewed [redacted] at the Harney District Hospital and was waiting on a phone call from [redacted] to interview him. [redacted] was still at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge where Lt. Needham could not contact him due to its occupation by the Bundy Militia. See Lt. Needham's report for details.

At approximately 2130 hours I received a phone call from [redacted]. Lt. Needham was unavailable so I conducted a phone interview of [redacted]. During the interview [redacted] informed me that he had arrived at the MNWR in an attempt to get a possible suicidal veteran to leave with him and get help. [redacted] continued to say he had walked passed the checkpoint that had been set up and was arguing with one of the guards. While he continued down the road, COOPER came up from behind him and punched him in the back of the head. [redacted] said the punch felt like a brick slamming against his head. I asked [redacted] to rate the pain on a scale of one to ten, one being no pain and ten being the most pain he had ever felt. [redacted] rated the pain as a 4-5. [redacted] said after being punched they argued a little and then he left the area. [redacted] said he was packing up his things and leaving the area because he could not help anyone at the refuge. Having no further information, the interview was concluded.
THREE VEHICLES TRAVELLING TOGETHER. ONE DIDN'T PAY FOR FUEL. ONE IS A UHAUL WITH A TRAILER, ONE WHITE PICKUP WITH A TRAILER AND ANOTHER RV WITH A TRAILER.

ADV BREWER/PILON

REPORTING PARTY INFORMATION

Name SHELL

Location SHELL

CALL DETAILS

Call Type 062 THEFT COMPLAINT

Description
THREE VEHICLES TRAVELLING TOGETHER. ONE DIDN'T PAY FOR FUEL. ONE IS A UHAUL WITH A TRAILER, ONE WHITE PICKUP WITH A TRAILER AND ANOTHER RV WITH A TRAILER.

ADV BREWER/PILON

Disposition RPT Report Taken

Comments REPORT TAKEN FOR THEFT OF SERVICES
**Incident**

**1601009**

**Crime / Incident (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)**
- 164.057 AG THEFT I - AGGRAVATED
- 164.345 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF III

**Location of Incident**  
HWY 205/ISLAND RANCH, OR

**Cross Street**  
HWY 78/SODHOUSE LN

**Last, First, Middle (Firm if Business)**

- **BLEULER, NICKOLAS DEAN**  
  Race: W  
  Sex: M  
  Age: 22  
  HT: 5-07  
  WT: 170  
  Hair: BLK  
  Eyes: BRN  
  Home Phone: (541)  
  Address: OR

- **BUNDY, RYAN**  
  Race: W  
  Sex: M  
  Age: 43  
  HT: 6-00  
  WT: 220  
  Hair: BLN  
  Eyes: BRO  
  Home Phone: (541)  
  Address: OR

- **COOPER, BLAINE**  
  Race: W  
  Sex: M  
  Age: 36  
  HT: 6-00  
  WT: 220  
  Hair: BLK  
  Eyes: BRO  
  Home Phone: (541)  
  Address: OR

- **FINICUM, ROBERT "LAVOY"**  
  Race: W  
  Sex: M  
  Age: 54  
  HT: 5-09  
  WT: 160  
  Hair: GRY  
  Eyes:  
  Home Phone: (541)  
  Address: OR

**Synopsis**

**Was there a witness to the crime?** N  
**Was a suspect arrested?** N  
**Was a suspect named?** N  
**Can a suspect be located?** N  
**Can a suspect be identified?** N  
**Is stolen property identifiable?** N  
**Is there an unusual M.O.?** N  
**Is significant physical evidence present?** N  
**Is this a major injury/sex crime?** N  
**Are there unique circumstances?** N  
**Is there a good possibility of solution?** N

**Property Damage** $0.00  
**Solvability Points** 0

**Dispo**
- County Code: 13
- Disposition: DA
- Date: 01/19/2016

**Field Notes**

- **Is stolen property identifiable?** N
- **Is this a major injury/sex crime?** N

**Assigned To** Lucas Mclain

**Report Complete/Ready for Review**
- CAD/CFS Event 

**Printed By/On:** 56567 / 07/16/2019 17:42:18

**CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System**

**Licensed to:** HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE
### HARNEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

#### 164.057 AG THEFT I - AGGRAVATED

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**Incident Details**

- **Officer ID**: Lucas McMain
- **Reviewed By Date**: 

**Names and Details**

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On January 15, 2016 protesters that had occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR) removed two surveillance cameras from two separate power poles. The cameras were the property of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and had been mounted to said poles as part of their investigation into the occupation of the MNWR. The reporting party on behalf of the FBI was Greg Bretzing the FBI SAC located in Portland, Oregon.

On January 19, 2016 I reviewed a video of the incident that was posted as an open source of information on youtube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvCAxGmDq9k&feature=player_detailpage

The video shows several individuals engaging in the opening of housing units and removal of the cameras from the units. The first box, which was located near Hwy 78 and Narrows-Princeton Road, Harney County, Or on the south side of the road, is opened by Arnold Willingham. Mr. Willingham is wearing glasses, a black watch cap, black shirt and black overalls. Others identified in the video are Ryan Payne, Ryan Bundy, Jon Ritzheimer, Lavoy Finicum, Blaine Cooper, Ken Rhoades, Maureen Peltier, Pete Santilli, Levi Majors, and Nick Bleuler. Finicum is shown removing both cameras from the unit. Bleuler is seen holding the ladder used to gain access to the cameras. Majors is seen holding one of the cameras and informs the news crew that is videoing the incident who he is, even spelling out his name. I know these individuals from previous contacts and from a persons of interest list that had been created during the investigation into the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

The second box was located at the substation off of Highway 205 near the intersection of Island Ranch Road. The box is opened and the cameras were removed by Finicum. Ritzheimer and Cooper are seen with the cameras in hand. Cooper is videoed catching one and Ritzheimer is videoed handing one to Finicum. Ryan Bundy is videoed removing the hard drive and possibly an airlink card from the housing. Payne is also videoed handling one of the cameras.

During the investigation I learned the following information from the FBI:

The cameras were installed on the poles between January 9, 2016 and January 10, 2015. Open source research shows the devices were vandalized and stolen on January 15, 2016. There were two locations where the cameras were attached to utility poles. Location 1: Hwy 205 and Island Ranch Road, Harney County, Or. on the east side of road near relay station. Location 2: Hwy 78 and Narrows-Princeton Road, Harney County, Or. on the south side of road. Each Box costs the Government $7000 for the entire unit.

Camera F2755767 was at location 2. This Box was vandalized, lock broken, and two cameras stolen. Estimated loss to the Government is:

2 x $2100 cameras
1 x $1200 Box
Total: $5400

Camera F2755757 was at location 1. This Box was vandalized, lock broken, two cameras, modem, and a portable hard drive stolen. Estimated loss to the Government is:

2 x $2100 cameras
1 x $400 modem
1 x $50 Hard drive
1 x $1200 box
Total: $5850
The total loss to the Government is $11,250.00. Pictures were taken of the units after they were removed from the utility poles. See attached CD for details on the pictures.

Based on information obtained from the FBI, Harney Electric was advised prior to putting the cameras up and were present when the camera boxes were removed from the utility poles. Harney Electric was advised of the vandalism of the cameras and were asked if they felt they had been a victim of trespassing. Harney Electric stated he felt they had not suffered any damage during the incident and felt it would be in their best interest not to pursue trespassing charges.

Based on the above information I have probable cause to believe the following have committed the crime(s) of Aggravated Theft I and Criminal Mischief III: Robert "Lavoy" Finicum and Arnold Willingham Ryan Payne, Ryan Bundy, Jon Ritzheimer, Blaine Cooper, Levi Majors, and Nick Bleuler.

All of the previously mentioned individuals were present during the incident and, assisted in setting up ladders to gain access to the camera boxes, holding ladders while others gained access to the camera boxes, and/or handled the items that had been stolen from the camera boxes.
On January 25, 2016 I was on duty for the Harney County Sheriff's Office. On this date at about 9:00AM Hines Police Chief Ryan Delange arrested Levi Majors for Aggravated Theft in the First Degree based on probable cause related to the theft of cameras from the FBI. NOTE: See Harney County Sheriff’s Report # 1601009.

On this date FBI Special Agent Alexander White and I conducted an interview with Mr. Majors. I advised Mr. Majors of his Miranda Rights. Mr. Majors stated he understood his rights and agreed to talk with us. Mr. Majors began crying and stated he was sorry and was not part of the militia.

Mr. Majors stated that he has been to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on two separate occasions. Mr. Majors said the first time was on approximately January 12, 2016 and the second time was approximately January 13, 2016. Mr. Majors said the first time was the day before the FBI cameras were taken and the second time was the day the cameras were taken. Mr. Majors stated that on both days he was with Nick Bleuler.

Mr. Majors said that on the first trip to the refuge that he and Mr. Bleuler went to see what was going on. Mr. Majors said that they walked around the refuge and went into the tower. Mr. Majors said that they spent several hours on the refuge. Mr. Majors said they talked with several individuals including John Ritzheimer, Lavoy Finnicum and Ammon Bundy. Mr. Majors stated that he and Mr. Bleuler left before dark.

Mr. Majors stated that the next day he and Mr. Bleuler returned to the refuge to see if they could get permission from the militia to fish on the refuge. Mr. Majors stated when they arrived at the refuge that Mr. Ritzheimer and Mr. Finnicum approached them and stated they were going to take down FBI cameras near Princeton on Hwy 78 and at the intersection of Highway 205 and Island Ranch Road. Mr. Majors stated that he and Mr. Bleuler went with the militia to take down the cameras.

Mr. Majors said that at the Princeton location that he and Mr. Bleuler held the ladder for the militia while they climbed the pole and broke open the camera box and then removed the cameras from the box. Mr. Majors said that he and Mr. Bleuler both handled the cameras before Mr. Finnicum took possession of the cameras.

Mr. Majors stated they then changed locations and went to the camera location located on Highway 205 and Island Ranch Road. Mr. Majors told us that he and Mr. Bleuler stayed in the vehicle while the second cameras were taken down.

Mr. Majors provided other intel to the FBI and was cooperative to the investigation. A copy of this report will be submitted to the Harney County District Attorney's Office and the FBI.

Brian Needham Lt. 33137 HCSO
On January 15, 2016 protesters that had occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR) removed two surveillance cameras from two separate power poles. The cameras were the property of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and had been mounted to said poles as part of their investigation into the occupation of the MNWR. The reporting party on behalf of the FBI was Greg Bretzing the FBI SAC located in Portland, Oregon. On January 19, 2016 I reviewed a video of the incident that was posted as an open source of information on youtube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvCAxGmDq9k&feature=player_detailpage
A copy of the above youtube video has been forwarded to the Harney County District Attorney’s Office for review.

In the original report I mentioned that Ryan Payne is videoed handling one of the cameras. For clarification of the incident, Payne is seen handling one of the cameras taken from the first box.

Pete Santilli is also seen handling one of the cameras from the second box and reading off the serial number to the crowd that was present.
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Synopsis


Solubility Points 0  County Code 13  Disposition INV


Property Damage $ 0.00

Attended X

Property Listed Y

Report Complete/Ready for Review Y  CAD/CFS Event #

Connecting Case #

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Officer ID: Lucas Mclain

Reviewed By: 40827

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CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System
Licensed to: HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Cont'd
On January 2, 2016 I was duty for the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. I was working as a two man unit with Harney County Sheriff’s Deputy Dan Jenkins. Deputy Jenkins and I were assigned to patrol the area south of Highway 78 and west of Highway 20 to Highway 205 while a protest was taking place in Burns, Harney County Oregon. The protest was in relation to Dwight and Steve Hammond being sent back to federal prison on a mandatory minimum sentence and federal government overreach.

At approximately 1245 hours Deputy Jenkins and I were speaking with OSP Sergeant Brian Williams at the intersection of Green House Lane and Highway 205. At that time we witnessed a convoy of 6-7 vehicles driving south on Highway 205. We recognized the passengers of the vehicles as individuals that had been instrumental in putting the protest together. The individuals identified were; Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, Jon Ritzheimer, Blaine Cooper and Jason Patrick. Other individuals were in the convoy but were not identified. This information was passed on to Harney County Lieutenant Brian Needham and Sheriff Dave Ward.

After approximately 15-20 minutes, Deputy Jenkins and I proceeded south on Highway 205 in an attempt to locate the vehicles. The vehicles were eventually located pulling into the Malheur National Wildlife Headquarters (MNWR) on Sod House Lane, Harney County Oregon. No contact was made with the individuals due to officer safety. The information was forwarded to Sheriff Ward by phone.

During the occupation of the MNWR several videos have been posted to open source media sites showing the occupiers of the MNWR in the buildings located on the premises. Videos also show the use of MNWR vehicles. Reports have been taken on the Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Criminal Mischief, and Aggravated Theft I. Said reports will be included in this case file. During the investigation several more members of “the Bundy Militia” have been identified on the MNWR premises. They are as follows:

Corey Lequieu, Ammon Bundy, Jason Patrick, Ryan Payne, Ken Rhoades, Maureen Peiltier, Blane Cooper, Robert "Lavoy" Finicum, Melissa Cooper, Jon Ritzheimer, Neil Wampler, Joseph O'Shaughnessy, Brian Cavalier, Peter Santilli, Ryan Bundy, Ken Medenbach, James Male, Arnold Willingham, and Randy Clark.

Additional unknown people have been seen at the MNWR, but have not been identified at the time of this report.

During the investigation I learned from MNWR Law Enforcement Officer Jon Megan that all of the buildings except possibly the bunk house, had been locked and the individual's would have had to force their way in to gain access. The MNWR is also closed from sundown to sun up and during that time no one is to be on the property.

The occupiers have been told several times by Sheriff Ward to leave the premises to no avail.
On January 26, 2016 I was on duty for the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. A plan was in place to arrest the lead members of the occupiers of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Agencies involved in the plan were the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Oregon State Police, and the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. I was tasked to be part of a two man transport team with Harney County Sheriff’s Office Lieutenant Brian Needham.

At approximately 1630 hours Lt. Needham and I staged at the weigh scales on Highway 20, just west of the Highway 20/Highway 395C junction. At approximately 1650 hours a request was made for an ambulance to respond to Highway 395C near mile post 51. A short time later a request was made for Highway 395C to be closed at the junction of Highway 395C and Highway 20. Lt. Needham and I responded and closed the highway until a marked unit could respond. After a short time two county deputies and an OSP trooper arrived on scene and continued to keep the highway closed.

At approximately 1730 hours Lt. Needham and I arrived at Mile Post 55-56 on Highway 395C. Four male individuals were handcuffed and standing near the shoulder of the road under armed guard. I recognized two of the males, from previous contacts, as Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne. The other two would later be identified as Mark McConnell and Brian Cavalier. We were informed to proceed to approximate mile post 51 and pick up prisoners at that location then return to pick up the males at this location. We proceeded to the next scene and picked up two females from approximate mile post 51.

We arrived at mile post 51 a short time later and placed both females into the transport van. They were later identified as Shawna Cox and Victoria Sharp. After placing the two in the van we returned to the first scene and placed all four males in the van. We remained on scene for a couple of hours while waiting for the ambulance, which was transporting Ryan Bundy, and for escorts to arrive. An unknown law enforcement officer possibly from the FBI was riding in the ambulance with Ryan Bundy.

At approximately 1900 hours we began transporting the individuals to the Sage Hen Rest Stop located approximately 18 miles west of Hines, Oregon on Highway 20. At approximately 1930 hours we arrived at the hospital and dropped the ambulance and its occupants off. We then continued towards the rest stop. On the south side of Hines, Oregon, Lt. Needham and I heard Ammon Bundy speaking as if he was on a cell phone. The interior light was turned on and I looked in a mirror and it appeared Ammon was indeed talking on a cell phone. Lt. Needham got the attention of the lead escort vehicle and we stopped at the BLM Offices just outside of Hines. Ammon, Ryan Payne and Victoria Sharp were removed from the front seat and Lt. Needham began to search their persons. I checked the seat where Ammon was sitting and located a cell phone tucked between the backrest and the seat. After recovering the cell phone the three were placed back into the van and we continued to the rest stop with no further incidents. At approximately 2000 hours five of the prisoners were transferred over to FBI and OSP officers for further transport to the Portland, Oregon area. All individuals’ property, including the cell phone, were given to those transporting the suspects. Victoria Sharp was transported back to the Harney County Sheriff’s Office where she was interviewed by FBI agents.

This concluded my involvement in this incident.
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On November 5, 2015 While on duty for the Harney County Sheriff's Office I was contacted by Ammon Bundy by telephone at which time he stated that he was in Harney County, Oregon and requested to meet with me in person to discuss the resentencing of Dwight and Steven Hammond on charges through the federal court system.

November 5, 2015
Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne made contact with me at the Harney County Sheriff's Office in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. We met in my office and I asked Harney County 911 Supervisor (Dorothy) Missy Ousley to sit in on the meeting with me.

During my conversation with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne they informed me that the Hammonds had been wrongfully convicted of terrorism by the federal government. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne also informed me of their beliefs that the United States Federal Government held no authority by constitution to own and manage land under Article 1 Section 8 para. 17 of the US constitution. Therefore, under their beliefs, Dwight or Steven Hammond could not have committed a crime. Furthermore, Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne stated that the government had "convicted the Hammonds of terrorism" and "without due process."

Mr. Bundy made accusations that the Hammond family had been the victims of years of oppression and criminal actions against them by the BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other government agencies in order to drive the Hammond family off of their family land. Mr. Bundy claimed to have documentation and evidence to substantiate these claims.

I informed Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I was not familiar with the Hammond case and would need to look into the details of the case for myself. I also asked Mr. Bundy to provide me with the evidence he claimed to possess showing criminal actions against the Hammonds. Mr. Bundy stated that he would do so (he still has not).

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both expressed to me that the federal courts system had no constitutional authority to sentence Dwight and Steven Hammond to prison, therefore it was my constitutional authority as Harney County Sheriff to "stand up for the people" and tell the federal court that the Hammonds would not serve one more day in prison. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both expressed that the aforementioned federal agencies operating within Harney County were "unconstitutional" and told me that it was my duty as sheriff to kick them out of Harney County.

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both gave ultimatums of what would happen if I did not prevent the Hammonds from returning to prison. Mr. Bundy stated "if you don't do your job, we will bring thousands of people here to do your job for you." Mr. Bundy went on to state that they would create "extreme civil unrest in the community." Mr. Payne made a statement to the effect of with that many people "we won't be able to control what they might do."

While Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne were giving ultimatums, Dispatch Supervisor Ousley stated that she has been friends with the Hammonds most of her life and wanted to know where Dwight and Steven Hammond stood on Mr. Bundy's and Mr. Payne's position. Supervisor Ousley stated that she knew Dwight and Steven Hammond were planning on turning themselves in to fulfill the sentence from the court.
Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne both stated that it did not matter what Dwight and Steven Hammond thought. Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne made the argument that the Hammond's were "like a battered housewife" and could not make that decision for themselves. Bundy stated that "the government has kicked them and beat them down to the point they can't make that decision."

During this conversation I made it clear to Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I was aware of what had taken place near the Bundy Ranch in Nevada. I explained with no uncertainty, that any such behavior would not be tolerated in Harney County. I told both of them that I would not tolerate violent or unlawful behavior in this county from either law enforcement officers or private citizens.

I stated that they were welcome to protest and work through lawful channels to seek solutions for the problems they had with the court sentence of the Hammonds. However, I absolutely would not stand for violence or bloodshed in this community. To this Mr. Payne replied "that's what will happen if the Hammonds spend one more day in prison."

I again told Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne that I would look into everything I could find pertaining to the Hammond case. I also stated that I would look at evidence which would support their argument of federal employees committing crimes against the Hammonds if it were provided.

As they were leaving my office, Mr. Payne looked at me and stated "I don’t want to have to come back from Montana."

Throughout this first contact Mr. Payne and Mr. Bundy referred to portions of the US Constitution to support their stance. It is my belief based off of this interaction that Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne were attempting to intimidate me into bending to their will through their threats of bringing thousands of people to create extreme civil unrest and possible bloodshed. Mr. Bundy went into great detail about the great "victory" they had won over the "Feds" in Bunkerville, Nevada in April, 2014 when "the people" stood against the government and the government was forced to retreat, because "federal laws are unconstitutional and the Feds know it, that's why they had to retreat." Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne tried to convey to me that was the reason no-one had or could be arrested from the Bundy Ranch incident.

Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne also spoke to me about the victory the people had won in Josephine County, Oregon at the Sugar Pine Mine incident. Again, they explained how a great victory was won because the people armed themselves and stood against the government and the "Feds" were powerless because the constitution did not grant the federal government the authority to own land or enforce laws.

Mr. Payne openly carried a firearm on his hip throughout the encounter and spent the majority of the interaction staring intensely at, or through me. I felt as though he wore the firearm to my office in hopes of provoking a 2nd amendment argument.

During the course of the interaction on November 5, Mr. Bundy did the majority of the talking and Mr. Payne mostly interjected, steering the conversation in the direction he wanted it to go, when Mr. Bundy got off of course.
Within an hour of Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne leaving the sheriff’s office on November 5, 2015, I received a phone call from former sheriff, Richard Mack, of Arizona. Mr. Mack contacted me on this date in regard to the Hammond case. During this conversation Mr. Mack extended an offer for help from his organization, the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, in dealing with government overreach in the Hammond case. Mr. Mack spoke very highly of the Bundy family and I did not believe it was a coincidence that he called me at that time.

During that same week I had received a phone message from Nevada Assembly Woman Michele Fiore in regard to the Hammond case. After speaking with Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne, I returned Ms. Fiore's phone call. Ms. Fiore was very pleasant to speak with and seemed genuinely concerned about the Hammond resentencing. Ms. Fiore spoke very highly of Ammon Bundy during this conversation. I told Ms. Fiore about the demands, ultimatums, and threats of civil unrest and possible bloodshed made by Bundy and Payne and I appealed to her to encourage them to work through legal channels for a peaceful resolution to their perceived injustice.

Over the next several weeks I would receive multiple phone calls from Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne pushing their stance that the sheriff is the only constitutional authority in the county, and that if I did not stand up to the federal government, they were going to come to Harney County and do that job for me.

During one of these phone calls Mr. Bundy became very agitated with me when I again stated that they were welcome to protest and work through lawful channels toward finding resolution to their issues with the Hammond case, and that I would not tolerate the actions that took place in Bunkerville happening here. Mr. Bundy raised his voice to the point of yelling and said "why do you keep saying that, it is very offensive." I told him that I said it, because I had researched what had happened in Bunkerville and did not want it to happen in Harney County.

Beginning November 6th, Ammon Bundy began posting material, calls to action, and letters to the Bundy Ranch facebook page as well as a Bundy Ranch blog website with the intent of provoking an emotional response from people.

Note: see attached documents for more details.

November 17, 2015
I was flooded with emails and phone calls demanding that I stand against the federal court sentence and prevent Dwight and Steven Hammond from returning to prison. Many of the messages were laced with profanity, name calling, threats of violence, and accusations that I was unconstitutional and failing to uphold my oath of office.
So many phone calls were coming through the dispatch center that it prevented the 911 dispatchers from being capable of doing their jobs effectively.

**ACTION NEEDED**- HAMMOND FAMILY UPDATE
The post on the Bundy facebook page stated many people had been working with the Harney County Sheriff "in an effort to influence him to stand and protect the Hammonds."
"He is checking the facts and will make a decision soon."
"Federal agents, which reportedly flow through his office, are also influencing the Sheriff."
The post goes on to give the Harney County Sheriff's Office contact information and ask people to contact the Sheriff to express their disapproval.
NOTE: See attached documents for further details.

On November 19, 2015
Ammon Bundy requested to meet with me at the Harney County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Bundy brought ten people with him to meet with me on that date, and at least six of the group were openly carrying firearms. I believe the intent of this meeting and show of force was designed with the intent of attempting to intimidate me into using my position as sheriff to act unlawfully on their behalf.

The group left an armed guard outside of the sheriff's office while Ammon Bundy and nine others entered the building to meet with me. I did not ask them to disarm, as I felt their intent was to again attempt to spark a 2nd amendment argument and make accusations of constitutional infringement.

I had Harney County Corrections Corporal John Miller accompany me while I met Mr. Bundy and the people he brought with him, Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, BJ Soper, Brandon Curtiss, Brandon Rapola, Brooke Agresta, Joseph Rice, and three other people consisting of an older couple who were Bundy family friends from Nevada, and an older gentleman from Florida who claimed to be writing a book.

This group had representatives of the Pacific Patriot Network (Brandon Rapola), Oath Keepers (Joseph Rice), Bearded Bastards, Idaho III% (Brandon Curtiss and Brooke Agresta), Central Oregon Constitutional Guard (BJ Soper), Operation Mutual Defense (Ryan Payne), the Bundy family (Ammon Bundy and friends) among others.

Brandon Rapola spoke of his involvement during the Bundy Ranch incident in April 2014. Mr. Rapola expressed that he had gone there willing to give his life to stand against government oppression and tyranny. Mr. Rapola stated he had explained to his "little boy" why he was leaving and might "not come home." Mr. Rapola stated he was a Marine veteran and spoke about what skillsets he brought to the table.

Joseph Rice stated he was former Army and had participated in the Sugar Pine Mine incident in Josephine County, Oregon. Mr. Rice stated I could contact Sheriff Dave Daniel for information about that incident, which I did at a later date.

Sheriff Daniel stated Mr. Rice had spoken to him several times pertaining to the Sugar Pine Mine incident in Josephine County. Sheriff Daniels said the militia type groups who came in for that event had set up perimeters, set up ambush sites/kill zones, and conducted roving patrols in the area of the Sugar Pine Mine. Sheriff Daniel stated he and his office had very little to do with the incident and suggested if possible, that I distance myself from this situation as well. Unfortunately, I was not able to do so, as these militia groups and associated persons specifically targeted me with the intent of forcing, intimidating, or bullying me into supporting their position, and/or breaking the law by interfering with a lawful and binding court sentence.

Brandon Curtiss stated he was a former police officer of 12 years and is the president of the Idaho III
% group. Mr. Curtiss made the statement that they "will bring more people to town than you and your four deputies can handle."

Brooke Agresta stated she is the intel officer for the Idaho III% group. Ms. Agresta stated that she has researched me. Ms. Agresta stated that she knows everything there is to know about me. Ms. Agresta also made a very passionate speech about how they would back me if I would stand against the government and prevent the Hammonds from going to prison, but, if I did not stand with the Hammonds, they would not stand with me.

NOTE: Brandon Curtiss and Brooke Agresta were both adamant that I needed to get into contact with Sheriff Glenn Palmer of Grant County, Oregon to find out what kind of people they were. They made statements that they had a working relationship with Sheriff Palmer and that he had called them in to assist with government overreach while dealing with issues involving the US Forest Service.

BJ Soper stated he was former Army. Mr. Soper was representing the Central Oregon Constitutional Guard. Mr. Soper stated that they could deploy into the area and remain self-sufficient without re-supply for several weeks.

Ryan Payne stated he was former Army. Mr. Payne has stated to me that he was an Army Ranger on several occasions. In my opinion, he does this because he is attempting to be intimidating, as evidence suggests he was not an Army Ranger. Mr. Payne made a point during the November 19 visit to ask me if I "remember the last thing I told you the last time we met?" When I answered that he had stated he "didn't want to have to come back from Montana", Mr. Payne confirmed that was correct. This was done in the group setting and I believe was an attempt to make me feel intimidated.

Ammon Bundy did a good portion of the speaking during the group meeting on November 19. Mr. Bundy, as well as the others mentioned, gave multiple ultimatums and threats of extreme civil unrest if I did not support their stance and interfere with the Dwight and Steven Hammond sentencing. There were also demands that I use my authority as sheriff to start kicking the "unconstitutional" government agencies out of the county.

Aside from ultimatums, this group of people made accusations of tyranny, overreach, intimidation, and land grabbing by the federal government against the Hammond family. Arguments had been made that the Hammonds had been kidnapped, convicted of terrorism, forced off their land, falsely accused, tried without a grand jury indictment, corrupted court/trial/jury tampering by the government, victims of double jeopardy, that they were not afforded due process, among other claims and that again, it was my duty as sheriff to stand between the Hammonds and the federal government and if I did not, these people were going to organize thousands of people to come to Harney County and do that job for me.

I pointed out again on this date that Ammon Bundy had agreed to provide documentation to me that proved the accusations they were making on behalf of the Hammonds, and that he still had not provided the evidence promised, only written opinions. Mr. Bundy stated "Yeah, I still need to get that to you."

On November 19, 2015 I explained the way the case against the Hammonds had progressed through the system from the investigation through the resentencing of the Hammonds after the first judge fail
ed to impose the mandatory minimum sentence required by law. I explained that it was a lawful and binding sentence. I also explained that the Hammonds themselves had expressed that they intended to turn themselves in to fulfill that sentence and that I had no intentions of interfering.

The response I received was that it did not matter if the Hammonds planned on turning themselves in. It was my duty to kick the federal government out of Harney County and the Hammonds complying with the sentence did not absolve me of my constitutional duties. Furthermore this group told me the Hammonds would not turn themselves in to the federal prison system if I "would stand up to the government" and demand they back down.

At one point during this meeting, one of the group stated they were going to email me some information they wanted me to read. I stated that they needed to put a subject title that I would stand out from the rest, as I was receiving hundreds of emails and phone calls pertaining to the Hammonds and could not keep up with them all. At that point, Ammon Bundy smugly stated "We turned the heat up on him this week."

The meeting ended with Ammon Bundy giving an ultimatum of "sheriff, you have one week to do the right thing, or we’re going to do it for you."

Prior to Mr. Bundy and his associates leaving the Harney County Sheriff’s Office, I provided Mr. Bundy with documentation which showed the information he was spreading, both verbally and via internet, was incorrect and asked that he clear up his details. Included in the documentation was a copy of the police report from former Harney County Sheriff David Glerup, who investigated the Hammond fires. Also included was a copy of the grand jury indictment, which Ammon Bundy stated never took place. I also provided a copy of the 57 page re-sentencing transcripts, which proved a great deal of Mr. Bundy’s arguments regarding the Hammonds to be false.

I also provided copies of these documents to Brooke Agresta, who had introduced herself as the intel person for the Idaho III%.

Again, I provided this information to this group of people to help clear up the facts regarding the Hammond case in hopes of preventing further posturing, attempts of intimidation, and cyber bullying from Mr. Bundy, his family, and his associates.

This meeting occurred in the courthouse law library. Mr. Bundy had everyone introduce themselves and explain what their role was in being there.

NOTE: After the group meeting, Mr. Payne requested to speak with me in private, which I did. During this conversation Mr. Payne tried to distance himself from being seen as a leader, stating he didn’t ask to be in a leadership position with this group. Mr. Payne also stated during this conversation that he was not trying to be threatening when he stated he didn’t want to have to come back from Montana. Mr. Payne also stated that he was working with a group of people out of California to "replace the existing form of government."

During the November 19 meeting, someone asked a question about the possibility of the federal government taking the Hammonds into custody early. I stated that option was not on the table and would not happen.
I later read a posting on the Bundy Ranch facebook page in which Mr. Bundy posted that I gave him information that the Feds were going to raid the Hammond home and take them back into custody earlier than their report date if they continued to have contact with the Bundy family.

That statement was yet again another example of Mr. Bundy's willingness to deviate from the truth and meant to provoke an emotional response from Bundy Family supporters into continuing their online and telephonic bullying directed at me and my office.

NOTE: See attached documentation for further details.

November 20, 2015
I received a phone call from a very agitated Ammon Bundy. Mr. Bundy stated that federal agents had called Dwight Hammond's lawyer and told him that "the feds" were going to have the Hammonds killed if they continued to have contact with the Bundy family. Mr. Bundy stated that Dwight Hammond told him that his life (Ammon's) was in danger as well. Mr. Bundy demanded that I investigate these death threats made by "the feds" through the Hammond attorney.

Directly after this phone call from Ammon Bundy I called the residence. I spoke with who was apprehensive about speaking with me on the subject and gave me Dwight's cell phone number. I contacted Dwight Hammond and told him about the phone call from Ammon Bundy and asked if he had received death threats. Dwight said "no we're alright." Dwight and I had an otherwise pleasant conversation about getting together sometime and discussing something other than the issue at hand. He did not seem to be or state that he felt threatened in any way.

Ammon Bundy posted a very emotional video on social media on this date in which he claimed the Hammonds lives to have been threatened for having communication with the Bundy family. Mr. Bundy's video provoked many emotional responses from the Bundy following on social media.

After Mr. Bundy posted his video proclaiming federal agents had made death threats toward the Hammonds via their attorney, I began receiving more angry/threatening emails and phone calls, to include death threats directed at law enforcement.

Note:
1. Starting in mid- November and forward, Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters continued to attack me through phone calls, emails, and social media.
2. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began conducting surveillance on local law enforcement and their families.
3. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began arriving in town.
4. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began passing flyers around the community trying to gain support for their cause.

November 21, 2015
After a constant bombardment via email and telephone from Bundy supporters regarding the resentencing of Dwight and Steven Hammond, I began to respond to the emails with a letter explaining my stance, a letter which outlined the flow of the case, and a copy of the court transcripts
from the resentencing.

November 24, 2015
In response to the information I had begun sending out in emails, Ammon Bundy posted a video on the internet and Bundy Ranch facebook page.

Action Needed to Protect the Hammonds
Hammonds Need to be Protected (Action Needed)

In the video Ammon Bundy talks about the Diamond Valley of Harney County, Oregon and how the land was all taken from the ranchers by the federal government. Mr. Bundy goes on to make his constitutional argument against the legality of the federal government owning land.

Mr. Bundy goes on to express his "disappointment" in Sheriff David Ward for taking the stand that the Hammonds had received due process. Mr. Bundy continued on to state that the Hammonds had been labeled as terrorists by the government.

Mr. Bundy makes a speech about how the government is after the land and the resources, because all wealth comes from the land, the government can then control the people.

Note: For further details the video can be found on the internet by typing the above title in to the search engine.

November 27, 2015
Bundy family posts a letter in response to me not interfering with the Hammond re-sentencing.

"SHERIFF WARD IS FEEDING YOUR INFORMATION TO THE FBI (HAMMONDS)"

The letter goes on to state "Sheriff David Ward (the Hammonds sheriff) has unfortunately fallen to the influences of federal agents and has taken an adverse position against the Hammonds."

"We would also like to warn anyone that has contacted the Sheriff; he has been feeding your information to the FBI. We have reached out to him several times over the last week to try to understand his motives, but he refuses to take our calls or answer our messages."

The letter continues on and is written to provoke emotional responses from readers, such as follows: Frank Lavoie Revolution has taken notice, and Karma is certain, as is revenge & retribution. The arrogant & treasonous (sheriff Ward and the FBI,) are not immortal nor invulnerable, and have engendered the hatred and wrath due any traitorous fools.

Like · Reply · 4 · November 27, 2015 at 6:53pm

Forrest Good Sheriff Ward is worthless if he can’t backup his OATH ,he will go down like the rest of them

Like · Reply · 16 · November 27, 2015 at 10:43am

Doug Douglas The Lord’s Wrath is Mighty. His Justice is Sure. They are coming for you Ward.
December 07, 2015
Ryan Payne came to the sheriff's office while I was out of town for the OSSA winter conference. Mr. Payne met with Harney County Sheriff's Lieutenant Brian Needham.

Lt. Needham contacted me on that date and informed me Mr. Payne had attempted to convince him that the sheriff was acting against the constitution and that it was Lt. Needham's duty to remove the sheriff from office by any means necessary.

December 2015
Other events that occurred throughout the month of December 2015 are as follows:
1. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters attempted to rent a building that had an over watch of the sheriff's office and courthouse.
2. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters put out calls for shooters and armed bodyguards to protect Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne with orders to use lethal force to prevent arrest.
3. Ryan Payne posted on social media stating they were going to camp around the Hammond Ranch and secure it from law enforcement.
4. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began making threats and using intimidation tactics toward anyone speaking out against them.
5. Bundy/Payne militia associates and supporters began pushing their agenda with citizens at coffee meetings.
6. Bundy/Payne militia associates began showing up at local churches and attempting to seek support for their agenda from local clergy.
7. Throughout the month of December 2015, local law enforcement continued to have meetings to discuss issues arising from Bundy/Payne militia associates.
8. Armed Bundy/Payne militia affiliated persons began doing things to intentionally provoke traffic stops in order to have confrontations with police.
9. Bundy/Payne militia used switched license plates or no plates on vehicles when conducting surveillance, harassing citizens and/or seeking confrontation with law enforcement.

NOTE: from approximately mid-December it was estimated that armed Bundy supporters outnumbered local law enforcement more than two to one within the community and were actively attempting to provoke law enforcement into traffic stops.

December 11, 2015
Received email from Ammon Bundy:
"Please review and understand the NOTICE: Redress of Grievance as attached. We expect action to be taken to defend the rights of the people in Harney County. We have many resources to assist in informing you of how an Evidential Hearing Board works."

"the federal government does not have authority to administer property inside a State (Article 1 Section 8 Clause 17)."
"The proper authority to prosecute the Hammonds' is the County not the U.S. Government. The County DA took a look at the charges and decided not to prosecute. The issue should have ended at that point."

"Federal agents have verbally expressed desire for the Steen Mountain Ranch to add to their already unconstitutional control. They have been vindictive towards the Hammonds for years"

"Informed People in Harney County and across these United States will not allow this action to take precedent or continue. It is your job to make sure justice is administered. The people do not want to protect justice for you."

Note: See attached documents for more details of this email.

The attached Redress of Grievance was addressed:

"We the People - United Individuals of these States United: Coalition of Western States (COWS), Pacific Patriot Network (PPN), Bundy Family and Supporters, Oregon Oath Keepers, Idaho III%, Central Oregon Constitutional Guard, Oregon Tactical, Oregon Bearded Bastards, Liberty Watch Washington, Nevada Committee for Full Statehood, Rural Heritage Preservation Project, Liberty For All (LFA) [continuous names below]

December 11, 2015

NOTICE: Redress of Grievance

Notice to agent is notice to principle; notice to principle is notice to agent

Sheriff David Ward, Commissioner Dan Nichols, Commissioner Pete Runnels, Justice of the Peace Donna Thomas, District Attorney Tim Colahan, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Governor Kate Brown"

It restates the same arguments which Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne and many of their supporters had already received answers to on multiple occasions. Mr. Bundy had personally been given a copy of the police reports, grand jury indictment, and resentencing transcripts pertaining to the Hammond case. These documents clear up the details and negate a good portion of the demands in the "Redress of Grievance."

Again, Mr. Bundy had offered to provide evidence proving these allegations on multiple occasions, but failed to do so. To date, all that has been provided on behalf of this argument has been nothing more than rhetoric and opinions written by Ammon Bundy and/or his supporters.

Mr. Bundy and supporters had received answers to the grievances outlined, however, these answers have been ignored, twisted/misrepresented, or deemed as treasonous and met with threats and/or allegations of wrong doing against myself and other elected officials.

The Redress of Grievance ends with threats and ultimatums:

"We need not remind you of your lawful duty to act on these matters as insisted, nor of the consequences if you knowingly neglect your duty. USC 18.2382, 18.2071, 18.2076, 42.1983, 42.1985, 42.2076"
In light of the information presented, we require your thoughtful response within 5 days of the date of this notice. If we do not receive your response within 5 days, we will have no choice but to understand that you do not wish to do your duty and are content in acting in negligence to your solemn oath to the people who have placed you in this fiduciary position and in defiance of your obligation to defend the Rights and Liberties of the people. Therefore, govern yourself accordingly.

Respectfully,
We the People - United Individuals of these States United"

NOTE: see attached documents for further details.

NOTE: Mr. Bundy’s email letter along with the Redress of Grievance was posted online on multiple web sites. It appeared to me this was done with the intent of provoking a response from Bundy Family followers and other militia type citizen groups, Mr. Bundy was successful in doing so.

December 11, 2015
Ryan Payne and Corey Lequieu came to the Harney County Sheriff’s Office and wanted to speak with me. During this conversation Ryan Payne introduced Corey Lequieu to me and referred to him as being "a ranger, like me." (Payne claims to have been an army ranger.)

During this conversation Mr. Payne stated "we met your parents through complete accident and they threatened our lives." I stated that did not sound like normal behavior for my parents, and asked him to please give me further details. Mr. Payne refused to elaborate on the subject and stated that he just wanted me to know my parents had threatened them.

NOTE: Mr. Payne was openly carrying a pistol on his hip at this time and stated he had come directly from the American Legion where he and friends had a verbal confrontation with [redacted].

Mr. Payne went on to state that [redacted] had said that I had received death threats from people supporting their (Bundy/Payne supporters) cause. Mr. Payne asked me if I believed he was involved in making the threats. Up to that point, I did not necessarily believe Mr. Payne to be directly behind the death threats received.

During this conversation I stated to Mr. Payne that I believed he would be man enough to look me in the eye and tell me whether or not he intended to take my life, Mr. Payne stated "I'm not here to discuss that right now."

Note: Based on my training and experience, most people would state they had no intent to have someone killed. Mr. Payne’s answer struck me as very unusual and I immediately felt that he did have knowledge of threats made.

Mr. Payne attempted to convince me that "the Feds" would send me threats in order to "poison" my mind against him. I discussed this with him for a few minutes and explained to him that I do take into consideration every avenue while looking into these things.
Toward the end of the conversation, Mr. Payne asked Mr. Lequieu to allow us to speak in private. Mr. Lequieu left and Mr. Payne asked if he and I could speak elsewhere, as he implied that my office could be bugged. Mr. Payne asked me to leave my cellphone as well, because "they" can listen through your phone.

I felt apprehensive about stepping outside of the office with Mr. Payne to speak with him, as I had recently received a courtesy copy of an email from Brooke Agresta in which some of the associated "Patriot" groups had been discussing my abduction and delivery into their hands for a trial on the charge of TREASON.

However, I did step outside of the sheriff's office where Mr. Payne and I had a private conversation. At this time, Mr. Payne stated to me that he felt the government is "going to come for me at some point" and wanted to know whether I "would stand with" or "against" him.

I told Mr. Payne "I will uphold the law." At this, Mr. Payne showed emotion in his eyes for the first time that I recall from any conversation clear back to November 5, 2015. Mr. Payne stated he was probably not going to come back to my office for any future conversations and left.

After Mr. Payne left the sheriff's office I contacted [name redacted] via phone. [name redacted] stated that [name redacted] were helping at the Burns, Harney County, Oregon when three men and a woman showed up. [name redacted] said they had looked around in the building and then stated it was a strange setup for a VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars.) [name redacted] stated these people were passing out flyers and making statements about "making that sheriff stand up and do his job." [name redacted] was the sheriff's mother and confronted them about their accusations that the sheriff doesn't do his job.

I asked [name redacted] at what point [name redacted] threatened their lives. [name redacted] said "I never threatened them." [name redacted] went on to state that [name redacted] had told them that threats had been made against me and that they would arm themselves and stand with me if anyone were to come after me. [name redacted] made the statement that a 45-70 would put a big hole in a person.

[Name redacted] went on to state that the only way they could have construed what [name redacted] had to say as a threat would be if they did indeed intend to come after me, the Harney County Sheriff, and do harm to me.

December 11, 2015
I received a letter from Lawyer for [name redacted]

[Name redacted] states that he has received information that Ammon Bundy has been communicating with the sheriff's office about Dwight and Steven Hammond. [Name redacted] states "I write to clarify that neither Ammon Bundy nor anyone within his group/organization speak for the Hammond Family, Dwight Hammond, or Steven Hammond. In addition, I wish to report to you that, as recently Ordered by the U.S. District Court, District of Oregon, Dwight Hammond and Steven Hammond intend to volu
December 15, 2015

Ammon Bundy leaves a notarized copy of their Redress of Grievance at the sheriff's office for me. Informs Lt. Needham that he will be back to demand an answer from me on the following day.

December 15, 2015

Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, BJ Soper, Jason Patrick, among others hold a town hall meeting at the Harney County Fair Grounds. During this meeting Ammon Bundy appoints/elects a Committee of Safety to represent all citizens of Harney County. Video evidence suggests there were approximately 20 or less Harney County Citizens in the room at the time of appointment. Furthermore, Mr. Bundy appointed seven people (Melody Molt, Travis Williams, Rick Habein, Tim Smith, Duane Schrock, Chris Briels, and Kevin Johnson) as a governing body with the authority to oversee the militia, convene grand juries, along with other governing type authorities.

NOTE: The appointment of a Committee of Safety can be found in U.S. History pre-revolution as can the Redress of Grievance. This evidence along with statements made by both Mr. Bundy and Mr. Payne suggest their intent is/was to re-create the steps leading up to the American Revolution. In an attempt to overthrow our current and existing form of government. This conspiracy is further supported multiple times by their followers/supporters on social media who often and openly cry for "revolution" and "civil war."

December 16, 2015

Ammon Bundy comes to the Harney County Sheriff's Office and requests to speak with me. On this date Ammon Bundy demands an answer from me regarding the Redress of Grievance he had sent via email and had notarized and delivered to my office.

I state to Mr. Bundy that a good portion of the grievances claimed had already been cleared up with documentation which I had provided to him and others. Mr. Bundy disputed the relevance based on his personal interpretation of the constitution.

I informed Mr. Bundy he also had not provided me with the documents and evidence which he claimed to have that would substantiate his arguments. Mr. Bundy sneered at me and said "I think we're beyond that now Sheriff."

During this conversation with Mr. Bundy I told him I did not want to discuss it with him without Mr. Payne present. Mr. Bundy stated he was not going to ask Mr. Payne to present himself, further stating that anything I needed to say to Payne could be relayed through him. I informed Mr. Bundy that was an issue, as everything I had said to Mr. Bundy up to this point had been distorted and/or misrepresented by Mr. Bundy. I stated to Mr. Bundy that he and Ryan Payne had started this together and could finish it together.

This statement seemed to upset Mr. Bundy and he said "Sheriff you're playing games, and I think you know... I don't play games." I stated to Mr. Bundy that I was not, nor do I play games. Mr. Bundy then stated "then let's just stick with the facts" and started in with his sovereign citizen propaganda.
With that I stated that I would get straight to the facts and pulled my bible out of my desk drawer and started to share with him some scriptures which conflicted with his behavior and anti-government agenda.

This seemed to anger Mr. Bundy and he collected everything he had laid out on my desk as quickly as possible and left my office immediately.

NOTE: Mr. Bundy came into my office referring to scripture. Throughout the course of dealing with this Bundy militia incursion into Harney County I had noticed that the Bundy Family and their followers often refer to scriptures to justify their anti-government stance. It has been my observation that with scriptures, much like the constitution and other laws, they only recognize the portions that seem to support their agenda.

December 17, 2016

1. stated that made five or six turns and the vehicle continued to follow them. noted that not only were they followed by the pickup, but that a passenger car continued to turn up paralleling them throughout town.

stopped in the middle of the street and confronted the female driver of the pickup about following her. said the woman stated it was a misunderstanding and she thought she had been following her friend. The description of the pickup and of the woman were similar to incidents involving other persons/vehicles involved with similar stalking type behaviors occurring in the community since the arrival of the militia type groups.

I escorted home to assure were not bothered again.

2. During the third week of December my wife, , stated that she had been followed around in Safeway in Burns, Harney County, Oregon while grocery shopping. was able to recognize Jason Patrick out of the group of four people. said that upon entry into the store four people, three men and one woman, saw and had a little huddle. stated the female in the group followed through the store standing nearby and attempting to listen in on conversations, to the point that other people interacted with noticed and asked who was following around. The woman remains unidentified and the men did not follow.

3. During the third week of December in Safeway in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. Upon entry into the store, I recognized a man from pictures on Bandon Curtiss’ Idaho III% facebook page in the store. While shopping in the store, several other men showed up in the store whom I also recognized as Idaho III% from social media research I had done. These gentlemen did not speak to or confront my family or I, but took turns walking past us on nearly
every isle in the store, to include lurking by as we attempted to converse with friends and neighbors.

4. While in the same Safeway store on that same grocery shopping trip I spoke with a Burns resident, [REDACTED], who told me he had put up a sign on a tree in his yard stating BUNDY GO HOME. The sign was fastened to the tree directly below a brightly lettered (black and orange) NO TRESPASSING sign. This gentleman stated to me that out of town Bundy supporters had walked past his NO TRESPASSING sign to knock on his door and confront him about his BUNDY GO HOME sign.

5. During the third week of December I stopped by to visit with [REDACTED]. Upon entry into their front room I noticed firearms leaned up in every corner [REDACTED] ruger 10-22 on a table with several high capacity magazines in it. I questioned [REDACTED] as to why they had these firearms out.

NOTE: This is extremely abnormal behavior

[REDACTED] informed me that two to three men in a black four wheel drive pickup with out of state plates had been showing up, parking and watching [REDACTED] and watching [REDACTED] as he would go check their mail.

6. On December 18, 2015 in the evening hours a local female [REDACTED], was leaving Safeway when she was approached by three males because she was wearing a BLM shirt. They called her a fucking bitch and cunt. They told her they were going to follow her home and burn her house down. She told Officer Tiller that she drove around for about an hour before returning home. She described the vehicle that they were driving as a big black pickup with no plates.

7. A similar vehicle was described as slowly driving by [REDACTED] home with the occupants yelling out the windows at him after he had created an anti-bullying facebook page directed at the Bundy/militia bullying and harassment which had started in our community after their arrival to the area beginning in November 2015.

NOTE:

The [REDACTED], stated to me that vehicle’s from out of the area had slowly driven past their home on multiple occasions. [REDACTED] stated to me that these vehicles would pull into their driveway at times, parking for 30-40 seconds and watch their home.

These actions caused enough stress for the family that they temporarily relocated out of the area due to the stress it was causing.

December 18, 2016
Ammon Bundy emails me a lengthy letter which he also posted online to solicit a response from Bun...
dy Family supporters.

Mr. Bundy states:
"That officers and military equipment have been transported to Harney County to aid in your personal security."

"these officers have been heavily armed, and that the personnel involved have been put on high alert and briefed to use force upon the people as they see fit."

"It is this over reaction for your personal protection that we write to you in disgust. Why have you placed yourself higher than the Hammond's and higher than the people of Harney County?"

The letter goes on to accuse me of failing to protect the Hammonds from the federal government, soliciting a personal protection detail, refusing to do an investigation, and multiple other things.

The letter ends:
"I offer awareness to you and other government personnel that lead or follow your example. The people are in unrest, because of these types of egregious actions. The establishment and purpose of government is to protect and uphold the inalienable rights of the PEOPLE, not to defend itself against the people. It is our duty and obligation as individuals to defend our God-given rights if our government representatives fail to do so, or try to discard them. We as a people desire to live in peace and tranquility, but will defend our freedoms if necessary, in order to do so. We call upon you Sheriff Ward, and all civil servants, to honorably and effectively uphold the oaths and duties of your sworn offices-to turn your weapons in the defense of the Hammond's rights and truly be a representative of the people, by the people and for the people.
Respectively,
Ammon"

NOTE: Mr. Bundy's accusations within this letter were outright lies and it appeared to have been written with the intent of sparking a response (possibly a violent response) from Bundy Family followers as well as other anti-government militia type groups.

December 21, 2015
I received an email from BJ Soper of the Central Oregon Constitutional Guard. In the email Mr. Soper states "I write you this evening to let you know that a plan is in place to hold a rally/march in Burns in support of the Hammond family and Harney County. This will happen on January 2nd."

CALLS TO ACTION were put out on multiple social media sites members of the militia type groups mentioned in this report.

December 23, 2015
[Redacted] in Big -R in Hines, Harney County, Oregon I noticed two men seemed to be following [Redacted] I around in the store. I recognized them as Jon Ritzheimer and Blaine Cooper. Both of these gentlemen had been very active on social media, putting out CALLS TO ACTION and CALLS TO ARMS.
As they walked past me for the last time in close proximity, I attempted to make eye contact with them, as I intended to confront them. Neither man would make eye contact with me as they walked by. They exited the store immediately as I was alerting to their presence.

Multiple times during the month of December I was followed from home to the office by vehicles with out of state plates. The first event was a silver colored SUV with Utah plates occupied by three men. The vehicle came speeding up from behind me after I called on duty and pulled onto the highway. The driver of this vehicle was blatantly following too close for approximately eight miles and then passed me in a 45 MPH zone in what I believe was an attempt to get me to pull them over.

There were no other persons on the highway who were put in danger and I decided not to engage the situation, as we had armed militants in town actively attempting to spark confrontation with law enforcement.

The following morning after I called on duty and pulled out of my driveway, a similar vehicle with multiple occupants again came speeding up from the rear at a high rate of speed. The vehicle again slowed down and was closely following me. I turned off of highway 20 south onto Old Experiment Road and cut across to highway 78. The vehicle following me continued on toward town on highway 20.

As I turned on to highway 78, I met a gray colored Subaru station wagon with Montana plates which turned around and followed me back into town.

Neither time was there a vehicle visible on the highway when I left my driveway. Based on my training and experience it is my observation that these vehicles were most likely parked off the side of the road waiting for me to come on duty. I also believe based on my training and experience that these are tactics used when conducting counter-surveillance.

During the month of December 2015 I found tire tracks in my driveway which did not belong to any vehicle I owned. The tire tracks showed an aggressive tread pattern and were similar to tracks found in the driveways of Sergeant Lucas McLain and Deputy Chris Nisbet. This evidence indicates that someone had been parking in our driveways during the hours of darkness, observing our homes.

December 29, 2015
Local law enforcement had received information that militia type groups in the area were planning to hold a meet and greet Tuesday the 29th at 8:30 at Ye Old castle in Burns. With the intentions of allowing people to meet and discuss local events and issues.

Sergeant Lucas McLain and I attended this event to gain an understanding of what they were attempting to do pertaining to the upcoming protest march they were promoting in our community. Sergeant McLain and I also attempted to clear up some of the mis-information being spread throughout our community by these people pertaining to the Hammond resentencing.

We also questioned why these people were putting out "calls to arms" on their social media pages if they were there to promote a peaceful protest. Several people present stated there were no "calls to arms" put out, but "calls to action." Sergeant McLain took out his phone and accessed Blaine Cooper
r's facebook page and read the "call to arms" which had been posted.

NOTE: some of the posts advocating the taking up of arms have since been removed by the people posting them.

Ammon Bundy and Jon Ritzheimer both gave speaking presentations during this event. Others present were Jason Patrick, BJ Soper, Corey Lequeiu, Blaine Cooper, among others.

Sergeant McLain and I also confronted them about the stalking type behaviors which their supporters had been showing since coming into our community. I specifically pointed out the harassing type behaviors against members of my family and other members of the community.

We attempted to encourage these folks to work through lawful channels to seek peaceful resolution to their perceived problems with our current government process.

This meet and greet was video recorded by members of their group, but to my knowledge had not been posted to the internet.

Throughout the month of December 2015
1. We held multiple law enforcement meetings regarding the militia type people and activities coming to and happening in the community.
2. We began gathering intelligence on the militia type groups and individuals entering into the community.
3. We began receiving information concerning the protest/rally being planned regarding to the Hammonds returning to prison.
4. Social media increased dramatically revolving around the situation with calls to arms and calls to action being put out by the militia type groups.

December 29, 2015
I was contacted by Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer in regard to the pending protest. Sheriff Palmer told me the protest route was coming very close to my office and jail facility. Sheriff Palmer offered to house my inmates for me in his jail during the protest.

December 30, 2015
All inmates housed in the Harney County Jail were transferred to the Grant County Jail in preparation for the upcoming protest.

January 1, 2016
I attended a New Year’s morning brunch in Burns. As we were getting ready to leave, came into the house and stated that there were two men in a pickup watching the house.
ing away from the house, parked up the two track trail beyond the end of the street. The vehicle was clearly out of place and did not belong there. This situation made me feel nervous and uneasy. We drove straight home and did not leave the house again on that date.

NOTE: On January 2, 2016 after the armed takeover of the refuge and while we had armed militants all over our community, my wife was taking our children and leaving home, due to the very real concern for the safety of law enforcement, federal employees, and their families. It was at this time my wife found her tire had been flattened.

Several days later the gentleman who fixed the tire at Les Schwab in Burns explained to .... that it appeared that someone had stabbed the tire with a round object similar in size to an ice pick, the hole had no debris, and appeared to be very intentional and consistent with a straight in and out stabbing motion. He further explained that it would have taken some time to go flat from the type of hole in the tire and we could have driven home from town on it.

January 1, 2016
I was contacted by Harney County Corrections Corporal Matt Githens and informed that someone had hand delivered a letter to the sheriff's office for me from Cliven Bundy. The letter addresses Dwight Hammond, Steven Hammond, and myself.

Cliven Bundy also emailed me a copy of the same letter. The letter stated:

"I, Cliven D. Bundy, have been involved for several weeks in the background striving to understand and comprehend your dilemmas in Harney County, Oregon."

In the letter Cliven Bundy give his interpretation of the events involved in the court case pertaining to Dwight and Steven Hammond, claiming the grass was burned on both sides of the fence, the Hammonds were exercising private property rights, and the United States government has no authority over such things within the boundaries of Harney County, Oregon.

The letter further states:
"It is my suggestion, Steven Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Dwight Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Harney County Sheriff David Ward, accept these two ranchers into your jail, notify the United States Solicitor in Washington DC that you have these two ranchers in Harney County jail, that they will remain there indefinitely under your protective custody and the protection of We the People of Harney County and We the People of the United States of America.

I suggest an Evidentiary Hearing or a Grand Jury be formed by We the People.

I feel that this action is immediately important, that it should be taken place before 10:00 am Saturday, January 2, 2016. I will hold these suggestions private until that time then I will release this letter to those having state and county jurisdiction and to the media.

Cliven D. Bundy"
January 2, 2016

Law enforcement conducted a meeting at Burns City Hall on the morning of the protest. The majority of our local law enforcement attended this meeting as well as eight additional Oregon State Police troopers.

During the meeting it was agreed for law enforcement officers to stay away from the protest and remain out of sight to prevent any type of escalation of the protest or confrontations with protestors. The goal was to allow the protestors to have a lawful and peaceful protest without interference.

Law enforcement resources available consisted of 25 total officers in the county at the time of the protest. Oregon State Police SWAT, FBI SWAT, and Malheur County Sheriff’s Office had SERT teams on standby in neighboring counties in the case they were needed.

A protest march/rally made up of approximately 300-500 people met in the Safeway parking lot in Burns, Harney County, Oregon. This group is led by Ammon Bundy, BJ Soper, Brandon Curtiss, and other militia and III% type people. The event was covered by Pete Santilli, a self-proclaimed member of the media, who broadcasted a live feed (not in real time) of the event.

The protest group marched from Safeway up Court Street and past the sheriff’s office. As the protestors marched by the sheriff’s office they threw pennies and other coins at the building. The throwing of the coins had been advertised on social media to represent the sheriff and other elected officials selling out the citizens. No windows were broken, however, it was later found that in some cases that the pennies were not taken out of the rolls prior to being thrown at the windows.

The protest route also went past the front of the courthouse where they threw pennies as well.

NOTE: there are pictures of Ammon Bundy with a large box of rolled pennies, passing them out to people in the Safeway parking lot on the day of the protest.

Due to our emergency contingency plan for dispatch, we were not able to move our dispatch center to an offsite location for this event. Therefore on the date of the event, I had 911 emergency dispatchers inside of the building which these people were throwing things at.

I also had six corrections deputies inside of the sheriff’s office, armed and ready to evacuate our 911 personnel into the jail in the case that the building became breeched. The deputies were ordered not to engage the protestors for any reason other than the protection of life and limb.

Armed Refuge Takeover

During the protest I received information from Sergeant Lucas McLain that he had just observed Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, Jon Ritzheimer, and several other unidentified people heading south on Highway 205 drive over Wright’s Point approximately 10 miles south of Burns. We later received information from Sergeant McLain that he and Deputy Dan Jenkins had witnessed this group of individuals getting out of vehicles at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.
Harney County Dispatch received a 911 call from a local resident, [redacted], who had been with the group who had conducted the armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. [redacted] stated that the group of armed men had taken over the Refuge using military tactics. [redacted] stated that he had walked away stating he wanted no part of it.

I was emailed screen shots of a facebook conversation [redacted] later had in which he described the armed takeover of the refuge.

[redacted] wrote:
"they took it at gun point"
"gun drawn I feared for my safety and how I could get away"
"I heard they say don’t fire unless fired upon"
"they ain’t here for peace they want to start a revolution"

NOTE: see attached documents for further details. It should also be noted that [redacted] has remained affiliated with the III% groups supporting this operation.

After the armed takeover of the refuge Lt. Needham and I were contacted by the President of the Josephine County Oathkeepers, Joseph Rice, and another member of his group.

During this contact Mr. Rice stated that Bundy and Payne had people "in the triple digits" on location at the refuge, insinuating that there were already more than 100 armed militants on site.

Mr. Rice and his associate told us that the armed militants had crew served weapons on site.

A crew-served[1] (crew-serve or crew service) weapon is any weapon system that requires a crew of more than one individual, as opposed to an individual service weapon, to function at optimum efficiency due to its operational complexity, such as requiring one person to load while another fires. The weight and bulk of the system often also necessitates multiple personnel for transportation. Crew-served weapons operated by infantry include high-precision/special application rifles, anti-materiel rifles, medium machine guns, heavy machine guns, automatic grenade launchers, mortars with calibers less than 120 mm (4.72 inches), anti-tank guns, anti-aircraft guns, recoilless rifles, shoulder-launched missile weapons, and static anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

NOTE: We had received information prior to the protest that persons affiliated with the militia groups supporting the protest were attempting to obtain access to a SAW (Squad Automatic Weapon)

A Squad Automatic Weapon is a fully automatic (machine gun) which can either be belt or magazine fed. This weapon has a cyclic rate of fire of 1000 rounds per minute.

Mr. Rice and his associate also stated that the armed militants on the refuge possibly had a .50 caliber sniper rifle and personnel who could effectively hit targets up to a mile away.

Taking the Malheur Wildlife Refuge gave the armed militants access to an approximately 100 foot tall lookout tower, approximately 20 buildings, vehicles, more than 1000 gallons of fuel, power, internet access, computers, and phones.
Based on Mr. Rice’s statements we knew there were possibly more than 100 militants, crew served weapons, and snipers in a 100 foot tower. Mr. Rice expressed to us that it would create an extreme officer safety threat to anyone attempting to go out and remove the militants from the refuge.

Intelligence would later show that initially 12-15 militants had been involved with the armed refuge takeover. The militants divided into several different squad type elements with one group maintaining control of the refuge and the other maintaining a presence in the community, continuing the previous displayed stalking/surveillance behaviors which had been used by these militant groups pre-takeover.

The second element stayed in local hotels such as the Silver Spur in Burns and the Sundowner in Hines, as well as staying in the homes of several local residents.

January 3, 2016
A conference call was conducted with Oregon State Sheriff’s to discuss a request for assistance.

Resources began arriving from Oregon Sheriffs, Oregon State Police, and the FBI.

A joint command post was set up in the school administration building consisting of personnel from Oregon Sheriffs, Oregon State Police, the FBI, along with personnel from several other agencies.

Patrol presence was increased in the community through the support of other sheriff’s offices, Oregon State Police, and city police departments from throughout Oregon. This increased patrol presence would continue through February 15, 2016.

January 3, 2016 I receive a message that former sheriff, Richard Mack, president of the Constitutional Sheriffs and Police Officers Association, needed me to call him.

When I called Mr. Mack, he informed me that he had participated in the protest march in Burns, Oregon on January 2, 2016. Mr. Mack told me he did not participate in the armed takeover of the refuge and did not condone it. Mr. Mack stated that Ammon Bundy had invited him out to the refuge, but after learning of the armed takeover, he did not go.

During my conversation with Mr. Mack he told me he had an idea of how I could get out from under this situation with the Hammond resentencing.

Mr. Mack continued on to tell me that I could take the Hammonds into my custody. Mr. Mack further stated that I could simply charge the Hammonds with crimes. Mr. Mack stated the Hammonds didn't really have to commit the crimes, I could just say they did. Then place them into jail, and tell “The Feds” they couldn't have them until our charges had been adjudicated.

Mr. Mack's suggestions significantly paralleled the letter I had received from Cliven Bundy on January 1, 2016.

**NOTE:** Following Mr. Mack's suggestions would not only be unethical, but illegal, and would violate Dwight and Steven Hammond's civil rights.
January 4, 2016
Dwight and Steven Hammond turned themselves in to federal prison in California.

I held a press conference addressing the fact that Dwight and Steven Hammond had turned themselves in to federal prison. During the press conference I told the armed militants to go home and end this peacefully.

After Dwight and Steven Hammond turned themselves in, Ammon and Ryan Bundy changed their reasoning for the continued armed occupation of the refuge to a property rights issue and began stating their mission was to return the refuge to the ranching community.

January 6, 2016
I held a town hall meeting at the Harney County Fairgrounds, which was attended by multiple people involved in the armed occupation of the refuge, including Pete Santilli.

It had been stated by Ryan Bundy that they would end the armed occupation of the refuge if the citizens wanted them to.

During the town hall meeting I specifically asked for a show of hands from citizens who wanted the armed occupiers to leave Harney County. An overwhelming majority of 300-500 people raised their hands asking the Bundy’s and their militia to go home.

This town hall meeting was video recorded and documented by multiple press outlets.

Some folks from the community asked that I speak with the Bundy’s and other armed occupiers in person to asked them to leave.

January 7, 2016
A meeting was set up with Ammon Bundy on neutral ground. Tillimook County Sheriff Andy Long, Malheur County Sheriff Brian Wolfe, and I met with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne on Lava Bed Lane, Princeton, Harney County, Oregon.

Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne arrived with an armed escort, as did I.

On this date I spoke directly with Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne. I offered to give them a safe escort out of the county and the state without fear of arrest in Oregon if they would leave peacefully.

This meeting with Bundy and Payne was video recorded and again documented by multiple press outlets. Rather than considering my offer of not being arrested and offering safe passage out of the State of Oregon, Ammon Bundy wanted to argue about federal land right issues and Redress of Grievance.

I told Ammon Bundy I was not there to argue, but to make that simple offer. I spoke with Ryan Payne as well while at that location.

I attempted to reason with both individuals and asked them to stop the armed occupation and to wor
They refused my offer and continued the armed occupation of the refuge, as well as their armed presence within the communities of Burns and Hines, in Harney County, Oregon.

Throughout the month of January 2016

(1) Several of the militia groups (Oathkeepers, PPN, Central Oregon Constitutional Guard, and III%) who had been involved with the situation prior to the armed takeover began showing up back in the community and providing an over watch and interference for the militants involved with the armed takeover and armed occupation of the refuge.

(2) The FBI had personnel housed at the BLM Helitac Building at the Burns Municipal Airport, Burns, Harney County, Oregon. For the safety of personnel housed at that location, the entrance to the airport was gated and guards were posted to prevent unauthorized persons from entering onto the premises. The militia groups had armed support members in Burns who frequently challenged the main gate of our command post located in the school admin building and the gate at the airport. They were often armed and wearing body armor when confronting law enforcement officers. These actions occurred regularly for several weeks.

NOTE: The armed militants showed a great deal of interest in the airport on January 2, 2016 and throughout the armed occupation, often making demands that the airport be vacated of law enforcement personnel.

After the armed takeover and occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, I feared that if law enforcement was not present at the airport, it could possibly be taken over as well.

(3) Two more town hall meetings were held at the Burns High School during the month of January 2016 to allow Harney County citizens a platform to speak about their feelings regarding to the armed takeover and continued armed occupation of the refuge.

Pete Santilli was removed from the first meeting and escorted out of the building for being disruptive.

During the second town hall meeting held at Burns High School approximately 50 militia members and refuge occupiers showed up including Ammon Bundy, Brian Cavalier, Blaine Cooper, Jon Ritzheimer, Sean Anderson, Ryan Bundy, and others involved in the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Approximately eight to ten of what appeared to be an advanced scouting team came in first and appeared to strategically position themselves in different areas amongst the crowd on both sides of the gym. Several of these people were disruptive and attempted to agitate the crowd.

A second and larger group of people came in shortly after the first, approximately 15-20 minutes after the town hall had begun. It was brought to my attention that many of these militants were armed, an
d the militants kept an armed security team outside of the school to intervene if law enforcement officers attempted to make arrests.

This action turned the town hall meeting into a volatile and potentially dangerous situation.

NOTE: these armed militants brought firearms into our high school while students were in the building.
The high school wrestling team was still conducting practice behind a plywood partition in the upstairs of the gym when the meeting occurred.

(4)
I attended a high school basketball game with Sheriff Gary Bettincourt. During the game members of several militia groups mentioned in this report showed up at the game. BJ Soper and a group of people who can be found in pictures on his facebook page lined themselves along the wall in close proximity to where I was sitting and several of them attempted to stare me down for a significant amount of time until the referee told them to move. This was noticed by several community members who asked me who the group of people staring me down were.

(5)
Received information that a militia affiliated person showed up in services at the Burns Christian Church wearing a firearm.

(6)
Intimidation and stalking behaviors continue against citizens who speak out against their agenda.

(7)
Members of the armed occupation began holding meetings in the community and surrounding communities to present their beliefs about government over-reach in an attempt to sway citizens of Harney County and surrounding communities into supporting their cause.

Law enforcement received information that members of the armed occupation were traveling to Grant County, Oregon. When this information came to light, Malheur County Sheriff Brian Wolfe contacted Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer at my request to let him know it was possible that Ammon Bundy, Ryan Payne, and Jon Ritzheimer were headed to his community.

Sheriff Wolfe relayed to me that Sheriff Palmer stated he had no knowledge of the armed occupation participants in his community. It was later reported that Sheriff Palmer had been meeting with these people in his community on that date.

Prior to January 26, 2016 law enforcement received information that Ammon Bundy and other leadership involved with the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge were planning on holding a town hall meeting in Grant County, Oregon on January 26, 2016.

January 26, 2016

(1)
A tactical traffic stop for the arrest of the leadership involved with the armed takeover and illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge was coordinated and conducted using resources from the Oregon State Police and the FBI.
The traffic stop and subsequent arrests took place on highway 395 north of Burns, in Harney County, Oregon as the leaders involved in the armed takeover and illegal occupation were heading to Grant County, Oregon for a town hall meeting.

This resulted in multiple suspects arrested and one suspect deceased.
NOTE: see Deschutes County Sheriff's Office investigation for further details of events surrounding this traffic stop and death.

Several other persons involved were arrested in the communities of Burns and Hines on that same date.

Subjects arrested and held in custody were transported directly to Multnomah County Jail.

After the arrests of the leadership were made, armed occupiers remaining at the refuge were informed that checkpoints were going to go in and anyone who wanted to leave would have approximately 12 hours to do so.

Multiple armed occupiers left the site on January 26, 2016.

January 27, 2016
At approximately 4:00 AM, all access to and from the refuge was stopped when FBI and Oregon State Police check points were installed on roads leading to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

I had a phone conversation on this date with Jason Patrick. During this conversation I offered to come and pick him up if he were willing to surrender to me. Mr. Patrick did not take me up on that offer. Mr. Patrick wanted to know if he was going to be arrested. I told him it was likely, however, some people coming off of the refuge were not being arrested, it depended on their level of involvement. Mr. Patrick did come off of the refuge and was taken into custody by the FBI. It was widely reported on social media by BJ Soper and other associated militants that Mr. Patrick was tricked into coming off of the refuge after being told he would not be arrested.

Over the next several days, multiple people who had remained on the refuge surrendered to authorities, or were allowed to leave.

Four armed occupiers remained on the refuge: David Fry, Jeff Banta, Sandy Anderson, and Sean Anderson.

January 26 - February 11, 2016
Negotiations continued with the four remaining armed occupiers.

The dispatched center received a high volume of calls from supporters of the Bundy/militia/armed occupation, including threats of violence and death threats to law enforcement officers.

Protests led by outside militia's increased in the community.

Sean Anderson, one of four remaining armed occupants, shoots at surveillance airplane. The armed occupiers video record the incident and put it on facebook.

February 11, 2016
The remaining four armed occupiers surrendered to FBI agents at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge after an intense standoff and negotiation.
**HARNEY COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

485 N COURT

BURNS, OR 97720

541-573-6156

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**Crime Incident (Primary, Secondary, Tertiary)**

999.991 AAA/ AGENCY ASSIST

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**Location of Incident** **HWY 395 C, , OR**

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**Synopsis**

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**SOLVABILITY**


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**Property List**

| Attached | N | Property Damage $ | $0.00 |

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**Investigation**

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**Investigation**

| Officer ID | Lucas Mclain | 40827 | Report Complete/Ready for Review | N | CAD/CFS Event # |

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**Assign To**

Lucas Mclain

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**Disposi**

OTHR

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**Date**

01/26/2016

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**Printed By/On:** 56567 / 07/17/2019 08 56:57

CrimeStar® Law Enforcement Records Management System

Licensed to: HARNEY COUNTY OR SHERIFF’S OFFICE

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Officer ID: Lucas Mclain

Reviewed By: 40827

Approved: Date
On January 26, 2016 I was on duty for the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. A plan was in place to arrest the lead members of the occupiers of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Agencies involved in the plan were the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Oregon State Police, and the Harney County Sheriff’s Office. I was tasked to be part of a two man transport team with Harney County Sheriff’s Office Lieutenant Brian Needham.

At approximately 1630 hours Lt. Needham and I staged at the weigh scales on Highway 20, just west of the Highway 20/Highway 395C junction. At approximately 1650 hours a request was made for an ambulance to respond to Highway 395C near mile post 51. A short time later a request was made for Highway 395C to be closed at the junction of Highway 395C and Highway 20. Lt. Needham and I responded and closed the highway until a marked unit could respond. After a short time two county deputies and an OSP trooper arrived on scene and continued to keep the highway closed.

At approximately 1730 hours Lt. Needham and I arrived at Mile Post 53-54 on Highway 395C. Four male individuals were handcuffed and standing near the shoulder of the road under armed guard. I recognized two of the males, from previous contacts, as Ammon Bundy and Ryan Payne. The other two would later be identified as Mark McConnell and Brian Cavalier. We were informed to proceed to approximately mile post 51 and pick up prisoners at that location then return to pick up the males at this location. We proceeded to the next scene and picked up two females from approximately mile post 51.

We arrived at mile post 51 a short time later and placed both females into the transport van. They were later identified as Shawna Cox and Victoria Sharp. After placing the two in the van we returned to the first scene and placed all four males in the van. We remained on scene for a couple of hours while waiting for the ambulance, which was transporting Ryan Bundy, and for escorts to arrive. An unknown law enforcement officer possibly from the FBI was riding in the ambulance with Ryan Bundy.

At approximately 1900 hours we began transporting the individuals to the Sage Hen Rest Stop located approximately 18 miles west of Hines, Oregon on Highway 20. At approximately 1930 hours we arrived at the hospital and dropped the ambulance and its occupants off. We then continued towards the rest stop. On the south side of Hines, Oregon, Lt. Needham and I heard Ammon Bundy speaking as if he was on a cell phone. The interior light was turned on and I looked in a mirror and it appeared Ammon was indeed talking on a cell phone. Lt. Needham got the attention of the lead escort vehicle and we stopped at the BLM Offices just outside of Hines. Ammon, Ryan Payne and Victoria Sharp were removed from the front seat and Lt. Needham began to search their persons. I checked the seat where Ammon was sitting and located a cell phone tucked between the backrest and the seat. After recovering the cell phone the three were placed back into the van and we continued to the rest stop with no further incidents. At approximately 2000 hours five of the prisoners were transferred over to FBI and OSP officers for further transport to the Portland, Oregon area. All individuals' property, including the cell phone, were given to those transporting the suspects. Victoria Sharp was transported back to the Harney County Sheriff’s Office where she was interviewed by FBI agents.

This concluded my involvement in this incident.
**CAD Event**

**Call Details**

- **Call Type**: 003 AMBULANCE
- **Priority**: 0

**Description**

C) LLED AND ADV HER 58 YO SON HAS SHOT HIMSELF AND IS IN THE FAMILY ROOM - ADV NOT BREATHING (HAS BLOOD COMING OUT OF HIS NOSE) - ADV FAMILY FRIEND IS WITH HIM NOW - C) WAS ADV TO NOT TOUCH OR HAVE ANYONE ELSE TOUCH ANYTHING

{(AT 2106 OFCR ELLIS REQ ME BE CALLED - CALLED BURRI ON CELL # - @ 2109 HRS BURRI CALLED AND INFO GIVEN})

{(AT 2119 HRS SHERIFF WARD - DA COLAHAN - DISPATCH SUPERVISOR WAS ADVISED})

{(OFCR BREWER ADV ME RELEASED BODY AND REQ LAFOLLETTE’S BE CALLED AND COME TO LOC - LAFOLLETTE’S WAS CALLED AND BE ENR - CHIEF DELANGE ADV THIS WILL BE AN UNATTENDED DEATH})

{(DECEASED PERSON/DOB/13)}

**Event Details**

- **Event #:** 1602280020
- **Print Date:** 07/17/2019
- **Agency:** HCSO
- **Beat:** HPD
- **Sector:** H
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- **State:** OR

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December 11, 2015

David M. Ward, Sheriff
Harney County, Oregon
485 North Court Avenue #6
Burns, Oregon 97720-1524
Phone: 541-573-6156
Telecopy: 541-573-8383
Email: dave.ward@co.harney.or.us

Re: Hammond Ranches, Inc.; Dwight Hammond; Steven Hammond

Dear Sheriff Ward,

I have had the pleasure of knowing the Hammond Family for nearly 25-years. I consider them friends. I have also had the privilege and continue to have that privilege of being the lawyer for Hammond Ranches, Inc. (“HRI”) related to its public land grazing preferences, public land grazing permit, and associated public land range improvements for several years. See 43 C.F.R. 1.3. HRI has and continues to be a good steward to the public lands, as well as their interrelated private lands.

I have received information that Ammon Bundy has communicated with you or your office about the Hammond Family, and specifically about Dwight Hammond and Steven Hammond. I write to clarify that neither Ammon Bundy nor anyone within his group/organization speak for the Hammond Family, Dwight Hammond or Steven Hammond. In addition, I wish to report to you that, as recently Ordered by the U.S. District Court, District of Oregon, Dwight Hammond and Steven Hammond intend to voluntarily report to the designated federal facility on January 4, 2016, as required.

I hope this letter is useful to you in understanding the position of the Hammond Family.

Very truly yours,

Schroeder & Lezamiz Law Offices, LLP

By  

W. Alan Schroeder
cc: Hammond Ranches, Inc.
Dwight Hammond
Steven Hammond
Dear Friends,
After a wonderful Thanksgiving Day with family and friends our hearts are full of gratitude and joy. We hope yesterday found you with family, friends, fun and food. We love this time of year. We wish we had better news for you on such a fun time of the year. However, Sheriff David Ward (the Hammonds sheriff) has unfortunately fallen to the influences of federal agents and has taken an adverse position against the Hammonds. When you have an officer of the law that does not understand the constitution and allows fear to drive him, the people are negatively affected. We would also like to warn anyone that has contacted the Sheriff; he has been feeding your information to the FBI. We have reached out to him several times over the last week to try to understand his motives, but he refuses to take our calls or answer our messages. His assistant has informed us that he is no longer accepting messages from the Hammond supporters.
For those who have received a letter from the Sheriff and would like to be able to understand it better, please read the email below prepared by a leader in Arizona. It is a clear explanation of the Sheriff’s lack of understanding.
Please be sure to understand that this battle is about a small powerful group of people using force to make all people live the way they want them to. This is the age-old battle of Force vs. Agency. If what is happening to the Hammonds is allowed, it will set a standard of what these powerful people will do to all of us. We must restore the Hammond’s rights and make sure these type of things do not happen in the future. Our children depend upon on us to act.
**Please Contact** the Oregon State Representatives and ask them to meet with the Hammonds at their ranch & home and find out what kind of people the Hammonds are and what this is really about.

State Representative Cliff Bentz (R)
900 Court St NE H-475
Salem, OR 97310
Phone: (503) 986-1460
Email: rep.cliffbentz@state.or.us

State Senator Ted Ferrioli (R)
900 Court St NE S-323
Salem, OR 97310
Phone: (503) 986-1730
Email: sen.teferrioli@state.or.us

May all of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving week,
The Bundy Family
For more info visit: bundyranch.blogspot.com

P.S. The Hammonds will not be in Burns for the Thanksgiving week. Let us give them this time to be together in peace.

Thanks everyone for the quick support you have offered for the Hammonds. The Sheriff has received an overwhelming # of emails already in support of the Hammonds. Many of you emailed the Sheriff recently have received an email clarifying which side of the fence the sheriff is on. It appears he currently stands with the BLM and their unconstitutional jurisdiction of the land.

The Burns county sheriff's email has brought up many questions in regard to what this fight is all about raising many questions about the Hammonds. From emails we have received from Ammon, it appeared this issue was clear cut and all about Rancher's vs BLM, personal property rights vs agenda 21 & the sustainability movement, states rights vs federal control etc. Then we received this transcript of the court proceedings and it appears to some now that it is not that clear cut. Well, I've read and reread the court proceeding transcript and it is clear to me that Ammon's emails were not misleading.


First let's acknowledge what was said in the court by the prosecutor that greatly effect the jury's decision and influenced many who just read the court proceedings. The concerning accusations brought against the Hammond's in this transcript that most had not heard about include poaching, starting a fire to burn the evidence, and endangering firefighters in the process. That sounds pretty bad. Who would stand behind such hardened criminals? No one. We definitely don't support such actions and would not want to be found supporting those who did such things right? Of course not. The interesting thing though, they were not convicted of any of these accusations. They were accused of these actions but never convicted for lack of evidence. The evidence simply wasn't there. The Game and Fish found no evidence and anyone knows a grass fire could not burn a carcass. It may singe the hair off but it wouldn't even cook the meat medium well.

After reading these accusations and the court proceedings, it is perfectly clear that the Hammond's were not convicted for anything other than what Ammon Bundy said they were convicted for - two fires - one permitted prescribed burn that got out of control onto BLM land before the Hammonds put it out, and for starting a back burn without BLM permission to save their own property from multiple naturally started lighting range fires.

The federal judge said he would not be putting the Hammonds back in jail for 5 years if he had the discretion to put them in for less time. He said his hands are tied because of the law. I don't believe a judge would say that if he thought the Hammond's were really poachers and started a fire to burn the evidence. Clearly it was never proven in the mind of the judge. Even the prosecutor made it clear multiple times that he was
not pushing for more than the minimum sentence for the Hammonds. I don't believe that would be the case if the prosecutor himself really believed the Hammond's were poachers as well as arsons and guilty of attempting to cover the evidence ect. with an even worse crime of arson. That doesn't even make sense.

Prosecutor:
"Now, some folks don't know it, but the U.S. Probation Office is recommending the 70-month sentence, which is longer than I am recommending of 60, for Steven Hammond, and the probation office here, who looked at this case, is asking for Dwight Hammond to serve three months longer than 60 months, which I am not agreeing to."
"60 months is enough. It's the minimum that's mandated by a statute that Congress passed, the President signed, and the U.S. Attorney's Office is obligated to enforce."
Judge:
"Again, we are a system of laws, system of laws, and if we are given discretion, we will use it, but in this instance I don't feel I have that discretion."

Both the Judge and the prosecutor on the other hand both admit the Hammonds are good people but feel they have to follow the law regardless.

Prosecutor:
"Now, back in October 2012, I stood up and said good things about these men because you can tell by all the folks in the courtroom, they have done wonderful things for their community. They are hard-working people. 4-H. They have done -- they have donated some of their beef. They have had Oregon State folks come out. For most people in Burns, they are spoken of highly, and I have spent a lot of time in Burns. I also spent a lot of time above and on the land."

So what is this all about then? After reading the transcript and the judges summary it is clear that it is about exactly what Ammon said this was about. The unjust and unconstitutional federal law and BLM jurisdiction which the prosecutor even admits has done more harm than good to the land.

Prosecutor:
"Now, the Hammonds, especially Steven, thinks that burning this land, and they even offered the exhibit that shows that the BLM burns it to get rid of invasive species. That's true. We didn't dispute that. And there is a lot of folks that want to argue BLM
did a bad job burning that property when they are trying to make it better, and they can argue that all they like. Maybe they are right."

Prosecutor: "Now, they may think BLM mismanaged them, and I know Steven Hammond said that repeatedly, and they are entitled to their opinion. But they are not entitled to burn the property. It's not theirs. It's the public's. And that's why they are here today.

These are very telling statements by the judge that clarify his anti personal property beliefs and strong belief in government ownership of all land.

Judge: "Now, there are decisions. The congress and the legislature and the initiative process make a lot of decisions and we are obligated to follow those. But when I think back of what really this is all about is we hold all these resources in trust for the next people to come after us, and are we leaving them with as many opportunities as we have all had?"

Judge: "So you don't celebrate by dropping matches anywhere, if that's what happened. You don't just drop matches everywhere. You know that. But more importantly, you have respect when you have the privilege, the privilege of using public lands to make a livelihood."

Judge: "But you don't have the right to make decisions on public lands when it's not yours and there are processes and laws in place that give you an opportunity to engage the governmental bodies to preserve that land. Now, I don't subscribe to the theory that we just get to own everything. We hold it as people in public trust for the next generations."

This is what the judge intends for the Hammonds learn from their long prison sentence. Become subjects and recognize your place in the new order of things.

Judge: "So I suspect you are going to make contributions when you go back into the community that perhaps you will be able to talk to people about making better choices and to be
respectful and to build relationships with those organizations, those governmental agencies, those individuals who are trying their best to do what's expected, and that is be great stewards for the next generation of the lands."

What is clear is the Courts make it nearly impossible for the Hammonds to keep the land so it will fall into the hands of the BLM forever.

Judge:
"Upon release from confinement from the institution, you will serve a three-year term of supervised release. I am willing to take a look at that down the road. Those terms and conditions are general and they are set by probation.
The special conditions are as follows:
You shall disclose all assets and liabilities to your probation officer and shall not transfer, give away, or otherwise convey any asset with a fair market value in excess of $500 without approval of the probation officer.
You shall not make application for loans, enter into any credit arrangement, or enter into a residential or business lease agreement without approval of your probation officer.
You shall authorize to the U.S. Probation Office any and all financial information by executing a release of financial information form or by any other appropriate means as directed by your probation officer."

Next, you shall have no contact with the Bureau of Land Management employees in person, by telephone, through correspondence or a third party or enter land owned by the Bureau of Land Management without prior approval of your probation officer. If you have a need, you certainly need to make contact, and that will be, I am sure, afforded you for the purpose requested.
Next, you are to abide by a civil settlement with the Bureau of Land Management; in this case, specifically payment of $400,000, the balance of which will be paid in full -- is that --December of 2015."

I hope this helps to clarify what the judge and prosecutor believe this is all about. We know what many of these ranchers are standing for - The Constitution and preserving freedom and liberty and the opportunities that we want to preserve for future generations. Keep up the good fight.

2 Timothy 4:7
7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Alma 43:45
45 Nevertheless, the Nephites were inspired by a better cause, for they were not fighting for monarchy nor power but they were fighting for their homes and their liberties, their wives and their children, and their all, yea, for their rites of worship and their church.

Rusdon Ray
GER Drafting Services
2243 E. Claxton
Gilbert, AZ 85297
(480)988-2472 Office
www.houseplansinaweek.com

The Defenders of Liberty
God - Religion - Freedom - Peace - Family
With great concern and love and much consideration from prayer, I come to you Harney County Sheriff of Oregon David M. Ward, rancher Steven Dwight Hammond, and rancher Dwight Lincoln Hammond, Jr.,

I, Cliven D. Bundy, have been involved for several weeks in the background striving to understand and comprehend your dilemmas in Harney County, Oregon. I understand that the grass that was burnt on each side of the fence was grazing rights that had been created through beneficial use, one side of the fence being private property and the other side of the fence being private property rights. The fires that were set were for a good purpose and had good results.

The United States Justice Department has NO jurisdiction or authority within the State of Oregon, County of Harney over this type of ranch management. These lands are not under U.S. treaties or commerce, they are not article 4 territories, and Congress does not have unlimited power. These lands have been admitted into statehood and are part of the great State of Oregon and the citizens of Harney County enjoy the fullness of the protections of the U.S. Constitution. The U.S. Constitution limits United States government.

It is my suggestion, Steven Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Dwight Hammond, that you go and check yourself into Harney County jail asking for protective custody. It is my suggestion, Harney County Sheriff David Ward, accept these two ranchers into your jail, notify the United States Solicitor in Washington DC that you have these two ranchers in Harney County jail, that they will remain there indefinitely under your protective custody and the protection of We the People of Harney County and We the People of the United States of America.
I suggest an Evidentiary Hearing or a Grand Jury be formed by We the People.

I feel that this action is immediately important, that it should be taken place before 10:00 am Saturday, January 2, 2016. I will hold these suggestions private until that time then I will release this letter to those having state and county jurisdiction and to the media.

Cliven D. Bundy
Sheriff David Ward,

Please review and understand the NOTICE: Redress of Grievance as attached. We expect action to be taken to defend the rights of the people in Harney County. We have many resources to assist and informing you of how an Evidential Hearing Board works.

As we have spoken before, the federal government does not have authority to administer property inside a State (Article 1 Section 8 Clause 17). The proper authority to prosecute the Hammond’s is the County not the U.S. Government. The County DA took a look at the charges and decided not to prosecute. The issue should have ended at that point.

As you know the Hammond's have not been dealt with justly, they are not Terrorist, they did not malicious start the fires. Federal agents have verbally expressed desire for the Steen Mountain ranch to add to their already unconstitutional control. They have been vindictive towards the Hammonds for years, and have found an excuse in the fires to ruin them so the Hammond’s would be forced to sell. This is a much more of a significant problem than the Hammond case alone.

Informed People in Harney County and across these United States will not allow this action to take precedent or continue. It is your job to make sure justice is administered. The people do not want to protect justice for you.

I hope you will take the right action,

Ammon Bundy
December 14, 2015

Dear Sheriff David Ward, - Harney County

I have received information through multiple sources that you, in conjunction with federal agencies, have enlisted, the state, and five surrounding counties to come to your protection. That officers and military equipment have been transported to Harney County to aid in your personal security. That these officers have been heavily armed, and that the personnel involved have been put on high alert and briefed to use force upon the people as they see fit. It is to our understanding that this call out to your brothers in blue is being justified because of a personal threat directed to you, by way of an email, that you do not know who made the threat, and have no lead other than the email source.

It is this over reaction for your personal protection that we write to you in disgust. Why have you placed yourself higher than the Hammond’s and higher than the people of Harney County? Why will the brothers in blue waist no time, spare no expense, and leave no effort untouched for the protection and defense of each other, meanwhile, completely ignore the very people that they are charged to defend? Why do the brothers in blue take the people’s money by force and purchase military equipment and arms in the name of protecting the people, only to use it on the people themselves?

The irony is too strong to ignore. The danger is too real. The Hammond’s have been unjustly charged as “terrorists”... they are ranchers. Their safety and well-being has been directly threatened by a federal agent in an open manner. They have been subject to double jeopardy. They have been sentenced to a cruel and unusual punishment. In an effort to put in duress, they have been required to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in a very short period of time. Their private water sources have been fenced off. They have been threatened with unauthorized force if they put to use hundreds of acres of their own private property. All of this has transpired right before your eyes and you lift not even a brow in their defense. You have never even been to the Hammond’s home or ranch to find the truth; you have yet to go where the fires occurred to understand the circumstances. You have exhausted minimal resources, if any at all, to get to the bottom of what is going on. And yet an email, which probably came from clear across the United States, from a half witted keyboard warrior, made an idle threat to you, and immediately the feds, the state and five county departments come unglued and tactically assemble in an unstable manner with weapons pointed at the people.

It is shameful that someone as powerful as you act the way you have. It is alarming that you make no effort to uphold the duties and obligation of your office. Almost your entire adult life, you have sworn an oath to uphold and defend the United States Constitution. You have also been appointed to protect the lives, liberties and property of the people who live and come into Harney County. When we called upon you to provide that protection, you refused—and instead chose to seek more favor and power by collaborating with the violators, forgetting your duty to the people.

I offer awareness to you and other government personnel that lead or follow your example. The people are in unrest, because of these types of egregious actions. The establishment and purpose of government is to protect and uphold the inalienable rights of the PEOPLE, not to defend itself against the people. It is our duty and obligation as individuals to defend our God-given rights if our government representatives fail to do so, or tries to discard them. We as a people desire to live in peace and tranquility, but will defend our freedoms if necessary, in order to do so. We call upon you Sheriff Ward, and all civil servants, to honorably and effectively uphold the oaths and duties of your sworn offices—to turn your weapons in the defense of the Hammond’s rights and truly be a representative of the people, by the people and for the people.

Respectfully,
Ammon Bundy
NOTICE TO HARNEY COUNTY SHERIFF

To Harney County Sheriff David M. Ward
485 N. Court Ave. #6
Burns, OR 97720

CC Oregon Governor Kate Brown
160 State Capitol
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Mailed Certified & Emailed to the above
Internet to the World

Dear Sheriff Ward,

This is notice that We the People of Harney County and also We the People of the citizens of the United States DO GIVE NOTICE THAT WE WILL RETAIN POSSESSION OF THE HARNEY COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER. (Malhaur National Wildlife Refuge)

Remove all federal and state policing agents out of Harney County.

Place a Harney County sheriff guard post at the entrance road of the Harney County Resource Center stopping all from entering or exiting, for a time.

I SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING REPRESENTATIONS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE, AND BELIEF.

2/1/16
Date

Cliven D. Bundy

WITNESSED BY:

Mayra P. Cuellar
Notary Public • State of Nevada
Appointment Recorded in Clark County
No. 04-91055-1 Expires December 1, 2016
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CASE NO: 1:16-CV-1490
Dated February 16, 2018

EVIDENCE: 649 PAGES & 27 VIDEO LINKS (CD AVAILABLE), ATTACHED

Filed February 16, 2018 in the above said court with Copies sent to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Senator Chuck Grassley and President Donald Trump. This is a case of murder, wrongful prosecution, abuse of powers and subversion by enemies domestic against We the People of the United States of America.

INDICTMENT

WE THE PEOPLE

- AGAINST -


INDICTMENT
We the Grand Jury charge Hillary Clinton, Harry Mason Reid, BLM Special Agent in Charge Daniel Love for Utah and Nevada, Attorney General Loretta Lynch, FBI Director James Comey, Oregon Governor Katherine Brown, FBI Special Agent Gregory T. Bretzing, Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton, Sheriff David Ward, Judge Steven Grasty, FBI Agent W. Joseph Astarita, and numerous John/Jane Doe(s) from multiple agencies (To be identified) which include, but are not limited, to the Local Police, State Police, BLM, FBI and NGO Contractors with:

- RICO.
- Murder, wrongful prosecution, abuse of powers and subversion
- 18 USC §241 Conspiracy against Rights, resulting in murder of LaVoy Finicum, thereby we seek the death penalty.
- 18 USC §242; Deprivation of rights under color of law, resulting in murder of LaVoy Finicum death, thereby we seek the death penalty.
- 18 USC §1001 knowingly and willfully falsifying and concealing material fact, knowingly and willfully falsifying and concealing material fact, making materially false statements seeking 8 years imprisonment. (All officers state or federal and the governor are part of the executive branch. The Sheriff, Attorney General and Judge are part of the judicial branch).
- 42 USC 1983 Civil Action for Deprivation of Rights, Grand Jury seeks restitution for all victims as per the Petit Jury Judgment, to fulfil the Common Law Maxim - for every injury there must be a remedy.
- 42 USC §1986 Action for neglect to prevent, the Jury is to be aware of their power of nullification and thereby have the authority to reward any amount.
- 18 USC §1117 Conspiracy to murder, LaVoy Finicum and others, thereby we seek life imprisonment.
- 18 USC §1111 Murder, the Grand Jury seeks murder in the first degree, thereby we seek the death penalty.
- 18 U.S. Code §2331 Domestic Terrorism for conspiring to put out the order to escalate the peaceful protest to bloodshed as a solution and an ending of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge peaceful demonstrations, resulting in the death of LaVoy Finicum, and attempted murder of others as well as the subsequent cover up.

INDICTMENT

- Jury Tampering (Stacking),
- Wrongful prosecution, abuse of powers and subversion,
- 18 USC §241 - Conspiracy against Rights,
- 18 USC §242 - Deprivation of rights under color of law,
- 18 USC §1001 - knowingly and willfully falsifying and concealing material facts,
- 42 USC 1983 - Civil Action for Deprivation of Rights,
- Denying the defendant’s right of Habeas Corpus and conspiring to manipulate the jury to achieve a guilty plea in the Nevada Bundy Ranch Trial, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Trial and the Hammonds Trial.

We the Grand Jury charge, that on January 26, 2016 in Harney County, Oregon law enforcement officers acting under the color of law ambushed LaVoy Finicum and others that were on their way to meet with Sheriff Glenn Palmer, who was trying to end the peaceful, lawful unarmed demonstration without bloodshed, while they were traveling on a remote highway away from the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

After LaVoy Finicum and others stopped for the FBI and police that pulled up behind them they were shot at for no apparent reason thereby provoking LaVoy Finicum and others to flee for their lives. While being pursued up to 90 miles per hour causing LaVoy Finicum and others to crash into a dead man’s roadblock hidden around a curve. Whereas the vehicles that forced the high speed chase, knowing there was a road block around the curve, applied their brakes with ample time to stop. Then LaVoy Finicum with hands up exited his vehicle while numerous shots were fired at him and then was brutally murdered in cold blood by FBI, police, federal agents and others.
We the Grand Jury find that the demonstrators were acting lawfully, peacefully and were unarmed. We found that the demonstrators were restoring the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge buildings and artifacts that were in serious neglect and decay while in the hands of the BLM, the supposed custodians. We found that the demonstrators were not threatening and were in peaceful communications with the towns people and law enforcement until the order came from Washington to end the demonstration with violence.

We the Grand Jury find that a vast conspiracy was in play that lead up to the murder of LaVoy Finicum and the unlawful arrest and prosecution of many innocent People in order to remove American ranchers, miners and loggers from their lawful right of land usage in order to sell uranium and other land usage to foreign entities, for gain.

We the Grand Jury charge Hillary Clinton and Harry Mason Reid with conspiring to sell We the Peoples’ uranium and to use or sell We the Peoples’ land to foreign states or entities which was the cause for intimidating and terrorizing American Ranchers, American Miners and American Loggers in order to force them off the We the Peoples land and by-conspiring with Attorney General Loretta Lynch and FBI Director James Comey to stop the peaceful demonstration that was exposing their acts of RICO and subversion against We the People.

We the Grand Jury find that Congress had two in-depth committee hearings and therein was fully informed of these tyrannical atrocities, orchestrated by the deep state, that started at least in the 1980’s, thereby Congress was formally aware of the "Threat, Intimidation & Bullying by Federal Land Managing Agencies" and, did nothing. Whereas, Congress could have denied BLM funding thereby ending the acts of terrorism and preventing the said atrocities and/or bring this to the attention of We the People, via Grand Jury.

We the Grand Jury charge Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton, Judge Steven Grasty, Harney County Sheriff David Ward, United States Attorney General Loretta Lynch, FBI Director James Comey, and Oregon Governor Katherine Brown with conspiring to do whatever was necessary to remove the People from our land through intimidation, conspiracy to commit murder, abuse of powers, subversion, terrorizing, burning grazing areas, cattle and homes, and wrongful imprisonment, as well as the subsequent cover up of these wrongdoings
We the Grand Jury charge FBI Special Agent Gregory T. Bretzing, BLM Special Agent in Charge Daniel Love, and FBI Agent John Doe #1 (sent from Washington to end the peaceful demonstration) all acting under the color of law with conspiracy to commit murder, abuse of powers, and subversion by setting up an ambush using an illegal dead man’s road block with the intent to murder LaVoy Finicum and others in cold blood.

We the Grand Jury charge Agent/Officer Sniper #1 (as identified by Peter O’s video analysis) at first stop along highway 395, about one mile before the dead man’s road block, who Shot at LaVoy after he stopped his automobile and tried to communicate, thereby forcing LaVoy and others to flee for their lives and for taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.

We the Grand Jury charge Agent/Officer Chaser (as identified by Peter O’s video analysis) who forced LaVoy Finicum to admitted speeds up to 90 mph knowing that there was a dead man’s road block just over a mile away and with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.

We the Grand Jury charge the Oregon State Police Sniper (as identified by Peter O’s video analysis) who shot 3 shots at LaVoy’s truck after LaVoy saw the road block and was attempting to stop with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy. These shots were made to assure he would not stop in time.

We the Grand Jury charge the Agent/Officer Shooter # 4 (as identified by Peter O’s video analysis) who shot at LaVoy while he was crashing into the snow bank with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.

We the Grand Jury charge the Agent/Officer Shooter(s) (as identified by Peter O’s video analysis) who shot numerous shots at LaVoy after he exited the truck with hands up with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.

We the Grand Jury charge the Agents/Officers Shooters 1 through 7 (as identified in the video analysis of Peter O) with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.

We the Grand Jury charge numerous John/Jane Doe(s) from multiple agencies (To be identified) which include, but are not limited, to the Local Police, State Police, BLM, FBI and NGO Contractors who participated in the planning, set up and execution of LaVoy with taking part in and being complaisant in the murder of LaVoy.
We the Grand Jury charge FBI Agent W. Joseph Astarita with participating in the planning, set up and execution of LaVoy and fired two shots at LaVoy Finicum.

We the Grand Jury find that all of the aforesaid Agents/Officers acted under the color of law with the intent to murder LaVoy Finicum and others in cold blood while they were in route on highway 395 to meet with Sheriff Glenn Palmer who was trying to end the lawful demonstration without bloodshed.


conspiring to manipulate the jury to achieve a guilty plea in the Oregon Hammons Trial and willfully causing the Hammons to suffer double jeopardy.

We the Grand Jury, in the interest of Justice, DEMAND that Attorney General Jeff Sessions ACT immediately in the process of releasing the Hammons and others in the Bundy and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge trials that were coerced into taking a plea, and remain unjustly incarcerated; This Grand Jury has already filed Habeas Corpus’s in all these three cases in which officers from all three courts blatantly ignored and concealed from the record; thereby all being already in default because they did not respond to the Habeas Corpus. Therefore, in the interest of Justice, all political prisoners should be released immediately.

FACTS & EVENTS

THE HAMMOND CASE In 1964 the Hammonds purchased their ranch in the Harney Basin. The purchase included approximately 6000 acres of private property, 4 grazing rights on public land, a small ranch house and 3 water rights. The ranch is about 53 miles South of Burns, Oregon.

By the 1970’s nearly all the ranches adjacent to the Blitzen Valley were purchased by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and added to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge covers over 187,000 acres and stretches over 45 miles long and 37 miles wide. The expansion of the refuge grew and surrounds the Hammond’s ranch. Being approached many times by the FWS, the Hammonds refused to sell. Other ranchers also choose not to sell.

During the 1970’s the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), took a different approach to get the ranchers to sell. Ranchers were told that, “grazing was detrimental to wildlife and must be reduced”. 32 out of 53 permits were revoked and many ranchers were forced to leave. Grazing fees were raised significantly for those who were allowed to remain. Refuge personnel took over the irrigation system claiming it as their own.

By 1980 a conflict was well on its way over water allocations on the adjacent privately owned Silvies Plain. The FWS wanted to acquire the ranch lands on the Silvies Plain to add to their already vast holdings. Refuge personnel intentionally diverted the water thereby

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bypassing the vast meadowlands and directed the water into the rising Malheur Lakes. Within a few short years the surface area of the lakes doubled. Thirty-one ranches on the Silvies Plains were flooded. Homes, corrals, barns and graze-land were washed away and destroyed. The ranchers that once fought to keep the FWS from taking their land, now broke and destroyed, begged the FWS to acquire their useless ranches. In 1989 the waters began to recede and now the once thriving privately owned Silvies Plains are part of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge claimed by the FWS.

By the 1990’s the Hammonds were one of the very few ranchers that still owned private property adjacent to the refuge. Susie Hammond, in an effort to make sense of what was going on, began compiling facts about the refuge. In a hidden public record she found a study that was done by the FWS in 1975. The study showed that the “no use” policies of the FWS on the refuge were causing the wildlife to leave the refuge and move to private property. The study showed that the private property adjacent to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge produced 4 times more ducks and geese than the refuge did. It also showed that the migrating birds were 13 times more likely to land on private property than on the refuge. When Susie brought this to the attention of the FWS and refuge personnel, her and her family became the subjects of a long train of abuses and corruptions.

In the early 1990’s the Hammonds filed for a livestock water source and obtained a deed for the water right from the State of Oregon. When the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) found out that the Hammonds obtained new water rights near the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, they were agitated and became belligerent and vindictive towards the Hammonds. The US Fish and Wildlife Service challenged the Hammonds right to the water in an Oregon State Circuit Court. The court found that the Hammonds legally obtained rights to the water in accordance to State law and therefore the use of the water belongs to the Hammonds.

In August 1994, the BLM & FWS illegally began building a fence around the Hammonds water source. Owning the water rights and knowing that their cattle relied on that water source daily, the Hammonds tried to stop the building of the fence. The BLM & FWS called the Harney County Sheriff department and had Dwight Hammond (Father) arrested and charged with "disturbing and interfering with" federal officials or federal contractors (two counts, each a felony). He spent one night in the Deschutes County Jail in Bend, and a second night behind bars in Portland before he was brought before a federal magistrate and released without bail. A hearing on the charges was postponed and the federal judge never set another date.

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The FWS also began restricting access to upper pieces of the Hammond’s private property. In order to get to the upper part of the Hammond’s ranch they had to go on a road that went through the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. The FWS began barricading the road and threatening the Hammonds if they drove through it. The Hammonds removed the barricades and gates and continued to use their right of access. The road was proven later to be owned by the County of Harney. This further enraged the BLM & FWS.

Shortly after the road & water disputes, the BLM & FWS arbitrarily revoked the Hammond’s upper grazing permit without any given cause, court proceeding or court ruling. As a traditional “fence out state” Oregon requires no obligation on the part of an owner to keep his or her livestock within a fence or to maintain control over the movement of the livestock. The Hammonds intended to still use their private property for grazing. However, they were informed that a federal judge ruled, in a federal court, that the federal government did not have to observe the Oregon fence out law. “Those laws are for the people, not for them”.

The Hammonds were forced to either build and maintain miles of fences or be restricted from the use of their private property. Cutting their ranch almost in half, they could not afford to fence the land, so the cattle were removed.

The Hammonds experienced many years of financial hardship due to the ranch being diminished. The Hammonds had to sell their ranch and home in order to purchase another property that had enough grass to feed their cattle. This property included two grazing rights on public land. Those were also arbitrarily revoked later. The owner of the Hammond’s original ranch passed away from a heart attack and the Hammonds made a trade for the ranch back.

In the early fall of 2001, Steven Hammond (Son) called the fire department, informing them that he was going to be performing a routine prescribed burn on their ranch. Later that day he started a prescribed fire on their private property. The fire went onto public land and burned 127 acres of grass. The Hammonds put the fire out themselves. There was no communication about the burn from the federal government to the Hammonds at that time. Prescribed fires are a common method that Native Americans and ranchers have used in the area to increase the health & productivity of the land for many centuries.

In 2006 a massive lightning storm started multiple fires that joined together inflaming the countryside. To prevent the fire from destroying their winter range and possibly their home, Steven Hammond (Son) started a backfire on their private property. The backfire was successful in putting out the lightning fires that had covered thousands of acres within a short
period of time. The backfire saved much of the range and vegetation needed to feed the cattle through the winter. Steven’s mother, Susan Hammond said, “The backfire worked perfectly, it put out the fire, saved the range and possibly our home.”

The next day federal agents went to the Harney County Sheriff’s office and filed a police report making accusation against Dwight and Steven Hammond for starting the backfire. A few days after the backfire a Range-Con from the Burns District BLM office asked Steven if he would meet him in town (Frenchglen) for coffee. Steven accepted. When leaving he was arrested by the Harney County Sheriff Dave Glerup and BLM Ranger Orr. Sheriff Glerup then ordered him to go to the ranch and bring back his father. Both Dwight and Steven were booked on multiple Oregon State charges. The Harney County District Attorney reviewed the accusation, evidence and charges, and determined that the accusations against Dwight & Steven Hammond did not warrant prosecution and dropped all the charges.

In 2011, 5 years after the police report was taken, the U.S. Attorney Office accused Dwight and Steven Hammond of completely different charges, they accused them of being “Terrorist” under the Federal Antiterrorism Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996. This act carries a minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum sentence of death. Dwight & Steven’s mug shots were all over the news the next week posing them as “Arsonists”. Susan Hammond (Wife & Mother) said, “I would walk down the street or go in a store, people I had known for years would take extreme measures to avoid me.”

Shortly after the sentencing, Capital Press ran a story about the Hammonds. A person who identified as Greg Allum posted three comments on the article, calling the ranchers “clowns” who endangered firefighters and other people in the area while burning valuable rangeland. Greg Allum, a retired BLM heavy equipment operator, soon called Capital Press to complain that he had not made those comments and request that they be taken down from the website. Capital Press removed the comments. A search of the Internet Protocol address associated with the comments revealed it is owned by the BLM’s office in Denver, Colorado. Allum said he is friends with the Hammonds and was alerted to the comments by neighbors who knew he wouldn’t have written them. “I feel bad for them. They lost a lot and they’re going to lose more,” Allum said of the ranchers. “They’re not terrorists. There’s this hatred in the BLM for them, and I don’t get it,” the retired BLM employee said. Jody Weil, deputy state director for communications at BLM’s Oregon office, indicated to reporters that if one of their agents falsified the comments, they would keep it private and not inform the public.
In September 2006, Dwight & Susan Hammond’s home was raided. The agents informed the Hammonds that they were looking for evidence that would connect them to the fires. The Hammonds later found out that a boot print and a tire tracks were found near one of the many fires. No matching boots or tires were found in the Hammonds home or on their property. Susan Hammond (Wife) later said, "I have never felt so violated in my life. We are ranchers not criminals.” Steven Hammond openly maintains his testimony that he started the backfire to save the winter grass from being destroyed and that the backfire ended up working so well it put out the fire entirely.

During the trial proceedings, Federal Court Judge Michael Hogan did not allow time for certain testimonies and evidence into the trail that would exonerate the Hammonds. Federal prosecuting attorney, Frank Papagni, was given full access for 6 days. He had ample time to use any evidence or testimony that strengthened the demonization of the Hammonds. The Hammonds attorney was only allowed 1 day. Much of the facts about the fires, land and why the Hammonds acted the way they did was not allowed into the proceedings and was not heard by the jury. For example, Judge Hogan did not allow time for the jury to hear or review certified scientific findings that the fires improved the health and productivity of the land. Or, that the Hammonds had been subject to vindictive behavior by multiple federal agencies for years.

Federal attorney Frank Papagni hunted down a witness, Dusty Hammond, that was not mentally capable to be a credible witness. Dusty Hammond (grandson and nephew) testified that Steven told him to start a fire. He was 13 at the time and 24 when he testified (11 years later). At 24 Dusty had been suffering with mental problems for many years. He was estranged from his family including his mother. Judge Hogan noted that Dusty’s memories as a 13-year-old boy were not clear or credible. However, he continually allowed the prosecution to use Dusty’s testimony anyway. When speaking to the Hammonds about this testimony, they understood that Dusty was manipulated and expressed nothing but love for their troubled grandson.

Judge Michael Hogan & Frank Papagni tampered with the jury many times throughout the proceedings, including during the selection process. Hogan & Papagni only allowed people on the jury who did not understand the customs and culture of the ranchers or how the land is used and cared for in the Diamond Valley. All of the jurors had to drive back and forth to Pendleton daily. Some drove more than two hours each way. By day 8 they were exhausted and expressed desires to be home. On the final day, Judge Hogan kept pushing them to make a verdict. Several times during deliberation, Judge Hogan pushed them to make a decision.
Judge Hogan also would not allow the jury to hear what punishment could be imposed upon an individual that has convicted as a terrorist under the 1996 act. The jury, not understanding the customs and cultures of the area, influenced by the prosecutors for 6 straight days, very exhausted, pushed for a verdict by the judge, unaware of the ramification of convicting someone as a terrorist, made a verdict and went home.

On June 22, 2012, Dwight and Steven were found guilty of starting both the 2001 and the 2006 fires by the jury. However, the federal courts convicted them both as "Terrorist" under the 1996 Antiterrorism Act. Judge Hogan sentenced Dwight (Father) to 3 months in prison and Steven (son) to 12 months in federal prison. They were also stipulated to pay $400,000 to the BLM. Judge Hogan overruling the minimum terrorist sentence, commenting that if the full five years were required it would be a violation of the 8th amendment (cruel and unusual punishment). The day of the sentencing Judge Hogan retired as a federal judge. In his honor the staff served chocolate cake in the courtroom.

On January 4, 2013, Dwight and Steven reported to prison. They fulfilled their sentences, (Dwight 3 months, Steven 12 months). Dwight was released in March 2013 and Steven, January 2014.

Sometime in June 2014, Rhonda Karges, Field Manager for the BLM, and her husband Chad Karges, Refuge Manager for the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (which surrounds the Hammond ranch), along with attorney Frank Papagni exemplified further vindictive behavior by filing an appeal with the 9th District Federal Court seeking Dwight’s and Steven’s return to federal prison for the entire 5 years.

In October 2015, the 9th District Court “resentenced” Dwight and Steven, requiring them to return to prison for several more years. Steven (46) has a wife and 3 children. Dwight (74) will leave Susan (74) to be alone after 55 years of marriage. If he survives, he will be 79 when he is released. During the court preceding the Hammonds were forced to grant the BLM first right of refusal. If the Hammonds ever sell their ranch, they will have to sell it to the BLM.

Dwight and Steven were ordered to report to federal prison again on January 4th, 2016 to begin their resentencing. Both their wives will have to manage the ranch for several years without them. To date they have paid $200,000 to the BLM, and the remainder $200,000 must be paid before the end of the 2015. If the Hammonds cannot pay the fines to the BLM, they will be forced to sell the ranch to the BLM or face further prosecution.
It is important to note that federal agencies have no Constitutional authority to buy land. They are "supposed" federal caretakers of "We the Peoples' land that "We the People own. Rhonda Karges specifically deals with all the BLM issues relating to the area in and around the Hammonds property including "grazing denial". Her husband Chad Karges just happens to be the person in charge of all the issues surrounding the Hammonds ranch such as "water and access".

Soon after the water rights dispute, the federal government influenced the State of Oregon to change their water law in favor of federal agencies. Wildlife is now considered in the State of Oregon as an accepted beneficial use for government agencies only.

Being convicted as Terrorist made the Hammonds felons. They have been stripped of their right to have guns. The Hammond live 53 miles from the closets town and have no practical way of defending themselves or their cattle. Several times they have watched baby calves be eaten by predators and could do nothing to prevent it.

**NEVADA BUNDY RANCH TRIAL** Judge Gloria Navarro has had a difficult time getting the defendants and spectators to understand that Jury Nullification is a bad thing. She has made her rulings. She has given her orders. She has specifically forbidden nullification from being used in the case of US v. Bundy et al. However, she has not said that jury nullification is illegal. In fact, Nullification is the Law of the Land, as much as Gloria Navarro would like the jurors to believe otherwise. She insinuates that they can be punished for not returning a verdict she approves of.

Navarro declared a mistrial in the first go around when the jury could not reach a unanimous decision on most of the charges. The jury later came out to say they did not believe the government had proven their case. However, Judge Navarro and Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Myhre have seemed to nearly panic at the thought the jurors may have actually been practicing nullification.

In light of the jury having been deadlocked, Judge Navarro under the color of law declared a mistrial and then called for another trial thereby placing herself above the People and suffered the Hammons Double Jeopardy. Therefore, the government’s second case made it much easier for the prosecution, in that she has ruled nearly 100% in their favor on all major motions presented. She sustained their objections and allowed them to present any evidence they felt necessary. In contrast, this same evidence cannot necessarily be refuted by the defense, as Judge Navarro would support prosecution objections. The defense is limited to a
short 40 minute window within their case, though they have been charged with acts as far out as two years later. The defense cannot bring in evidence and witnesses to prove their defense, as Judge Navarro has ruled against this as well. In fact, the judge has only allowed the defense to present what is called the “mere presence” defense, in which the defendant basically claims they just happened upon the scene of the crime. This, of course, is no defense in the case of the Bunkerville standoff.

The defense has attempted to impeach the government’s witnesses, and again, Judge Navarro did not allow this. She practically stamped her foot and threw a tantrum at the thought of defendant Eric Parker telling his version of events on the witness stand, and ultimately had him removed with his testimony stricken from the record.

Navarro has interpreted the law in such a way that the government cannot be wrong in any of their actions and the average citizen is never allowed to defend themselves against any government agent. Additionally, the average citizen cannot avail himself of the Constitutional rights, such as the Second Amendment, without risk of prosecution by the Federal government, as clearly stated by Judge Gloria Navarro.

We must assume that Judge Navarro is of average, if not above average, intelligence. She must see that her rulings have been perceived as dictatorial. She has told the jury they cannot use the US Constitution and cannot even use their own understanding of the law. She has allowed the jury to ask questions of all the prosecution witnesses, yet she has disallowed most of the questions to the only defense witness she allowed to take the stand, Scott Drexler. She continued to disregard our founding documents by telling the jury not to ask some of the questions they have, such as asking about the Bill of Rights, or asking about BLM behavior. They have even been told they do not need to know why the FBI was involved in this case.

According to Navarro, the jury is not allowed to judge the law itself, only the defendant’s violation of the law, as she explains it to them. She has gone out of her way to instruct the jury to make them believe they have no choice but find these defendants guilty.

The abuses and corruptions affecting people like the Hammonds are symptoms of a more encompassing problem. Government employees (fulltime & elected) have changed their culture from one of service to, and respect for the people, to the roll of being masters. On the subject of the land, it is evident that government employees are no longer assisting the people in claiming, using and defending property. Instead, they have become the people’s competitor for the benefits of the land, and are willing to use force on those who they erroneously compete against.
The federal government adversely controls over 582,000,000 acres of the western lands, 51% of the entire western land mass. They also have recently begun claiming over 72% of western resources such as the sub-surface minerals, forestry and waters. This is a stark comparison to 4.29% federally controlled land in the east.

The impact of the federal government controlling the land and resources inside the western states is hard to calculate. The negative impact on the people can be seen economically, politically, and socially. In order for any people to survive, let alone prosper, it takes the land and resources to do so. Everything we eat, the clothing we wear, the homes we live in, the cars we drive, and so on, come from the earth. All physical comfort and prosperity originates from the earth. Individuals composing the federal government, understanding the origination of wealth, are reserving these resources for themselves and are willing to use force to retain them. The ramifications of their action are slowly forcing the people off the land in the west and into poverty.

Due to the fact that people cannot survive without land and resource, the federal government’s action in administering the lands for their own benefit will be the cause of public discontent and unrest until it is corrected.

**AUTHORITY OF THIS AND ALL COMMON LAW GRAND JURIES**

The “FIRST GRAND JURY” was a Common Law Grand Jury that arose from the People under the authority of God through the People which was never under the thumb of government officials such as judges and prosecutors as we see today. And, until “runaway Grand Juries” under judicial auspices, such as “This Common Law Grand Jury” become the norm again by freeing themselves from government control while acting under the knowledge of “Nullification”. We the People will never have Liberty and government by consent until we take back control of “OUR” Courts through “FREE” Grand Juries.

“Although the grand jury normally operates, of course, in the courthouse and under judicial auspices, its institutional relationship with the judicial branch has traditionally been, so to speak, at arm's length.” - United States v. Calandra

The minions (BAR attorneys) of the Deep State have poisoned every issue, infested every level of government and would have We the People believe that only prosecutors can call

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the Grand Jury. “Nothing can be further from the truth”! More than 1,000 years of History verifies that We the People, Sheriffs and Coroners have usually called the Grand Jury.

It wasn’t until 1970 that Congress, under the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 (18 U.S.C.A. §§ 3332–3333), authorized the creation of a “special grand jury” that provided for the court or any attorney appearing on behalf of the United States for the presentation of evidence to a Grand Jury.

During the past 48 years the use of the aforesaid act coupled with the dumbing down of We the People by removing from our education civics, constitutional studies and history or the teaching of fake and repugnant history in its place; all controlled by the minions of the US Department of Education and thereby controlling our children’s curriculum. While convincing the populace “via propaganda” claiming that “only a US Attorney can call and control the Grand Jury” thereby resulting in the eradicating of We the Peoples’ unalienable right of “government by consent” as declared in the Declaration of Independence, resulting in the corruption of our Justice System. And, until We the People take back our Power and Authority, there can be No Liberty! And that Liberty which we think we have is just an illusion that is shattered when you become their victim in “their courts of injustice”.

AUTHOR & SOURCE OF LAW  “Sovereignty itself (God and We the People by God’s Grace) is, of course, not subject to law, for it is the author and source of law; but in our system, while sovereign powers are delegated to the agencies of government, sovereignty itself remains with the people, by whom and for whom all government exists and acts, And the law is the definition and limitation of power....”2 “Sovereignty means that the decree of sovereign makes law, and foreign courts cannot condemn influences persuading sovereign to make the decree.”3 “The people of this State, as the successors of its former sovereign, are entitled to all the rights which formerly belonged to the King by his prerogative.”4 And, “the state cannot diminish the rights of the people.”5 “Supreme sovereignty is in the people and no authority can, on any pretense whatsoever, be exercised over the citizens of this state, but such as is or shall be derived from and granted by the people of this state.”6

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2 Vick Wo v. Hopkins, 118 US 356, 370 Quotiens dubia interpretatio libertatis est, secundum libertatem respondendum einit.
3 Moscow Fire Ins. Co. of Moscow, Russia v. Bank of New York & Trust Co., 294 N.Y.S. 648, 662, 161 Misc. 903.;
4 Lansing v. Smith, 4 Wend. 9 (N.Y.) (1829), 21 Am. Dec. 89 10C Const. Law Sec. 298; 18 C Em.Dom. Sec. 3, 228; 37 C Nav.Wat. Sec. 219; Nuls Sec. 167; 48 C Wharves Sec. 3, 7.
5 Hurtado v. People of the State of California, 110 U.S. 516.
6 NEW YORK CODE - N.Y. CVR. LAW § 2; NY Code - Section 2.
Thereby We the People ordained and established the Constitution for the United States of America. We the People vested Congress with statute making powers. We the People defined and limited that power of statute making. We the People limited law making powers to ourselves alone. We the People did not vest the Judiciary with law making powers. We the People are the "judicial tribunal having attributes and exercising functions independently of the person of the magistrate designated generally to hold it, and proceeding according to the course of common law."

"The constitutions of most of our states assert that all power is inherent in the people; that they may exercise it by themselves, in all cases to which they think themselves competent, as in electing their functionaries executive and legislative, and deciding by a jury of themselves, both fact and law, in all judiciary cases in which any fact is involved ..."

HAND BOOK FOR FEDERAL GRAND JURORS
SUBVERTS THE AUTHOR & SOURCE OF LAW

The Federal Grand Jury Handbook, which was written by the American Bar Association, makes the following (eleven) foundational false claims thereby creating a statutory grand jury under government control and not the control of a Free and Sovereign People thus rendering use of these indictments a nullity. (1) The jury derives its authority from the Constitution, legislated statutes and the courts rules. (2) The first grand jury consisted of 12 men who were summoned. (3) Grand jurors originally functioned as accusers or witnesses, rather than as judges. (4) The Grand Jury hears only that evidence presented by United States Attorney. (5) A grand jury is not necessary for prison sentencing less than one year. (6) A person may waive grand jury proceedings and agree to be prosecuted. (7) The grand jury is not free to compel a trial of anyone it chooses. (8) The government attorney must sign the indictment

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7 We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. Preamble.

8 Article I Section 1: ALL LEGISLATIVE POWERS herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

9 Article I Section 8: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

10 "Sovereignty itself is, of course, not subject to law, for it is the author and source of law; but in our system, while sovereign powers are delegated to the agencies of government, sovereignty itself remains with the people, by whom and for whom all government exists and acts. And the law is the definition and limitation of power..." [Yick Wo v. Hopkins, 118 US 356, 370 Quotiens dubia interpretatio libertatis est, securundam libertatem respondendum erit].


12 Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Cartwright; June 5, 1824.
before a party may be prosecuted. (9) The grand jury is to consult the government before undertaking a formal investigation. (10) The grand jury cannot investigate without government approval. (11) The grand jury is composed of 23 government qualified persons.

REBUTTAL TO THE FALSE CLAIMS OF THE HAND BOOK FOR FEDERAL GRAND JURORS AND PROOF POSITIVE OF ITS DECEPTIVENESS

(1) "The federal grand jury derives its authority from the rules of the federal courts." See, page 1 Handbook for Federal Grand Jurors

REBUTTAL of #1 - The Jury is an unalienable right derived from God and the process by which we have government by consent of the People. Quoting US v Williams\textsuperscript{13} "Because the grand jury is an institution separate from the courts, over whose functioning the courts do not preside, we think it clear that, as a general matter at least, no such "supervisory" judicial authority exists, and that the disclosure rule applied here exceeded the Tenth Circuit's authority. "[R]ooted in long centuries of Anglo-American history," Hannah v. Larche, 363 U.S. 420, 490, 80 S.Ct. 1502, 1544, 4 L.Ed.2d 1307 (1960) (Frankfurter, J., concurring in result), the grand jury is mentioned in the Bill of Rights, but not in the body of the Constitution. It has not been textually assigned, therefore, to any of the branches described in the first three Articles. It "is a constitutional fixture in its own right." United States v. Chanen, 549 F.2d 1306, 1312 (CA9 1977) (quoting Nixon v. Sirica, 159 U.S.App.D.C. 58, 70, n. 54, 487 F.2d 700, 712, n. 54 (1973)), cert. denied, 434 U.S. 825, 98 S.Ct. 72, 54 L.Ed.2d 83 (1977). In fact the whole theory of its function is that it belongs to no branch of the institutional government, serving as a kind of buffer or referee between the Government and the people. Stirone v. United States, 361 U.S. 212, 218, 80 S.Ct. 270, 273, 4 L.Ed.2d 252 (1960); Hale v. Henkel, 201 U.S. 43, 61, 26 S.Ct. 370, 373, 50 L.Ed. 652 (1906); G. Edwards, The Grand Jury 28-32 (1906)."

(2) "The first English grand jury consisted of 12 men selected from the knights or other freemen, who were summoned to inquire into crimes alleged to have been committed in their local community." (see, page 1 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #2 - Magna Carta Paragraph 52 says that the first known grand jury organized themselves and acted under the authority of the Sovereign People and is made up

\textsuperscript{13} US v Williams 112 S. Ct. 1735 504 U.S. 36 118 L.Ed.2d 352.

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of “five and twenty jurors of whom mention is made below in the clause for securing the peace.”

(3) “Grand jurors originally functioned as accusers or witnesses, rather than as judges.” (see, page 2 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #3 - Magna Carta, being the equivalent to our Declaration of Independence in the People being the consentors and the putting down of tyrants, Paragraph 52 says that the grand jury is the Sureties of the Peace whereas we read: “If anyone has been dispossessed without the legal judgment of his peers, from his lands, castles, franchises, or from his right, we will immediately restore them to him; and if a dispute arise over this, then let it be decided by the five and twenty jurors of whom mention is made below in the clause for securing the peace. Moreover, for all those possessions, from which anyone has, without the lawful judgment of his peers, been disseized or removed by our government we will immediately grant full justice therein.”

(4) “The grand jury normally hears only that evidence presented by a United States Attorney” (see, page 3 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #4 - Again, the aforesaid would deny government by consent and place We the People in subjection to our servant prosecutor. Quoting US v Williams⁴⁴ “The grand jury's functional independence from the judicial branch is evident both in the scope of its power to investigate criminal wrongdoing, and in the manner in which that power is exercised. ‘Unlike [a] [c]ourt, whose jurisdiction is predicated upon a specific case or controversy, the grand jury 'can investigate merely on suspicion that the law is being violated, or even because it wants assurance that it is not.' United States v. Morton Salt Co., 338 U.S. 632, 642-643, 70 S.Ct. 357, 364, 94 L.Ed. 401 (1950)). It need not identify the offender it suspects, or even "the precise nature of the offense" it is investigating. Blair v. United States, 250 U.S. 273, 282, 39 S.Ct. 468, 471, 63 L.Ed. 979 (1919).”

(5) Handbook claims that “an infamous crime is one which may be punished by imprisonment for more than one year.” This infers that an indictment is not necessary for legislated sentencing of crimes calling for less than a year imprisonment. (see, page 3 HFGJ)

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⁴⁴ US v Williams 112 S. Ct. 1735 504 U.S. 36 118 L.Ed.2d 352
REBUTTAL of #5 - The unalienable right of a grand jury is a part of due process of law and cannot be denied if the unalienable right of liberty hangs in the balance. Amendment V: No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury... nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.

(6) “The person being investigated by the government may, however, waive grand jury proceedings and agree to be prosecuted by a written charge of crime called an information”. (see, page 4 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #6 - The 5th Amendment denied the aforesaid conclusion when We the People said “No person shall be held to answer”15 therefore an information from a prosecutor in place of a grand jury indictment is repugnant and void for it too easily opens the door of abuse under color of law for extortion and vindictive prosecution.

(7) “The grand jury is not completely free to compel a trial of anyone it chooses.”

(8) “The government attorney must sign the indictment before a party may be prosecuted. Thus, the government and the grand jury act as checks on each other. This assures that neither may arbitrarily wield the awesome power to indict a person of a crime.” (see, page 4 HFGJ)

Rebuttal of #7 & 8: The aforesaid would deny government by consent and place We the People in subjection to our servant prosecutor. Quoting US v Williams16 “The grand jury requires no authorization from its constituting court to initiate an investigation, see Hale, supra, 201 U.S., at 59-60, 65, 26 S.Ct., at 373, 375, nor does the prosecutor require leave of court to seek a grand jury indictment. And in its day-to-day functioning, the grand jury generally operates without the interference of a presiding judge. See Calandra, supra, 414 U.S., at 343, 94 S.Ct., at 617. It swears in its own witnesses, Fed.Rule Crim.Proc. 6(c), and deliberates in total secrecy, see United States v. Sells Engineering, Inc., 463 U.S., at 424-425, 103 S.Ct., at 3138. ... The grand jury remains "free to pursue its investigations unhindered by external influence or supervision so long as it does not trench upon the legitimate rights of any witness called before it." United States v. Dionisio, 410 U.S. 1, 17-18, 93 S.Ct. 764, 773, 35 L.Ed.2d 67 (1973).”

15 Amendment V: No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury...
16 US v Williams 112 S. Ct. 1735 504 U.S. 36 118 L.Ed.2d 352.
There is yet another respect in which respondent's proposal not only fails to comport with, but positively contradicts, the "common law" of the Fifth Amendment grand jury. Motions to quash indictments based upon the sufficiency of the evidence relied upon by the grand jury were unheard of at common law in England, see, e.g., People v. Restenblatt, 1 Abb.Prac. 268, 269 (Ct.Gen.Sess.N.Y.1855). And the traditional American practice was described by Justice Nelson, riding circuit in 1852, as follows:

"No case has been cited, nor have we been able to find any, furnishing an authority for looking into and revising the judgment of the grand jury upon the evidence, for the purpose of determining whether or not the finding was founded upon sufficient proof, or whether there was a deficiency in respect to any part of the complaint. . . ." United States v. Reed, 27 Fed.Cas. 727, 738 (No. 16,134) (CCNDNY 1852).

We accepted Justice Nelson's description Costello v. United States, 350 U.S. 359, 76 S.Ct. 406, 100 L.Ed. 397 (1956), where we held that "it would run counter to the whole history of the grand jury institution" to permit an indictment to be challenged "on the ground that there was incompetent or inadequate evidence before the grand jury." Id., at 363-364, 76 S.Ct., at 409. And we reaffirmed this principle recently in Bank of Nova Scotia, where we held that "the mere fact that evidence itself is unreliable is not sufficient to require a dismissal of the indictment," and that "a challenge to the reliability or competence of the evidence presented to the grand jury" will not be heard. 487 U.S., at 261, 108 S.Ct., at 2377. It would make little sense, we think, to abstain from reviewing the evidentiary support for the grand jury's judgment while scrutinizing the sufficiency of the prosecutor's presentation. A complaint about the quality or adequacy of the evidence can always be recast as a complaint that the prosecutor's presentation was "incomplete" or "misleading." Our words in Costello bear repeating: Review of facially valid indictments on such grounds "would run counter to the whole history of the grand jury institution[,] [and] [n]either justice nor the concept of a fair trial requires [it]." 350 U.S., at 364, 76 S.Ct., at 409.

(9) "The grand jury may consider additional matters otherwise brought to its attention, but should consult with the government attorney or the court before undertaking a formal investigation of such matters. This is necessary because the grand jury has no investigative staff, and legal assistance will be necessary in the event an indictment is voted." (see, page 5 HFGJ)
REBUTTAL of #9 - Again, the aforesaid would deny government by consent and place We the People in subjection to our servant prosecutor. Quoting US v Williams\(^{17}\) Recognizing this tradition of independence, we have said that the Fifth Amendment's "constitutional guarantee presupposes an investigative body 'acting independently of either prosecuting attorney or judge '. . ." Id., at 16, 93 S.Ct., at 773 (quoting Stirone, supra, 361 U.S., at 218, 80 S.Ct., at 273).

(10) "A federal grand jury is not authorized to investigate situations involving the conduct of individuals, public officials, agencies, or institutions." (see, page 5 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #10 - The aforesaid would place the government above reproach whereby they could prevent indictments against their own and again, would deny government by consent and place We the People in subjection to our servant prosecutor. Quoting US v Williams\(^{18}\) “Given the grand jury's operational separateness from its constituting court, it should come as no surprise that we have been reluctant to invoke the judicial supervisory power as a basis for prescribing modes of grand jury procedure. Over the years, we have received many requests to exercise supervision over the grand jury's evidence-taking process, but we have refused them all, including some more appealing than the one presented today. In Calandra v. United States, supra, a grand jury witness faced questions that were allegedly based upon physical evidence the Government had obtained through a violation of the Fourth Amendment; we rejected the proposal that the exclusionary rule be extended to grand jury proceedings, because of "the potential injury to the historic role and functions of the grand jury." 414 U.S., at 349, 94 S.Ct., at 620. Costello v. United States, 350 U.S. 359, 76 S.Ct. 406, 100 L.Ed. 397 (1956), we declined to enforce the hearsay rule in grand jury proceedings, since that "would run counter to the whole history of the grand jury institution, in which laymen conduct their inquiries unfettered by technical rules." Id., at 364, 76 S.Ct., at 409.”

(11) "The judge will then direct the selection of 23 qualified persons to become the members of the grand jury." (see, page 6 HFGJ)

REBUTTAL of #11 - Magna Carta Paragraph 52 makes it clear that a grand jury is made up of 25 People not 23. ...if a dispute arise over this, then let it be decided by the five and twenty jurors of whom mention is made below in the clause for securing the peace.

\(^{17}\) US v Williams 112 S. Ct. 1735 504 U.S. 36 118 L.Ed.2d 352.
\(^{18}\) US v Williams 112 S. Ct. 1735 504 U.S. 36 118 L.Ed.2d 352.
RIGHT OF GRAND & PETIT JURY

LYSANDER SPOONER (An Essay on the Trial by Jury, 1852): "...there can be no legal right to resist the oppressions of the government, unless there be some legal tribunal, other than the government, and wholly independent of, and above, the government, to judge between the government and those who resist its oppressions...."

LYSANDER SPOONER (An Essay on the Trial by Jury, 1852): "The authority to judge what are the powers of the government, and what are the liberties of the people, must necessarily be vested in one or the other of the parties themselves—the government, or the people; because there is no third party to whom it can be entrusted. If the authority be vested in the government, the government is absolute, and the people have no liberties except such as the government sees fit to indulge them with."

Marston's, Inc. v. Strand, 560 P.2d 778, 114 Ariz. 260): "Grand jury is [an] investigative body acting independently of either prosecutor or judge whose mission is to bring to trial those who may be guilty and clear the innocent."

“Although the grand jury normally operates, of course, in the courthouse and under judicial auspices, its institutional relationship with the judicial branch has traditionally been, so to speak, at arm's length.” United States v. Calandra, 414 U.S. 338, 343, 94 S.Ct. 613, 617, 38 L.Ed.2d 561 (1974); Fed.Rule Crim.Proc. 6(a).

CONCLUSION

We the People have the unalienable right to consent, or not to consent, as to the government’s accusations against the People. And if indicted We the People have the unalienable right to decide the law, the facts and the conclusion of the matter.

All officers of the court Magistrates, Judges, Prosecutors, Appointed Counsels, United States Attorneys, Sheriffs, United States Marshalls and clerks; and Legislators’ of statutes are employed by the government and/or are members of the BAR which teaches their members to be anti-constitutional and anti-common law, and thereby subversive. They are trained to place the letter of legislative law above the essence of common law, that being justice and mercy.

To allow our servants to control the jury would breed “absolute” government corruption and control which this paper and present judiciary conditions conclusively proves. Therefore, it is
the unalienable right of We the People to provide for the administration of the Grand and Petit Juries. The first recorded grand jury was established by the People through the Magna Carta, whereas the grand jury assembled itself and brought into subjection the tyrant king back under the will of the People; and today, now, so do We the People.

A TRUE BILL

SEAL

DATED: February 9, 2018

Grand Jury Foreman

Prepared by:
Grand Jury Foreman
Unified United States Common Law Grand Jury
P.O. Box 59; Valhalla, NY 10595
We the People - United Individuals of these States United: Coalition of Western States (COWS), Pacific Patriot Network (PPN), Bundy Family and Supporters, Oregon Oath Keepers, Idaho III%, Central Oregon Constitutional Guard, Oregon Tactical, Oregon Bearded Bastards, Liberty Watch Washington, Nevada Committee for Full Statehood, Rural Heritage Preservation Project, Liberty For All (LFA) [continuous names below]  

December 11, 2015  

NOTICE: Redress of Grievance  
Notice to agent is notice to principle; notice to principle is notice to agent  

Sheriff David Ward, Commissioner Dan Nichols, Commissioner Pete Runnels, Justice of the Peace Donna Thomas, District Attorney Tim Colahan, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Governor Kate Brown  

Dear Sirs,  

After extensive research on the Hammond case, We the People of these States United have reason to believe that Dwight and Steven Hammond were not afforded their rights to due process as protected by the United States Constitution.  

We have principled evidence that Dwight and Steven Hammond committed no crime in the act of performing the prescribe burn and back fire, that the U.S. Government does not have authority to enforce Territorial law under Article Four within the State of Oregon, and that the County of Harney and State of Oregon failed to protect the Hammond’s rights as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. USC 42.1986, 18.242, 18.121, 42.1983, 42.1985,  

We hold compelling evidence that the U.S. Government abused the federal court system, situating the Hammond family into duress as effort to force the Hammond’s to sell their Steen Mountain property to a federal agency.  

We have substantial evidence that the U.S. Attorney’s Office exploited an act of Congress, imposing cruel and unusual punishment upon residents of Harney County.  

We hold substantial evidence that inside the borders of Harney County the U.S. Government is acting outside the authority enumerated in the Constitution of the United States.  

We secure evidence that the U.S. Attorney’s Office independently prepared the indictment against Dwight & Steven Hammond, and that the Grand Jury did not properly assemble or investigate before the indictment. We have no evidence that the Grand Jury participated in the indictment altogether.
We have sure evidence that U.S. Congress does not have authority to legislate minimum sentences, requiring Dwight and Steven Hammond to serve five years in a federal penitentiary.

We hold confirming video evidence of federal agents exhibiting a culture of intimidation toward individuals and businesses within the borders of Harney County. That federal agents, by fire destroy private property, and that the Hammond family are being denied the same protection of the laws that are enjoyed by federal agents.

We have supporting evidence that Judge Hogan controlled the narrative and did not allow full disclosure in the courtroom. We have additional evidence that Dwight and Steven Hammond were sentenced for something different than what they were found guilty of.

We hold sounding evidence that Dwight and Steven Hammond are victims of cruel and unusual punishment, and that the U.S. Justice Department is violating the 8th Amendment.

We hold sure evidence that Dwight and Steven Hammond are being subject for the same offense twice put in jeopardy. Including that the Ninth District Court of Appeals is in violation of the 5th Amendment.

We have obtained appalling evidence that the U.S. Attorney’s Office threatened the Hammond family with early detention and further punishment, if the Hammond family continued to communicate with a certain individual. This evidence foundationally speaks against the U.S. Attorneys Office in their gross effort to infringe upon the Hammond’s right to free exercise of speech. 1st Amendment, USC 18.242

In a commitment to expose the truth and administrate justice, We the People of these States United insist that you immediately assemble an independent Evidential Hearing Board (EHB) comprised of the people of Harney County in accordance with Common Law principals. That the Evidential Hearing Board call witnesses and investigate each of these allegations publicly. That the Evidential Hearing Board make public conclusions in writing upon their findings. That the Harney County Board of Commissioners and the Sheriff’s Department enforce the conclusions of the Evidential Hearing Board in support of the United States Constitution. We further insist that the Hammond family be protected from reporting to federal prison until all allegations can be determined.

We need not remind you of your lawful duty to act on these matters as insisted, nor of the consequences if you knowingly neglected your duty. USC 18.2382, 18.2071, 18.2076, 42.1983, 42.1985, 42.1986
In light of the information presented, we require your thoughtful response within 5 days of the date of this notice. If we do not receive your response within 5 days, we will have no choice but to understand that you do not wish to do your duty and are content in acting in negligence to your solemn oath to the people who have placed you in this fiduciary position and in defiance of your obligation to defend the Rights and Liberties of the people. Therefore, govern yourself accordingly.

Respectively,
We the People - United Individuals of these States United
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151011-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Dennis DICKENSON, Timothy FOLEY and Ryan PAYNE. Throughout the conversation PAYNE said that he was traveling during the call and he intermittently dropped off and returned to the conversation. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 23 minutes and 47 seconds long. The conversation was centered on organizing OMD. During the conversation the OMD Advisory Board members discussed Jon RITZHEIMER, an operation targeting refugees in the United States, OMD organization and tasks, secure communications, and emerging issues that OMD was considering for potential OMD missions. On several occasions the BUNDY Ranch was mentioned. The following is a review of this recording.

1. HUNT, DICKENSON and FOLEY discussed the OMD organization and assigned tasks. OMD and the OMD Advisory Board members discussed the OMD Advisory Board functions.

2. At 0:08:13, HUNT briefed FOLEY on PAYNE’s plan for the militia to intervene in the resettling of refugees in Missoula, Montana. HUNT said that the plan that he and PAYNE discussed involved detaining, photographing and interviewing all the refugees. HUNT described what he thought would be a thorough interview and discussed holding bacon in front of the refugees’ faces, but clarified that the plan was to not harm them in any way. The plan would be to make a report and deliver it to the local Sheriff and post it on the Internet. HUNT said that he
later found out that Missoula is not one of the cities accepting refugees. At 0:09:30, PAYNE said that their plan could be shared with militia across the country in places where refugees where intended to settle.

4. At 0:12:45, PAYNE said that he leaves for the BUNDY Ranch the following day with a few guys from his local unit. PAYNE said that Jon RITZHEIMER is supposed to meet with PAYNE at the BUNDY Ranch and he intends to ask RITZHEIMER to join him for some upcoming travel. PAYNE discussed a large gathering of people from around the country to occur in November. HUNT said that “Jon” indicated to him that he (Jon RITZHEIMER) would be “out here” in November. The members discussed the individuals traveling with PAYNE and whether they would do applications. HUNT asked PAYNE if everyone traveling “out here” in November would be doing applications. PAYNE said yes, but then said he didn’t know if it was necessary and said that some of the people that would be coming do not intend to affiliate with OMD and their purpose for coming was to plan out the presentation. At 15:58 HUNT said, “Well, there’s going to be some discussions going on here that we would not have on the phone and I would be reluctant to have them unless we have somebody willing to do the application, whether they’re going to be on tier 2, or not.”

5. At 0:18:39, PAYNE described a plan for a road trip where he would be giving a presentation. He described the presentation as being based on “The Plan for Restoration of Constitutional Republic” (“The Plan”). PAYNE said that The Plan can be found on Gary’s Outpost of Freedom website. At 0:18:55 PAYNE described The Plan as a, “Historically backed outline for a...very detailed plan and can be implemented in order to start...moving things back towards restoring the union into a Constitutional Republic. And...the idea is it includes aspects like Committees of Safety and the implementation of the militia, the cohesion between the

Exhibit A
militia and the Committees of Safety and Correspondence, all the different avenues that need to be pursued. Very similar to how the Founders did it with a modern applicability. And so the idea is to go around and give this presentation to...we’ll just call them interested parties...that are closer to the main stream, that have large followings. For instance, the Tea Party would be a good one. Where they are...active in the political process, they’re petitioning legislatures, they’re lobbying, they’re doing things in order to try to make a change, but it’s totally ineffective. It’s, naturally, throughout history has show that as a government tyranny they don’t ever return the liberties to the people. And so the Founders took that path of setting up that...parallel government that filled the gap when the government didn’t perform its necessary tasks. And what ultimately led to independence. And so to go around the Union and go to those interested parties and give them a plan that will actually be effective as opposed to...what probably isn’t a waste of time, it’s probably prudent to put the effort in that they’re putting in, but it has to be becoming obvious to them by this point that it’s ineffective. So we just want to plant seeds and then...watch those trees grow, give them some...support. If they need to call us, I’m sure a ton of contacts are going to be made for it. And we’ll develop the plan further as far as protecting ourselves legally and physically. And that’s the other...half of this trip, is also to build the second prong of this endeavor, which is defensive mechanisms that will allow the political side to do what it has to do without fearing for their life.”

6. The OMD members then discussed the OMD response matrix. PAYNE’s contact with the conference call became intermittent at this point and he dropped from the call. The remaining participant, HUNT, FOLEY and DICKENSON discussed a training area for OMD and FOLEY’s organization, Arizona Border Recon. They then discussed the need for funding and HUNT spoke about funding OMD with an organization called “BTFA.”
7. At 0:33:54, HUNT said that he put a simplified explanation of The Plan in the Dropbox.

8. At 0:34:30, the OMD Advisory Board continued their review of the OMD individual task list. HUNT told the members of the Advisory Board that they recorded meetings would be available on Dropbox. At 0:39:43, PAYNE returned to the conference call. The members of the board discussed an upcoming trip to FOLEY in Arizona and OMD membership. PAYNE spoke about a potential “top tier” OMD member whom he identified as a retired Master Sergeant named WELLS. HUNT spoke about RITZHEIMER. Then HUNT spoke about OMD logistics with respect to equipping and supplying 100 people for 30 days. FOLEY spoke about training and communication. The Advisory Board then discussed OMD communications, encryption capabilities, code words and standard operating procedures for OMD’s communications for approximately 25 minutes.

9. At 1:05:38, HUNT identified four potential emerging issues: FINICUM, LYMAN, another person named GLEAVE who knows Cliven BUNDY, and an Area 51 thing. HUNT shared that not a lot has moved on these issues but at 1:07:20 he cautioned that an event could come up quickly and said, “The BUNDY Ranch came up less than 10 days before the unrest…Ryan was on his way up there on the 7th and the unrestling was on the 12th. He didn’t know about it on the 6th. So, things can happen quickly.”

10. At 1:09:04 PAYNE returned to the conference call and asked about the “Global Rally for Humanity.” HUNT told PAYNE that the press coverage on RITZHEIMER’s event was better than last time. The OMD Advisory Board discussed militia operations across the country that targeted radical Islam. At 1:18:53, HUNT asked PAYNE when he found out about the BUNDY Ranch. PAYNE said it was on Sunday night before the next Saturday. HUNT said,
“That’s how quickly things move when we find out about something… hopefully we’ll find out about potential…. with more warning in the future, but we’ve got to be able to respond on a… minutemen on a moment’s notice if we’re going to be effective with OMD in defending people’s life, liberty and property.” PAYNE identified “Mike” as the website designer. The meeting ended and FOLEY said, “Talk to you next week.”
11. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151018 OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Ryan PAYNE, Gary HUNT, Dennis DICKENSON and Timothy FOLEY. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 22 minutes and 47 seconds long. The conversation was centered on organizing OMD and the resentencing of Dwight and Steven HAMMOND in Oregon as a potential OMD mission. Also during the conversation the OMD Advisory Board members discussed other potential OMD missions, HUNT’s draft of OMD’s Degrees of Involvement, and other OMD administrative issues.

12. At the beginning of this recording, PAYNE identified Patricia AIKEN as an individual that would join them during their conference call to discuss what she can do to help fundraise for OMD. PAYNE shared that the road trip that was planned from last Monday to “tomorrow” was postponed. PAYNE identified Lavoy FINICUM as one of the individuals whom he was planning on meeting. PAYNE shared that the meeting in Northern California in November was still on schedule.

1. At 0:04:05, PAYNE introduced a discussion on rancher Dwight HAMMOND in Oregon. PAYNE indicated that the spoke to Dwight HAMMOND and offered OMD’s support to help HAMMOND stand up against the government the week earlier. PAYNE and HUNT briefed the details about the HAMMONDS’ legal battle and HUNT indicated that a few days ago the Court ruled that the HAMMONDS would be sentenced to five years in prison. At 0:08.30, HUNT said, “If you look at their property, too, I’ve got maps of the property, they have a fairly
large holding, whether its 480 or 1000 acres, I’m not sure yet I haven’t gone that far into it…but the…it’s completely surrounded with the exception of relatively small parcels by BLM land, very much like Cliven BUNDY’S was, and it looks like the government is just trying to infill their BLM land that surrounds the ranch that’s been there since 1891.” HUNT said that the government wanted the HAMMONDS in prison so they wouldn’t be able to pay their fine and have to forfeit their land to the government.

2. At 0:09:35, PAYNE said that he talked to Dwight HAMMOND at length last week.

3. At 0:10:34, a female who was identified as Patricia AIKEN cut PAYNE off and offered her own opinion of the HAMMOND situation.

4. At 0:11:08, HUNT asked PAYNE, “Is he [Dwight HAMMOND] going to invite us or not? Is he willing to take the inherent risk of defying the government over arrest?” HUNT then likened the HAMMOND situation to the Phil LYMAN situation. At 11:32, HUNT said “On both of these we’re kind of waiting on them to make a decision.”

5. From 0:12:29 to 0:23:40, Patricia AIKEN briefed the OMD Advisory Board members on funding options.

6. At 0:23:55, the OMD Advisory Board members continued to discuss the HAMMONDS’ legal situation. At 0:31:50, PAYNE said, “We’ve got a guy who’s so down beaten, his statement was, ‘I appreciate what it is that you guys are trying to do and say, ah, but at this point we’re supposed to report in to jail on January 4th and ha, I don’t see what can possibly be done between now and then to stop that.’ So they’re so down beaten that he couldn’t understand that what I was saying was, ‘If you don’t want to go to jail because it’s a complete overstep and…they’re blowing this thing way out of proportion. They’re trying to put a 73 year
old man in prison for having a controlled burn that got...a little bit out of control...that there are
lots of people who will support you in that decision.’ And ah, so, you know they’re so down
beaten that can’t even really see through that and really see what it was that we’re saying. You
don’t have to submit to these things and there’s people who will support you.” At 0:32:59,
HUNT responded, “I think it needs to be explained to him [Dwight HAMMOND] that ah, you
know, the only thing that I can see. If he went underground it wouldn’t do any good because
they’d lose the…ranch anyway. The only thing that I can see that would…have any hope would
be for them to stay on the ranch and we occupy the ranch and, and don’t allow the arrest of them
and let them continue to raise their livestock. It might be a long operation that way, unless the
government got reasonable and was willing to settle and it would be a settlement based upon the
resistance that we, that OMD ah, applied to keep them from being arrested and allow them to
continue their ranching operation.” PAYNE said that he hadn’t yet talked to the son, Steven
HAMMOND. At 0:36:16, HUNT said, “Mrs. Hammond has moved up to Burn, a town north of
the Ranch and is staying there. You know, if we did this anybody that wasn’t willing to stand
against the government would probably just leave the ranch and they’re no charged so there’s no
consequence to them.” HUNT cautioned OMD that exerting pressure on Steven HAMMOND
would give them reason to back away from OMD later on. At 0:39:00, PAYNE said, “This was
actually referred to me by Lavoy FINICUM…excuse me, it was referred to me by the BUNDYS
a couple of months back and Lavoy FINICUM mentioned it was going on. He made a video,
actually, just this last week about it…and ah, which caused me to remember that I had the guy’s
number and stuff. So I talked to Lavoy, he felt that it was pretty important that we talked to him
but he said that he wasn’t really sure that Mr. HAMMOND would ah, ah, would even be
receptive to such a thing.” HUNT and PAYNE referenced Bill GOODE as an individual who
provided some information about the HAMMONDS.

7. At 0:42:30, FOLEY said, “They’ve got about two months left…they got about two months left to figure it out if they’re going to jail or not or if we end up doing anything, or…so. Time is the enemy.” The discussion about the HAMMONDS ended at 43:40 minutes into this recording.

8. From 0:43:48 to 1:01:00, the OMD Advisory Board discussed Michael Lewis ARTHUR and the Veterans on Patrol organization. The Advisory Board members voted to make the Veterans on Patrol a sanctioned OMD event.

9. HUNT and PAYNE spoke briefly about the OMD website. PAYNE identified “Michael VARGA” as the person working on the OMD website. HUNT identified VARGA as the future OMD webmaster.

10. From 1:01:10 to 1:44:37, the OMD Advisory Board discussed items on the OMD Response Matrix. The Advisory Board members then discussed the OMD Response Matrix. At PAYNE 1:03:30 PAYNE explained what was on the OMD response matrix. PAYNE explained that the BUNDY Ranch remained on the matrix based on the heightened awareness and maintaining communication with them. The Advisory Board discussed at length a land dispute between a rancher and the Federal Government based on the shifting of the Red River, which is the Oklahoma and Texas state-line. The OMD Advisory Board discussed gathering more information on this situation. The Advisory Board discussed Phil LYMAN and his sentencing for trespassing on BLM’s Recapture Canyon. HUNT said, like HAMMOND, he doesn’t want to spend time going through all the LYMAN information if they do not wish to request OMD assistance. The Advisory Board then discussed Lavoy FINICUM. PAYNE said that FINICUM enlisted “Budda” for his security. [Writer Comment: “Budda” is known to the writer as Brian

Exhibit A
CAVALIER. PAYNE said that he has more follow-up to do with FINICUM. The OMD Advisory Board then spent time about the Oath Keepers and Stewart RHODES. The OMD Advisory Board spoke about Stanton GLEAVE. PAYNE said that his situation was on the backburner and he would get more information. The Advisory Board discussed their plan for using militia action to intercept and interview refugees entering the state of Montana.

11. From 1:44:35 to 1:49:40, the Advisory Board discussed HUNT’s draft of OMD’s “Degrees of Involvement.” HUNT described the Degrees of Involvement as a “level to assign the various projects and what they would entail initially.” At 1:45:47, PAYNE questioned HUNT’s highest level of involvement, level five. PAYNE said, “Level five, ‘an event that appears to have no resolution absent violent confrontation’…um…” HUNT responded, “Flashpoint.” PAYNE then said, “Yeah. Are, are you…I, I guess what my question would be is…so not, under level four you have, ‘An event that anticipates no resolution short of armed defense.’ So, not to be provoked but…” HUNT explained that “Bundy Ranch” began as level three and went to level four. PAYNE asked HUNT, “So you’re saying that level five is an event where we’ve agreed that is such an egregious act, or, or whatever that has to be answered to with a defensive action that is aggressive?” HUNT replied, “Yes, something that we all consider ultimately will occur in this country. And that’s one that we would have to have our ducks completely in a row before we got involved in that. But it’s there because it’s a reality. You know I’d like to think that the government would finally submit to the defiance, but, you know, I really don’t believe it. You know? So, The Plan actually goes into five. Not, not from an OMD standpoint, but you know Parts One and Two were an individual standpoint when you go into, basically level five.” Regarding the list HUNT explained, “This is internal, it will remain confidential only for the board members. I mean, we might publish the first four, I don’t think
we’d want to publicly acknowledge number five.”

12. From 1:50:00 to the end of the conference call at 2:32:27, the OMD Advisory Board discussed OMD individual tasks and administrative issues. Of note, HUNT suggested that they incorporate a section about their history and the success at the BUNDY Ranch onto the OMD website. The OMD Advisory Board discussed setting a regular time for their Advisory Board Meetings on Sunday at 1300 EST every week.
13. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151025 OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Dennis DICKENSON, Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE and Timothy FOLEY. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 44 minutes and 13 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Dennis DICKENSON identified the date at October 25, 2015. The conversation was centered on organizing OMD. On several occasions the “BUNDY Ranch” was mentioned. The following is a review of this recording.

14. At the beginning of the recording, the OMD Advisory Board members discussed the OMD Response Matrix.

15. At 0:06:09, the OMD Advisory Board discussed the language for the OMD sign-off and the sanctioning of Lewis ARTHUR’s mission in Arizona, Veterans on Patrol.

16. At 0:25:58, HUNT mentioned the OMD Degrees of Involvement.

17. At 0:29:32, HUNT provided an update on the person using the moniker “Raven” and the OMD Advisory Board decided to not spend any additional time trying to identify Raven.

18. At 0:32:00, HUNT spoke about Timothy MCVEIGH. HUNT shared that he corresponded with MCVEIGH at the end of his life. HUNT said that he wrote articles and posted his correspondence with MCVEIGH on his website. HUNT said that he regarded MCVEIGH as the first patriot in the 2nd American Revolution and he defended his actions attacking a government building.

19. At 0:37:50, the OMD Advisory Board members discussed the OMD website.

Exhibit A
While discussing the OMD website the Advisory Board discussed bringing Jon RITZHEIMER into OMD as an Advisory Board member at 0:47:00. FOLEY said that they could assess RITZHEIMER when the board brings him to “Gary’s” and then his (FOLEY’S) house. The Advisory Board spent time talking about whether or not they would list their names on the OMD website.

20. At 1:04:05, the OMD Advisory Board members discussed the OMD Degrees of Involvement. HUNT suggested listing the first four levels. The Advisory Board agreed that they could post the first four levels on the website but acknowledged that level five exists. At 1:05:09, HUNT said, “When an event goes... through level 2, then 3, then 4 and then to 5, that’s the time that we let people know there’s a level 5. As it escalates. If it escalates. I don’t know which one it’s going to be but we’ve got to step cautiously into these to make sure we’re the good guys all the way through until it gets to level 5.”

21. At 1:05:42, the OMD Advisory Board members reviewed the individual task list. HUNT discussed Lisa Payne NAEGER as a potential new OMD Tier 2 member introduced by PAYNE. The OMD Advisory Board discussed and agreed that all members of OMD would have background checks completed. HUNT explained that he couldn’t pay for a background check. At 1:09:00, HUNT said, “The Internal Revenue Service has locked my house up so I can’t sell it and they stole 92 thousand dollars from me. I have no money coming in and I’ve gotta live the rest of my life on what I’ve got. I have no credit cards.” PAYNE described NAEGER as a journalist. HUNT said that PAYNE and he have both talked to NAEGER extensively. PAYNE said that he spoke to Patricia AIKEN the night before and that he was working on her application. PAYNE said that three others applications out to people.

22. At 1:17:19, the Advisory Board discussed OMD finances and “BTFA.” At
1:20:07 PAYNE said, “Given the relationship between the BUNDYS and their Defensive Coordinator, if you will, myself, ah, basically OMA was funded by the BUNDYS…so there was not a whole lot of direct donations and we asked that all the donations go directly to the BUNDYS. So we, we’re never even accepting anything. So that came through in the force of logistics. Whether they were physical donations or monetary.” HUNT said, “Well I think physical donations we would want to come to OMD, ah, like the stuff I’ve got sitting under my desk here, the…” PAYNE said, “Right.” At 1:22:19, PAYNE said, “Speaking of…that type of stuff we do have, and when I get to the BUNDY Ranch I’ll get a good count of all of it, but basically the BUNDYS have pledged their, the support of the the…food and toiletries and hygiene stuff that still is at the Ranch to the next operation that requires man power for any extended period of time.” HUNT asked PAYNE, “While you’re there why don’t you go through the trash stuff and see if there’s any more that we didn’t get that time because there was some missing pages from the 8 ½ x 11’s and I don’t know about the post-it-notes aren’t…unless you’ve’ run across something but you know we never did get anymore out of them after that first batch. It would be interesting if we did have the missing pages on the larger sheets.”

23. At 1:23:30, the OMD Advisory Board members discussed their functional areas. HUNT discussed Lewis ARTHUR’s operation. FOLEY discussed training. PAYNE discussed the OMD Response Matrix. PAYNE said that he was still on schedule to head to HUNT’s residence on November 7. PAYNE said that he wasn’t headed to FOLEY’s area until the beginning of December. The OMD Advisory Board agreed to talk next Sunday.

24. At 1:41:53, as part of PAYNE’s closing remarks, he said, “Surely I’d like to see things like The Plan for the Restoration of Constitutional Republic and OMD coming together too so I’m looking forward to ah focusing those energies in that directly here shortly.”
25. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151101 OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Dennis DICKENSON, Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE and Jon RITZHEIMER. This recording is approximately 2 hours, 55 minutes and 6 seconds long. At the beginning of the recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense Advisory Board meeting for November 1, 2015. During the meeting the Board members primarily discussed organizing OMD and potential OMD missions. On several occasions the “BUNDY Ranch” was mentioned. The Advisory Board also voted to accept RITZHEIMER as an OMD Advisory Board member. The following is a review of this recording.

26. PAYNE provided opening remarks and then asked to jump directly to Item #3, RITZHEIMER’s application. HUNT described RITZHEIMER as a drawing card. HUNT also said that, “We’ve got another item on the agenda that we want him for and that’s Islam.”

27. The Advisory Board discussed background checks for OMD members.

28. At 0:13:53, the Advisory Board members voted to accept RITZHEIMER as an OMD Advisory Board member. The Advisory Board members agreed that RITZHEIMER would be the Planning Coordinator.

29. At 0:26:49, Jon RITZHEIMER joined the Advisory Board meeting. RITZHEIMER said that he’s maintained contact with Gary HUNT since an event RITZHEIMER held back in May. The OMD Advisory Board described OMD to RITZHEIMER and questioned him about. HUNT described the different tiers of membership within OMD. HUNT likened the
Tier 1 Advisory Board members to generals who sit back in the safe zone and made the decisions. HUNT said that the whole idea of OMD came from the BUNDY Ranch. PAYNE described OMD most simply as a network. HUNT told RITZHEIMER that every Sunday they hold OMD Advisory Board Meetings and shared that this was their fourth meeting.

30. At 0:45:00, PAYNE spoke about the Response Matrix. PAYNE shared that the BUNDY Ranch still offered logistical capabilities and Cliven BUNDY’s desire to host an Operations base, if necessary. PAYNE said that he planned to talk to C. BUNDY about hosting a training event. PAYNE addressed the Red River situation. At 0:48:39, PAYNE told RITZHEIMER that while at the BUNDY Ranch PAYNE had a conversation with Stewart RHODES wherein PAYNE told RHODES about Operation Mutual Aid (OMA). PAYNE said that he told RHODES that his organization should have responded to the BUNDY Ranch, but because they didn’t respond, OMA was responding. PAYNE said that immediately after that conversation was when RHODES made the call for Oath Keepers to respond to the BUNDY Ranch. PAYNE said that since then the Oath Keepers adopted a mission to respond to events to people that need defense, similar to OMD. PAYNE spoke about refugee in-processing actions. PAYNE said that Tennessee and Georgia are interested in this plan. PAYNE spoke about Lavoy FINICUM and Phil LYMAN. PAYNE spoke about Special Agent Dan P. Love as the Special Agent in Charge in regards to the Recapture Canyon and the BUNDY Ranch. PAYNE spoke about Stanton GLEAVE. HUNT spoke about Veterans on Patrol. HUNT suggested that OMD start broadening their look at Islam.

31. From 1:13:28 to 1:37:00, the OMD Advisory Board discussed the effect Islam and refugees are having on the country. At 1:18:51, HUNT said, “We always looked at the government as the...other side of the line. And I think we need to start looking at Islam as the...
other side of the line as the potential threat to individual rights in this country.” PAYNE said the government becomes a proxy arm of the Islamic infiltration. PAYNE said, how can we directly address their influence on society? HUNT referred the OMD Advisory Board members to page 35 of “The Plan” regarding his feeling about immigration. [Writer comment: “The Plan” is short for HUNT’s work titled, “The Plan for Restoration of Constitutional Government.”]

32. From 1:37:00 to 1:47:15, the OMD Advisory Board discussed refugees. At 1:39:18 PAYNE described the plan that he and HUNT have been developing. He said, “The thing we’re trying to do up here in Montana, putting together a Committee of Safety and then ah, getting the Committee of Safety to approve a militia action to intercept... these convoys of refugees as they come into a state and then perform the in-processing preliminarily before they reach their destination and completely... independent of any governmental process.” HUNT cut in and said, “A thorough interrogation even to the point of holding bacon an inch in front of their face, just not touching them with it... and then turning a report over to the local law enforcement and going public with the report to show... the country.” PAYNE said the plan is comprehensive but it hasn’t been written down. PAYNE said that that plan could be refined and presented to different units in each state that could perform the same function.

33. From 1:47:18 to 1:52:15, the OMD Advisory Board members discussed the OMD Individual Task List wherein they spoke about OMD training and FOLEY’s training plan.

34. At 1:53:30, RITHEIMER asked what type of organization OMD was. HUNT explained that OMD was in the womb right now but the object was to go public the following week after the Advisory Board meeting. HUNT also said that another organization that’s not even in the womb yet called “Bear Truth Faith and Allegiance” (BTFA), which he described as the fundraising arm that would fund OMD, as necessary.
35. At 2:00:30, PAYNE spoke about potential new OMD members. PAYNE mentioned Tom DIAMOND as a potential Tier 2 member of OMD. HUNT identified DIAMOND as someone who would take part in the discussions going on in Northern California. PAYNE suggested that his former family member “SPIRO” and his associate “Dahboo7” as potential members of OMD. PAYNE described SPIRO as a sensationalist journalist in a late-20’s or early 30’s. PAYNE identified Dahboo7’s real name as Justin. The Advisory Board discussed the usefulness of SPIRO and Dahboo7 to OMD. PAYNE shared that he had out a few OMD applications out. PAYNE said that one application was out to a Canadian-American who PAYNE described as a former Canadian Warrant Officer or Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army. PAYNE said that this Canadian-American was the first person who responded to the mine in Lincoln, Montana with the Oath Keepers. PAYNE shared that his name is John.

36. At 2:38:47, the OMD Advisory Board discussed the meeting in Northern California on November 7. RITZHEIMER questioned PAYNE about Tom DIAMOND and at 2:41:20 PAYNE discussed his relationship with DIAMOND. The OMD Advisory Board discussed a greater scrutiny for DIAMOND before he becomes a member of OMD. At 2:48:37, RITZHEIMER said, “I don’t know if you guys know this about me...I used to ride with a 1% Outlaw Motorcycle Club and...” PAYNE cut in and said, “Me too.” RITZHEIMER continued, “Obviously it’s like, you know, we’re worried about Feds or anybody infiltrating and you got your prospecting period...you know, you do a good, thorough check if you wanna make sure you’re not being infiltrated...I’m going to keep my guard up.”

37. RITZHEIMER spoke about the need to build trust within their organization. At 2:51:07, RITZHEIMER said that he was in the Reserves during the BUNDY Ranch event. After the board member’s discussion on building trust PAYNE concluded the Advisory Board
meeting.
38. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151105a Special OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Dennis DICKENSON, Timothy FOLEY, and Jon RITZHEIMER. This recording is approximately 32 minutes and 23 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Gary HUNT said that he was standing in for “Ryan.” HUNT identified the date and time as November 5th at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time. The Advisory Board members primarily discussed OMD administrative matters but HUNT also gave a short brief on the HAMMOND situation in Oregon. The following is a review of this recording.

39. HUNT discussed the “grand opening” for OMD and making preparations for the press release with Lisa Payne NAEGER and SPIRO. The OMD Advisory Board voted to allow HUNT to work with NAEGER and SPIRO on the OMD press release.

40. HUNT spoke about “VOP” and Lewis ARTHUR. HUNT said that ARTHUR would be supportive of an operation like BUNDY Ranch. HUNT discussed making VOP and Arizona Border Recon (ABR) as sanctioned OMD events. The OMD Advisory Board voted to allow these events as sanctioned OMD events.

41. At 0:10:05, HUNT said, “I sent out a brief. This is based on a conversation that Ryan and I had and subsequently Ryan had brought up the issue of, is there anything we can do without them [the Hammond Family]? Can we have a Grand Jury? And when, I, I told him I was doubtful but then he called me later with ah, Ammon Bundy. He’d met with him in, in ah, Burns, up where the Hammonds are. And ah, we had ah, you know a conference call. He put it
on speaker phone, actually. And so we were talking about it and something occurred to me, that
we could proceed without it, but I had put out a call for grand jury members based on, ah, you
know, what Jon Ritzheimer was asking for. Right now I’ve only had one person volunteer for
the grand jury. So I don’t expect that we’re going to get cooperation for a...grand jury. But I
suggest that um, we could perhaps ah prepare an indictment laying out the charges against the
government, ah which is option two. And, ah, well, read option two it would be to get them to
rescind, or to overturn the decision that fell in court. Now that’s a very risky situation it quite
easily could lead to flashpoint. But at Ryan’s request I put my head to the grindstone, or nose to
the grindstone I guess, to try and come up with something that could be justified. I think I could
justify our action adequately with the history that happened at the ranch with more details, ah,
but um, there’s no doubt there’s a high level of risk in that. That could go to five, level five.
Um, the other one, option three, was one that Ammon brought up and his idea was that he buy or
lease the allotments from ah, the Hammonds and then he goes and sets fire on them and see what
happened.”

42. At 0:15:05, FOLEY spoke about increased activity on the U.S.-Mexico border.

43. At 0:21:35, HUNT and FOLEY spoke about using the VOP Veterans for OMD
missions. HUNT suggested using the veterans at the HAMMOND Ranch or the border
operations. The OMD Advisory Board discussed another organization possibly working with the
Veterans on Patrol called “3UP” or “United Patriots 3%,” which is led by someone named
DRIVER RAY.

44. At 0:28:27, RITZHEIMER and HUNT spoke about Islam and RITZHEIMER
suggested that people across the country file complaints against mosques for telling people to
read the Koran.
45. The Advisory Board stopped their meeting and agreed to resume approximately 20 minutes later when Ryan PAYNE would be available.
46. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151105b Special OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE, Jon RITZHEIMER, Timothy FOLEY and Dennis DICKENSON. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 18 minutes and 48 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Gary HUNT identified the meeting as a continuation of the earlier meeting on the same day and the time as 5:02 Pacific Time. HUNT said that all members of the OMD Advisory Board were present and he then turned the meeting over to Ryan PAYNE. PAYNE said that he was currently traveling through the “desolation of Oregon.” The conversation was centered on the HAMMOND situation and OMD’s potential response with Ammon BUNDY. At the end of the conversation the OMD Advisory Board also discussed William WOLF and discussed options to break him out of federal custody, wherein PAYNE discussed the use of a protest movement to do so, in a similar plan used at the BUNDY Ranch. The following is a review of this recording.

47. At 0:01:11, PAYNE described this situation “I believe that what we’re about to discuss is very likely to be...the next big, ah, event that’s going to go on.” PAYNE continued, “We have...such a gross overreach with this one that we can’t possibly ignore it. Ah, and to do so...would seed so much ground, a precedent of, ah, corruption and tyranny would have been set to such a high degree that I’m not sure how it...would come back without some form of violent resistance, and so, I think this is a very heavy matter that we’re about to discuss.” PAYNE then asked if everyone had a chance to review the brief on the HAMMOND situation. HUNT said that he explained the ramifications of Option 2 and where Option 3 came in. PAYNE said that
he met with Mrs. HAMMOND today and that Ammon BUNDY met with Steve HAMMOND yesterday. PAYNE described a brief background on the HAMMOND’s land and legal battles. At 0:04:28, PAYNE said, “It’s pretty egregious and its very obvious and I think we need to do whatever we can, and, and the BUNDYS feel the same at this point…and are willing to work closely with us to ensure that this…gets all the attention that it needs. In order to garner a response…if the vote goes that way here.” PAYNE said they weren’t able to meet with Dwight HAMMOND, whom PAYNE described as the father and the owner of the ranch.

48. At 0:07:27, PAYNE said, “Now Ammon and I advised him [Steve HAMMOND] today, you know, that the idea would be that they did not go to prison, nor do they pay the fines. So, well, we’ll see where that all goes. They’re going to have a family discussion and such.”

49. At 0:09:08, PAYNE said, “At this point it looks like there’s not going to be a request.” PAYNE went on to say that Ammon BUNDY and the BUNDY family believe they have an obligation to protect the HAMMONDS.

50. At 0:10:00, PAYNE said, “What Ammon was very clear on was that regardless of whether or not they require assistance and if you guys read the ah, the letter that I forwarded from Ammon, from the BUNDY Family, which Ammon put together, then it makes clear their position that it doesn’t really matter that the HAMMONDS request assistance or desire assistance in any form because…we the people have an obligation to stand against tyranny wherever it resides…so that’s their position.”

51. From 0:10:45 to 0:18:45, PAYNE spoke about his and A. BUNDY’s meeting with the Sheriff. PAYNE said that it was made clear to the Sheriff that “we” will defend the HAMMONDS regardless of whether the Sheriff makes the same decision to defend the HAMMONDS.
52. PAYNE spoke about a meeting that he and AMMON had with SUSAN HAMMOND. At 0:20:40, PAYNE said, “I made one statement as I was walking out the door and, and she, she wrote this down. And she intends on, on telling her husband and son this specifically, but the statement that I made was, ‘At this point the decision that, that you guys have to make is whether you’re going to watch as we defend your liberties, or you’re going to stand with us as we defend your liberties. But regardless, it’s looking like we’re gonna defend your liberties, whether you want it or not.’” HUNT replied, “The question that has to be answered then, somewhere along the line, is...will they support us from a distance, sit back and do nothing, or will they oppose us?” HUNT went on, “You’re going to have to talk to her after they have their family meeting and assure they’re not going to oppose us because everything else aside, that would be disastrous. I think that would be a, a condition that would require us to walk away from it.”

53. From 0:21:59 to 0:43:50, the OMD Advisory Board then discussed whether or not it was OMD’s mission to stand up for people who won’t stand for themselves. At 0:27:20, PAYNE said, “Ammon and I spent a great deal of time last night discussing options...on how to remove the barrier from around the family if they don’t request it...” PAYNE argued with the OMD Advisory Board that it was their duty to defend the rights of individuals even if they are not willing to defend themselves from the government. RITZHEIMER suggested that OMD organize a protest in support of the HAMMONDS and HUNT said that protesting is a waste of time. At 0:25:23, HUNT said, “I don’t think that OMD wants to be involved in just...protest issues, I mean, our purpose is not civil disobedience, but civil defiance. We’ve got to have...a good, clean task to work on.” The OMD Advisory Board discussed several operations to prevent the HAMMONDS from turning themselves into federal custody.
54. At 0:43:52, HUNT discussed three situations or “doors,” where OMD would consider taking action in the HAMMOND situation. HUNT described the options as: Door 1, if the HAMMONDS support OMD from a distance, Door 2, if the HAMMONDS remain silent about OMD’s actions and choose not get involved with OMD but allow them to proceed, and Door 3, if the HAMMONDS come out in opposition to OMD action. HUNT asked the Advisory Board if they wished to leave all doors opened or if they wished to close one. At 0:45:56, HUNT called for a vote to decide if OMD would continue to consider offering support to the HAMMONDS in three different situations. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to “keeping the door opened” to Door 1, if “they [the HAMMONDS] support what we’re doing, even tacitly.” The Advisory Board voted unanimously to keeping the door opened to Door 2, if “they [the HAMMONDS] sit back and do nothing but agree not to turn against us.” HUNT explained that Door 3 is where the indication is that “they will turn against us if we pursue trying to help them protect their life, liberty and property.” FOLEY, RITZHEIMER and HUNT voted to close Door 3. DICKENSON suggested that Door 3 could remain opened if there was another viable option available. PANYE did not clearly vote on Door 3, but later at 1:04:02, PAYNE said that the vote for Door 3 was 3-to-2, with he and Dennis voting to keep it opened.

55. HUNT said that if Door 1 or 2 are options then OMD should begin to invest time on the HAMMOND situation. At 0:47:26, HUNT said, “We did discuss some ideas and I’ll throw one at you. If we called for a demonstration there [the courthouse where the HAMMONDS were scheduled to turn themselves in], or got other people, Pete Santilli, and others to call for a demonstration and the armed people met 20, 30 miles away from the courthouse…the armed people, once we got a body of a hundred people armed, they would move into the area but they would leave their weapons in their car, stay near their car, and once we get

Exhibit A

Dissemination Limited by Court Order
the second hundred, because I think you’d need at least 200 to be effective, that then the um, ah, then once the second hundred arrives, then everybody pulls out their guns and all of a sudden it’s an armed camp. Now we might lose some demonstrators at that point but at least we’ve kind of wiggled our way into an effective posture rather than erode going in with rifles. So if it was in, seizing the courthouse, that was something that Ryan and I and Ammon came up with yesterday, just for an explanation of that scenario.” PAYNE said that one of the purposes behind the courthouse idea is to demand that the judge overturns his/her decision to sentence the HAMMONDS. PAYNE noted that that would be something that should happen before the HAMMONDS were supposed to turn themselves in on January 4th. HUNT replied, “So we’re looking at perhaps January 1, or more likely January 2nd to begin the siege of the courthouse.”

56. At 0:51:21, DICKENSON asked PAYNE if he thought the BUNDYS would take action on their own, without OMD support. PAYNE said, “Yes.” PAYNE said “The BUNDYS have made it clear that they’re in support of some type of action…regardless of what the opinion is of that action.” PAYNE said, “If I tell the BUNDY’S that we decided that…we’re not going to do anything about it. That’s going to weight pretty heavily on their decision, though.”

57. At 0:52:48, FOLEY said that the only thing he can see that OMD educate the people in a protest outside the courthouse where the HAMMOND’s were supposed to turn themselves in. PAYNE and HUNT disagreed with FOLEY. HUNT said, “We’re civil defiance, not civil disobedience.”

58. At 0:53:34, the OMD Advisory Board discussed another option if Ammon BUNDY purchase the grazing rights from the HAMMONDS and then set it afire. At 0:56:04, HUNT said, “I believe that option 3…basically we’re dealing with Bundy Ranch continuation. That the defense of Ammon’s right to…deal with the allotment land to the best benefit of grazing
on it, that... OMD could support that, but the HAMMONDS are out of the picture at this point and we know the BUNDYS are going to stand tall on their responsibilities with regard to the relationship with, um, OMD.” At 0:58:54, PAYNE said, “The BUNDYS...really and truly believe...as a result of the support they received at the ranch, that the militia is the proper...defensive mechanism for the people and, you know, they’ve been assured and they feel the protection of the militia even to this day.” PAYNE went on to say, “I think that...if we didn’t stand with the BUNDYS that it would surely diminish our, ah, the notion of our fortitude in the cause to them.” HUNT said that it was his impression based on his conversation with Ammon BUNDY the day before that they [the BUNDYS] had to have some support from the HAMMONDS.

59. At 1:04:40, PAYNE said that he recorded the conversations he had with Mrs. HAMMOND and Sheriff Ward. HUNT asked PAYNE to get those submitted on the Dropbox. The OMD Advisory Board voted to table the HAMMOND issue until after the HAMMOND Family.

60. From 1:07:24 to 1:17:18, the OMD Advisory Board discussed William Wolf and potentially breaking him out of federal custody while in transit from a jail to a federal prison or with the use of a protest movement. HUNT said that William WOLF was convicted on both counts and HUNT told PAYNE that they needed to talk about WOLF. DICKENSON asked HUNT if he and PAYNE were looking at any viable options and HUNT said, “Well that’s what we gotta talk about, I don’t know if there is one or not, you know, do we want to break somebody out of prison, or not.” HUNT continued, “Sometime after he’s sentenced, he’ll be transported.” PAYNE discussed KC MASSEY and BEACHER as other political prisoners and HUNT said that WOLF is the only potential candidate for breaking him out. HUNT said, “I

Exhibit A

Dissemination Limited by Court Order
don’t think we’re going to go...after a prison. I mean the only logical time would be in transit, I think.” At 1:11:36, PAYNE said that, “Any specific action that requires a certain skill set and level of experience when we’re talking about small unit tactics can be achieved anywhere.” At 1:15:15, PAYNE said, “As a plan of...possible operational platform in the future, ah one of the things that has been discussed...and you can see it on some level with the BUNDY Ranch situation where we were able to create cohesion...very solid cohesion between the protest movement and the militia effort in the sense that, well you can look at a lot of those videos and you can have no clue that there’s a militia effort there...and so the militia effort maintained a strict...defensive stance that was separated from the protest movement and integrated into it because a lot of those protestors were armed and were part of the plan, ah, but the vast majority of the protestors had no clue of what the militia plan was. On that regard, on the same note...an operational consideration is to combine a protest move with the militia effort in order to provide either infil, exfil, or both. And so for instance, something like a...dynamic entry, ah, into a prison...which could take place, either from within or outside of a protest, totally...outside of the protestors’ knowledge at all...the exfil, let’s say that the safest exfiltration for that operation was directly into a very large group of people who are openly in support of freeing the man. And so ah, anyways, the same things have been talked about with a couple other instances on how to use...a protest movement to secure entry or exit.”

61. The OMD Advisory Board agreed that their next meeting out be the following Sunday. HUNT said that the OMD Advisory Board meetings will be put into Dropbox. HUNT asked PAYNE if he was heading south now and PAYNE asked HUNT to stop the recording and the recording ends.

Exhibit A
62.   Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151108 OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Ryan PAYNE, Jon RITZHEIMER, Gary HUNT, Timothy FOLEY, and Dennis DICKENSON. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes and 58 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as an OMD Advisory Board meeting held on Sunday, November 8, 2015, at 10:08 Pacific Time. The conversation was centered on OMD organization and administrative matters, such as background checks and going public with their website. Also discussed during the meeting were potential OMD operations, including Melissa DIEGEL, the HAMMOND situation and William WOLF. While discussing the potential of freeing WOLF from federal custody, PAYNE discussed the use of an armed protest movement and its successful use at the BUNDY Ranch. The following is a review of this recording.

63.   At the beginning of the recording PAYNE referenced the discussion about the HAMMOND situation the prior Thursday but then did not speak about it.

64.   The OMD Advisory Board then discussed the Melissa DIEGEL situation. RITZHEIMER explained to the board that DIEGEL’S kids were taken from her by the children’s hospital. RITZHEIMER claimed that the hospital received a “monetary kickback” when they refer children to CPS and that while children are in CPS’s custody they are subject to extensive medical testing. The board agreed that HUNT would prepare a brief for the DIEGEL situation.

65.   At 0:03:36, HUNT asked to talk about the HAMMOND situation for a moment and said that he and Ryan previously discussed a “4th door,” which would be in defense of the
BUNDYS. HUNT said, “I’ve got a call into AMMON and we’re going to follow up and see. If the BUNDY family comes up with a plan where we can defend the BUNDYS instead of the HAMMONDS, that would be fourth door. So that’s ah, pending until I hear from, I or Ryan hear from ah Ammon and find out what the BUNDY family plans to do so that’s not, it’s still pending.” PAYNE then said, “That would be a decision that we would all have to make at that time.” HUNT said, “Just to let you aware that that one’s…still working on it.”

The OMD Advisory Board went back to discuss the Melissa DIEGEL situation. At 0:08:05, PAYNE asked RITZHEIMER what should happen in the DIEGEL situation. RITZHEIMER said that he wanted to handle the situation as peacefully as possible. He suggested that the first course of action be to shed light on the situation and putting pressure on the courts so that they would change their ruling and return the kids to their family. He suggested that the worst case scenario, “we are going to have to retrieve these kids and get them back with their mom.” At 0:10:07, PAYNE said, “We both just agreed and I’m sure that anybody here who has kids would agree that getting your kids taken away is…one of the worst things that you could possibly imagine. The governments, talking about making it go peacefully and that type of stuff, of course that’s already going to be the effort. The government has no qualms, basically they kidnapped these kids…let’s say somebody kidnaps somebody else’s kids. A private citizen kidnaps some kids. Does the government wait until there’s a court decisions or wait until there’s proceedings or wait and see what they’re going to do and, you know and try and shift the tone of things and shed light on things. You see what I’m getting at? Or do they put up a team together, they search, if they locate them they bust doors down and they get the damn kids.” RITZHEIMER then said, “Yeah, I would like to get the kids sooner than later and, and let us hold them, hold the kids or something. I’m sure there’s plenty of ah support and

Exhibit A
militia men and everything out there that guys that have kids that this would be a pretty passionate case.” HUNT said, “Let’s get the brief together though and if necessary, if there’s urgency, we can have a special meeting like we did last week.”

67. The OMD Advisory Board then spent time discussing the board member’s individual background checks and questioned whether simple criminal history checks were adequate. At 0:17:12, FOLEY said, “My thing is if we’re, you know, preparing to do something to stand up against the government and everything, do you want to make sure they’re not a prohibited possessor? That was my main goal. Because I didn’t want to be taken down by somebody who lied to me about being a prohibited possessor and all of a sudden he’s walking around with a firearm and we get popped for that.” The Advisory Board agreed that OMD would run their background checks through FOLEY.

68. The OMD Advisory Board spent time discussing OMD going public with their website. As part of this discussion they spoke about the “Articles” section on the OMD website. At 0:34:10, HUNT said, “What I’ve kind of had in mind for that is ah, articles pertaining to OMD generally because, for example, Ryan wrote that thing on the Bundy ranch.”

69. At 0:40:00, the Advisory Board discussed William WOLF. HUNT said that his communication with WOLF was almost non-existent. HUNT suggested that the members of the board go to his blog, type in “Wolf Trap” and read the articles. At 0:42:44, HUNT said, “The question arises, and I don’t want to go into too much detail, if I can find that somebody wants to not take the transportation that’s provided for him, do we want to provide alternate transportation? That’s a pretty heavy task.” At 0:44:34, PAYNE said, “I guess the question that we really should answer here is a matter of precedence for us. Which is, when people are already imprisoned and they’re basically being held as a political prisoner at this point, Wolf was...
setup because of his, his outspokenness on Patriot issues, if somebody is being held as a political prisoner, are we going to entertain the notion of seeing to it that they are not held as a political prisoner?” PAYNE continued, “My opinion is that, I believe that if they, it is a task that at some point needs to be taken up, and as far as Operation Mutual Aid was concerned, the predecessor here [loud noise] made the guarantee in some public statements that if anybody were arrested in connection to Operation Mutual Aid, in travel to or from an Operation Mutual Aid mission, ah, or within any affiliation associated with Operation Mutual Aid, that I would personally pursue operations in order to make sure they were free. And so I guess that says what my opinion is.”

HUNT discussed the WOLF situation and provided legal arguments for his defense. At 0:46:57, HUNT said, “He [Wolf] was beginning to temper away from that though, because when we started talking about Committees of Safety, ah he started realizing that perhaps there was a…solution through Committees of Safety, which is the same thing that were looking at as kind of an extension of OMD.” At 0:49:12, HUNT said, “When we get to what I mentioned, the transportation issue, it’s a pretty risky task and ah, it may be too much to take on now, maybe it’s not…do we want to establish a good solid reputation where we would get more people to go along with this, or do we take something risky like this early on in the game? But he’ll probably be sentenced; I assume he’s going to stay in Yellowstone down in Billings for a couple months until sentencing, so we’ve got time to look into this unless they transport him right away. But chances usually they usually keep them locally until sentencing. After this phone call they might decide to move him again.” PAYNE said, “You know, everything OMD is risky. There’s probably not going to be an operation that we consider that because the courses of action that are pursuant to our mission statement, I don’t think…anybody’s fooling themselves that we’re not all putting ourselves out on a limb here and anybody involved is going to be doing that. I guess
my issue is, along with lines of what Gary finished up there with, do we need to pursue, ah, operations that build the notoriety and the effectiveness of OMD before we consider …ones that are not so publically palatable, and I hate to put people, you know the notion of justice and people’s liberties in that type of box, where we’re using our own notoriety, but I think that goes along with our effectiveness. Whether or not we can garner enough support. I know that we can put together a team in order to accomplish that, those tasks, but is there any way to proceed after that?” HUNT said that he could prepare a brief on the Wolf situation. HUNT said that in part of his brief he would give the group a picture of the facility where Wolf would likely be transferred.

70. The OMD Advisory Board continued discussing Individual Tasks. As part of this conversation the Advisory Board discussed background checks again.

71. At 0:58:00, the OMD Advisory Board discussed new potential OMD members. PAYNE said that “we’re” in discussion with a man now who has completed the background check and the application named Tom DIAMOND. PAYNE said that DIAMOND was in Northern California to “meet with us” and said that he (DIAMOND) is in the decision stage. HUNT then said that he got to spend a lot of time with DIAMOND while Ryan was writing his report from the BUNDY Ranch. HUNT said that DIAMOND is very capable and his enthusiasm continued to rise as they talked between the three of them and one-on-one with HUNT. HUNT said that he was “very impressed by Tom” based on his personal interview with him. HUNT and PAYNE agreed that Tom would be Tier 2 member. PAYNE shared that he has four others that he has applications out to but he’s waiting on them to return them.

72. At 1:00:45, RITHEIMER shared that he had a background in logistics and he volunteer to help with OMD’s logistics until that position was filled. PAYNE said, “At the Bundy Ranch a ton of contacts were made for people that are very adept at procurement of
different things.” PAYNE asked if he could share his contacts with RITZHEIMER. HUNT then
discussed planning for “Bundy Ranch 2.” HUNT said that the preppers would likely come in
and help and suggested that they could be responsible for cooking, dishwashing, running a
medical facility, and other things. PAYNE then shared that there was already a substantial
amount of supplies at the BUNDY Ranch for future operations and asked RITZHEIMER to join
him there to assess the supplies that are available there.

73. The remainder of this OMD Advisory Board meeting was spent discussing
OMD’s administrative matters.
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151115-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Jon RITZHEIMER, Ryan PAYNE, Dennis DICKENSON and Timothy FOLEY. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 57 minutes and 55 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as an OMD Advisory Board meeting held on Sunday, November 15, 2015, at 10:00 Pacific Time. The conversation was centered on OMD administrative matters and potential OMD operations, including the HAMMOND situation, Melissa DIEGEL, William WOLF, and the interdiction and interrogation of refugees in the United States. The following is a review of this recording.

At 0:02:00, PAYNE began discussing the HAMMOND situation. PAYNE provided a synopsis of the OMD Advisory Board’s previous decisions on intervening in the HAMMOND situation. PAYNE said that the board voted to close “door three,” which meant that OMD would not pursue any action if the HAMMONDS were publically opposed to OMD action. PAYNE shared that the last vote involved keeping other options opened for OMD, such as if the HAMMONDS made a request for OMD action, or if they agreed not to publically oppose OMD action.

From 0:03:03 to 0:7:50, PAYNE provided an update on his and A. BUNDY’s recent conversation with the Sheriff. PAYNE said that based on his conversations with the local Sheriff, he believes the Federal Government has been feeding him information to paint A. BUNDY and PAYNE in a “certain light.” PAYNE said that he shared with the Sheriff the idea...
of pursuing a grand jury in order to look at the evidence in the HAMMOND case with the Sheriff. PAYNE believed that the Sheriff was unwilling to do this. At 0:07:00, PAYNE said that one of the things that he and A. BUNDY discussed was keeping pressure on the Sheriff to make a decision. PAYNE said the Sheriff’s decision will determine “what our courses of action are...what direction we go with this thing.” PAYNE said of the Sheriff, “He’s also been told that there will be no neutral ground.” PAYNE then told the board members that they can find recordings of his meetings with A. BUNDY and Mrs. HAMMONDS and his meeting with A. BUNDY and the Sheriff in the Dropbox account.

77. From 0:07:51 to 0:10:50, PAYNE provided details about his conversation with Mrs. HAMMOND the day prior to this meeting. PAYNE said that Mrs. HAMMOND “sounds supportive of the idea a defensive force coming together to insure the safety of the HAMONDS.” PAYNE said that both Mrs. HAMMOND and Dwight HAMMOND shared with him that Dwight and Steven HAMMOND are fearful of being shot if they don’t “toe the line” or “try to make an effort to stand on their own two feet.” PAYNE said Steven HAMMOND is in charge of the decision on how to proceed because they’ve left the ranch to him. PAYNE said that he and A. BUNDY have a meeting scheduled for the coming Wednesday with all of the HAMONDS, including Susan, Dwight, Steven and his wife. PAYNE shared that he and A. BUNDY also have another meeting scheduled with the Sheriff later that week. PAYNE said that he asked Mrs. HAMMOND if they would come out in the negative against a response from OMD and she wanted some more information on what an OMD response would look like. PAYNE said that he told her that, “It would be non-violent but it would be firm. Ah, you know, since we haven’t come up with any courses of action it’s difficult to present her with something. Ah, so there’s basically a lack of clarity on our part with that, we’re kind of in the same position.”

Exhibit A
78. At 0:10:52, RITZHEIMER asked, “Is there any articles or anything that’s already out there about this case that I can help promote, push out and shed light on?” PAYNE directed RITZHEIMER to A. BUNDY’S BlogSpot page. PAYNE also informed RITZHEIMER that A. BUNDY had already put things out on Facebook about this with half a million hits. At 0:12:08, RITZHEIMER said, “Since we’re seeing a light, a possible light at the end of the tunnel, of we may, they may actually let us help them take a stand. Then I want to start pushing it out there and getting people prepared, I guess, just more aware of the situation because I was completely unaware of it until I heard about it through you guys.” At 0:12:59, PAYNE said, “Ammon, you know there’s discussion about strategy and how to keep things moving, ah, how to put pressure on [coughs] on the Sheriff. One of the things Ammon specifically did was leave out that citation, ah, so that the Sheriff would have to come to him for the citation, basically… It’s going to show whether the Sheriff is actually going pursuing this, first off. And second off it’s going to maintain a relationship ah, with ah, our side, ah, with the Sheriff, who already seems pretty, you know, he seems not only receptive to our ideas, ah, but he does show a genuine respect for, for the cause. Anyway, we’ll see where all that goes.” At 0:14:45, RITZHEIMER explained to PAYNE his purpose for sending out information. He said, “I’m not doing it for them [the HAMMONDS], I’m doing it so people can start making arrangements, ah you know? If, if, letting their employer know, or just, it’s so the people that are going to be coming, start making preparations or plans, like give them an estimated timeline, or stuff like that. [unintelligible] January timeline that we’re going to be headed up there and taking a stance in January then they, at least they got a month or something to understand or be able to make preparations.” At 0:16:00, HUNT said, “I was just thinking you know, that ah getting people prepared when we might not do something is not very good for us. You know, when we talk about something
might happen and the HAMMONDS don’t go along with it and we find no way to get in, ah, it might make us look a little foolish, kind of like the Oath Keepers.” RITZHEIMER shared that he was not planning on putting OMD’s name on the information he shares. FOLEY shared that he posted a link to the Bundy’s page on his social media page. FOLEY said, “I told everybody, ‘If you don’t know what’s happening, you need to start informing yourself of what’s happening, because this could be the next Bundy.’” FOLEY continued, “I would rather be informed that something’s coming and not happen, and then stand down, then all of a sudden at the last second sit there and go ‘holy crap I can’t do it because…I’ve gotta move,’ or whatever, you know? So I, I think, ah, putting something out there that’s saying, ‘it’s possible it’s coming so you might want to think about it.’” At 0:19:39, FOLEY said, “I think it’s beneficial to get it out there because, ah, you know you don’t have to put the ‘OMD’ on there, but we need to start blasting it around there to get people to realize that this could happen and it could happen in the next eight weeks and eight weeks is not a lot of time.” At 0:20:08 PAYNE said, “we’re talking more like four, four to six weeks…depending on how preemptive we want to get. They haven’t even been told where they’re supposed to report to.” The board then talked about Steven and Dwight HAMMONDS’ original sentences and the government’s appeal.

79. At 0:24:50, the Advisory Board discussed PAYE’s recordings. PAYNE said that he would be recording the upcoming meeting with the Sheriff. PAYNE also explained why the initial recording with the Sheriff was choppy.

80. The Advisory Board then discussed the OMD website. HUNT shared the website views, hits, new member statistics, and PAYNE talked about the OMD Facebook Page. HUNT also spoke about another blog called the Western Rifle Shooter’s Association.

81. From 0:31:50 to 0:42:19, the OMD Advisory Board discussed a potential OMD
operation to free William WOLF from federal custody. After detailed discussion on what an
OMD operation might look like, the OMD Advisory Board agreed to monitor the WOLF
situation and agreed that there’s no feasible action to be taken at the moment.

82. From 0:42:20 to 0:57:55 the OMD Advisory Board discussed the Melissa
DIEGEL situation.

83. From 0:58:00 to 1:30:10, the OMD Advisory Board discussed refugees in New
Orleans. At 0:1:04:40, PAYNE asked the board to review his proposed course of action.
PAYNE described the course of action, which involved states’ militias granting authorization to
interview refugees as they arrive in their states. Once interviews are conducted the plan would
be to detain “suspected” refugees and turn them over to the local authorities. PAYNE described
this as a “defensive Homeland Security function effort.” While discussing this plan PAYNE said
that it would require, “A Committee of Safety…to review what’s going on and then make the,
the callout to the militia to perform the action.” HUNT said that OMD ought to act like they’re
avoiding the refugee issue. HUNT explained that publically OMD is defending individuals’
lives, liberty and property and never claimed to be defending the country. At the end of this
discussion, RITZHEIMER agreed to send the other members the names and locations of three
mosques and to follow-up in contacting people in Louisiana to look into the refugee situation
there. The OMD Advisory Board agreed to not publically discuss the refugee issue.

84. Beginning at 1:30:10, the OMD Advisory Board discussed administrative matters.
At 1:32:09, when discussing OMD background checks, HUNT said, “I’ve got a guy who is an
administrator on the webpage and he’s not, ah, Ryan and I discussed this, but I’ve got a team,
some teams that I work with for different things. And, do we need to bring them into Tier 2 or
should, can we leave them out? Now he’s got access to the discussion page only. I’ve got
another guy who is setting up the...webpage. Do they have to come in? Do we want them to come in, or can they remain out?” The OMD Advisory Board agreed that if the individuals that HUNT works with want to come into OMD then they will do the background check and be admitted into Tier 2; however, if they don’t want to become involved then they will remain as they are. HUNT said that at least two of the people on his team asked not to be involved with The Advisory Board. HUNT identified one of them as the administrator of the OMD discussion page.

85. The Advisory Board then discussed radio communications and brevity codes. FOLEY said that the brevity codes will have to be worked on when PAYNE and FOLEY meet in person in the coming future. At 1:41:40, PAYNE said, “Tim, on that note of, of heading down there, obviously, if the ah, HAMMONDS decide that they’re going to ah issue a request to us, then that, that may interfere with that trip as far as the length of it, um and all that, because I may end up, up there ah developing the defense course of action a little more in depth.”

86. At 1:49:45, PAYNE said to the group, “It would be helpful if you guys can use your contacts, ah, whether you need to refer them to me, or, or whatever, ah, so we can start looking at response teams, um, outside of what I already have together. Ah, and ah, and we can start looking, I don’t know if we need to start looking regionally or what it needs to be but anyways, people we already know ahead of time will, will respond to an alert, ah, and are willing to work directly with us. That would be helpful.”

87. At 1:53:15, the OMD Advisory Board discussed having another meeting prior to the regular Sunday meeting if anything new comes out of PAYNE’s meeting with the HAMMONDS scheduled for the upcoming Wednesday. FOLEY said that he may not be available for the next Sunday OMD Advisory Board meeting. PAYNE said that the Monday or

Exhibit A
Tuesday after Thanksgiving he would leave for Tim’s [FOLEY’s] location, stopping at the BUNDY’s on his way. PAYNE suggested that RITZHEIMER meet him at the BUNDY Ranch sometime around the 1st or 2nd [of December]. RITZHEIMER shared that he may not be able to meet PAYNE at the Bundy Ranch. PAYNE said that one of his purposes for going to the BUNDY Ranch is to get a “better feel for exactly where we’re at as far as provisions that are available.”
88. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151119 Special OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense ("OMD") Advisory Board members Ryan PAYNE, Gary Hunt, Dennis DICKENSON, and Timothy FOLEY. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 3 minutes and 48 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE took a call on his phone from what he described as a “Burns, Oregon number.” DICKENSON identified the date and time as November 19th at 8:48 p.m. Eastern Time. While waiting for PAYNE to return HUNT said that he and PAYNE spent about a week together and said that they had some interesting conversations. When PAYNE returned to the meeting he said that it was a Harney County commissioner that called him. The conversation during the meeting was centered on the HAMMOND situation, PAYNE’s meetings with the Harney County Sheriff and the HAMMONDS, and OMD’s concerns about the Pacific Patriot Network (PPN) and the Oath Keepers organizations. The following is a review of this recording.

89. At 0:02:12, PAYNE explained that there was a meeting prior to the meeting with the HAMMONDS, with Ammon BUNDY, five people from the Pacific Patriots Network (PPN), which PAYNE described as an organization that was tied to Oath Keepers leadership, gentlemen who were involved with organizations that make people aware of government overreach with respect to land use, and an author/historian who was there to document the meeting. PAYNE said that the goal for this meeting was to come up with a unified message to present to the HAMMONDS, to present them with “a unified agreement on protecting them in the event they decided to, ah, not turn themselves in for ah, for their sentence.” PAYNE identified the PPN

Exhibit A
Intelligence Officer as Brooke (LNU), something like “Agrusta” or “Agrasta,” as a participant at these meetings. PAYNE said that the PPN’s purpose was to pitch themselves versus establishing a unified command. PAYNE described Brooke as Brandon CURTISS’ wife. PAYNE identified CURTISS as the President of Idaho III%ers and one of the five founders of the PPN.

90. At 0:06:35, PAYNE began to discuss the meeting with the HAMMONDS. PAYNE said that they sat around a round table and discussed with them what it was that was being offered. Steven HAMMOND did not attend this meeting. PAYNE said that Dwight HAMMOND plans to serve his time and then get on with his life. PAYNE said that Dwight and Susan HAMMOND would be onboard with what was presented to them, but they’re not willing to make a stand without Steven. At 0:09:10, PAYNE said, “Dwight was talking, um, being concerned with the same thing that Steven is and that he, he feels, he’s having a very hard time accepting that a very difficult situation and a, and a very tense situation may arise out of a decision that he makes. And so, I, I will, I made it very clear to him. And this was really the only point of dissention amongst everybody that was there. Ah, that he could feel that that weight has been lifted off of his shoulders because the American people are now becoming, ah, aware of his situation, of their family’s situation and that the American people have already express their sentiment that they’re going to see to it that the HAMMONDS are not oppressed further and ah, and that quite honestly that decision doesn’t’ rest with them anymore, that decision has already been made. And that the decision that that essentially they had to come to was whether they felt they needed direct protection if they chose to ah, to not turn themselves in. And, so they agreed with that and here’s where we get to ah, ah the point of dissention. Ah, Brooke was the one that voiced it and she said, ‘I, I disagree with that. Ah, I feel like if the HAMMONDS do not make a stand, that basically we can’t be involved whatsoever, and ah, she
went on pretty lengthily with that and somebody from within their own organization stopped her
and ah, and basically agreed with me. He said that, ah, ‘At, at this point we have to say that
tyranny exists and we have to stop it and it really doesn’t, we can’t even put that weigh on the
HAMONDS’ shoulders to make that decision. That the tyranny has to be stopped and we have
to do whatever it takes to make that happen. It was the only point that appeared to be disunity in
the entire conversation.” At 0:11:55, PAYNE said, “Dwight said that he was sure that no matter
what type of action was taken, ah, that they would definitely not come out against it would most
likely support it. Um, and they were also sure that Steven would not come, he may be against it,
he may not come out in support of it, but, but they were certain that he wouldn’t come out
against it.”

91. At 0:12:50, PAYNE talked about a second meeting held via conference call.
Participants to this meeting included members of the Tea Party Patriots, other activist
organizations, members of the PPN, PAYNE and A. BUNDY. PAYNE described a back and
forth argument he had with members of the PPN during this meeting. According to PAYNE, the
PPN wished for the HAMMONDS to file an appeal with the Supreme Court and pursue a legal
remedy to aid the HAMMONDS. PAYNE said that he A. BUNDY’S told the members of the
PPN that, “Pursuing things in the Supreme Court is going to produce nothing and it
acknowledges a stance which we believe doesn’t exists. And so it’s not a method that should
even be considered in, honestly.” PAYNE said that the PPN members argued that if the
HAMMONDS didn’t appeal then they would have to accept that they would be arrested by a
“squad of U.S. Marshals.” PAYNE said that he responded to this comment saying, “And we’re
going to stop them from arresting them.” PAYNE said that the members of the PPN said, “Any
efforts like that are going to, can only result in aggression on the other side, which is going to

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end up... in violence and end up poorly.” PAYNE said that A. BUNDY then began talking about the BUNDY Situation and members on the conference call downplayed the BUNDY situation to the HAMMONDS’ situation. PAYNE said that, “It was said, that it doesn’t quite honestly matter what your guys’ position is, the, the people are going to decide and some of us have already decided that they’re not going to jail.” PAYNE said that members of the Tea Party Patriots asked for PAYNE to participate in another conference call, which PAYNE shared was going to occur after this OMD Advisory Board meeting. PAYNE said that the Tea Party Patriots wished to ask PAYNE more about what he’s trying to accomplish and how he plans to do it.

92. At 0:17:52, PAYNE talked about the meeting with the Sheriff. PAYNE said that all of the same people were at this meeting, with the addition of Joseph RICE. PAYNE said that RICE had a targeted approach, which PAYNE described as “we’re going to work within the system.” PAYNE said that the Sheriff was presented with all their goals and intents and a petition to him to make the right decision. PAYNE said that the Sheriff told them that he received over 1000 emails about the HAMMOND situation. He also said that the Sheriff told him that the Feds have talked with him. PAYNE said that A. BUNDY told the Sheriff that he needs to get out and investigate the HAMMOND matter and the Sheriff agreed that he needed to make. The Sheriff told PAYNE that he has the decision to make that he is either going to defend the HAMMONDS, or not. PAYNE said that, “We made that point very clear to him that there’s no gray area, to not make a decision or to take a position of neutrality is to condemn the HAMMONDS and thus you will be taking the side of the government at that point.” PAYNE said that, “Ammon, ah, furthered a conversation that him and I had and he told the Sheriff that he has, ah, till shortly after Thanksgiving to make his decision before some sort of movement is going to be initiated on the whole thing. And ah, it was made clear to the Sheriff that if he does
not, if he decides that he is not going to stand with the HAMMONDS, that the people have decided to stand with the HAMMONDS and, and ah, we will do his job for him. His ah, really the only other point that he wanted to make was that he has told the Feds, everyone he’s met with, and the State prosecutor, excuse me, the ah, District Attorney and the State, ah, Attorney General, that he will not be having any ah, Federal force in his county, ah, to come kick doors or, or anything, he specifically said, ‘we’re not going to have the Feds come in here doing what they did at the Bundy Ranch.’” PAYNE said, “So I made sure that he understood that that’s, that’s not necessarily enough, that the, that that protection needs to extend to the HAMMONDS specifically because…if he does not step in then the HAMMONDS are going to feel like their, the Federal Government is infringing on his territory, his jurisdiction. And ah, he agreed with that. He said, ‘from everything I’ve seen so far I agreed with that position’ and so that’s why he wants to review everything. Basically, and he, he was very heartfelt in what he was saying. He said, ‘I understand where, where I’m at.’ He said that he, he feels ‘a very large weigh a very large weight on his shoulders right now’ with the decision that he has to make and he’s considering the ramifications either way and he said that he’s not sleeping a whole lot right now. I told him, ah, you know, when he decides, when he makes the right decision and he decides to stand with the HAMMONDS that I’m confident that that will be the best night sleep that he, that he’s gotten since he became Sheriff. Just to try to take a little bit of the weight that’s on his shoulders, but definitely the goal there was to put the weight on him. Ah, at this point he can make, make a stand that will be recognized and will set a precedent across the country and it’ll empower other Sheriffs to, to make that stand as well and do their proper role as the protector of the people that’s in their county.” PAYNE said that after that he had a private meeting with the Sheriff. PAYNE did not say any more about this.
93. At 0:24:05, PAYNE discussed his concern about the PPN. PAYNE said that during the meeting with the HAMMONDS and with the Sheriff, the PPN people made the point that if things were going to be pursued in the HAMMOND situation they would be leading it. PAYNE said the PPN offered their resources directly to the Sheriff. PAYNE said that the PPN people made other off-handed comments that PAYNE and A. BUNDY felt were directed at them. After the meeting, PAYNE told the Sheriff that he wanted to speak to him privately. The PPN people remained with the Sheriff and talked to him for approximately half an hour before PAYNE got to talk to him again. When PAYNE talked to the Sheriff privately, the Sheriff told him that the government told him that PAYNE wanted a “violent revolution” and that he wanted to “start a fight with the Federal Government,” and that his group was “looking for a war.” PAYNE said that the Sheriff eluded that the PPN people told the Sheriff the same thing about PAYNE. PAYNE said that his private meeting with the Sheriff went well.

94. At 0:31:37, PAYNE said, “The HAMMONDS, they said that they haven’t decided whether, he hasn’t decided whether he’s going to turn himself in or not. Ah, and so the decision on whether to provide personal protection for them is still up in the air. But I, I feel pretty confident that…we could start looking at courses of action on ah, how to affect their defense, ah, you know, indirectly. And ah, that they’re not going to speak out against it and and most likely they’ll come out and support it. The Sheriff is the other issue; we’re basically waiting on his decision. If ah, if the Sheriff, there again, if he decides that he’s not going to stand for the HAMMONDS, ah, then that is going to be the point where serious course of action, ah, discussion on what we actually want to do can start taking place.”

95. At 0:35:21, PAYNE discussed his meeting with the Sheriff and the PPN again. He said, “It was Brooke again, who told the Sheriff, ‘We want to stand behind you’ and ‘We
want to support you.’ And, you know, ‘No matter what decision you make… whether, it’s this way or that, we’re going to support you in that decision.’ And so I… cut her off and said, ‘you know, that, that’s their opinion and that may be their opinion but…’ And the Sheriff at that point, that’s when he started the conversation, ‘I know where you stand… where you guys are at.’ And so I told him specifically, ‘If you do not stand with the HAMMONDS we will not support you. You will have placed yourself with the other side in saying I’m going to allow them to be arrested. At that point we will not support you and we will be ensuring that the HAMMONDS do not get arrested.’ At 0:37:31, PAYNE said, “Brandon CURTISS is ah, former law enforcement and he, he ah, made that point very well known. That his specific purpose in that organization is to talk with law enforcement entities where they go into and try to work with them as much as possible.” HUNT said, “So we can expect to be on the opposite side from Oath Keepers somewhere along the line. Does Ammon understand that at this point?” PAYNE said, “That was the discussion that I had with him afterwards. I said, you know Ammon, I’m going to keep up this whole unity thing that you want to see. But you have to understand that their camp is not going to work with us and therefore your, that unity is going to fail at that point that that becomes obvious that they’re not going to work with us. And the other point is gonna be that, and Ammon is already feeling it, he said that he’s already feeling it, that there are not going to toe the hard line of defending the HAMMONDS if the HAMMONDS are not going to stand up and quite possibly if the Sheriff is not gonna stand up.” HUNT said, “So the two problems we’ve got now are, one, Steven’s decision, you know, if he convinces his parents. When do we expect an answer on that?” PAYNE said, “There’s not telling, we may never hear.” HUNT said, “OK, and the other one is, ah, right now I see the Oath Keepers as the enemy. That antagonism makes it untenable. If the HAMMONDS did want us to come in and they wanted the Oath
Keepers to come in, as well, unless they agreed that all communication between all units come through the militia liaison, I think we’d have to back away. Because I’d hate to rest our reputation of OMD on Oath Keepers taking the camp by force so to speak.” PAYNE said, “Yeah, I had that conversation with Ammon. Ammon has taken essentially the position of militia liaison at this point. And I kind of told him about that. That ah, at this point, you know with the fact that you’re the one who’s bringing all the entities into unity on this, you’re going to have to make sure that…this authoritarian rule that they want to impose is not allowed to happen. So he has definitely said that ah if any entity tries to exert total control that he will not be allowing that. And he will also advise the HAMMONDS totally against it, as well.”

96. At 0:40:45, FOLEY said, “So basically there’s what, ah, five, maybe six weeks left, before D-Day?” HUNT said, “Well, actually, if the HAMMONDS decide on a course of action and agree to work with us, or allow us to trespass on their property, ah, the Sheriff, six weeks from now, is inconsequential, right?” PAYNE said, “Right.” HUNT said, “So we’d have to have their permission to be on their land. They’d have to give that. And that would be acquiescence and ah, if we had something in writing from them that we had permission to camp on their land or something like that then we would, at that point we would know and could begin planning. Otherwise, if they’re not willing to give us permission, I don’t know how we could stop ah, arrest.” PAYNE said, “I’m not exactly sure how that looks either, but that’s what has to be discussed.” HUNT said, “In looking at the map they’re nearly surrounded, I don’t know if there’s any other out parcels that aren’t federal. But that’s all federal lands. We could encircle the ranch but that’s a large ranch, it’s what, a thousand acres or something?” PAYNE said, “Well, it’s not a ah… I think we need to look at other things, other avenues. If, if they’re not going to ah, to request the assistance. Not only that, but Steve and his wife live out at the ranch.
and Dwight and Suzy live in town, right, probably three blocks over from the Sheriff’s Department. They’re around [unintelligible] town, so you have that issue. I don’t know, if they’re not going to request assistance and then we have to look at another avenue of keeping them out of jail, then I think a separate avenue has to be, first off it has to be a covert protection, probably, ah, and it has to be based on quick reaction teams as far as I can see.” HUNT said, “If they decide to go turn themselves in we’d have to kidnap them to stop it.” PAYNE said, “You have two different things…now we’re basing it on two different courses of action. If they still decide that they’re going to turn themselves in. Somehow the situation has to be created that…they can’t. Not because of their side, but because of the other side. A situation has to be created where the federal…where they’re not going to be accepted when they turn themselves in.” HUNT said, “If they’re supposed to turn themselves into the prison, for example, the prison’s armed, it’s got the towers around it, they’ve got automatic weapons. If…they got to the prison gates it would be almost impossible for us to discourage the prison from taking them, would be almost impossible.” PAYNE said, “No, I think that a situation beforehand to where…” FOLEY said, “Well my thing is, if they accept, then you take the two that are living in town and put them on the ranch so that way you can provide all the family in a perimeter of security around and eliminate the two different…two different operations.” PAYNE said, “If they decide, you know, that they’re not going to be arrested I think that’s the situation that’ll probably happen.” HUNT said, “Well I think it’s time for, you know, I’ve got some maps and I can get some Google of the property, ah, which would give you the topo…the Google Earth coordinates on it. But I think it’s time [unintelligible] for people start looking at the variables and see what they can come up with.” PAYNE said, “The other issue I’m talking about, on that notion of the fence, we’re still talking about if they decide that they’re not going to turn themselves in.
Whether they want protection or not, you’re looking at courses of action on that.” HUNT said, “If they’re not going to turn themselves in yeah, even if we can’t go on their property, I think it’s viable. It depends on how large their ranch is if they don’t give us permission to go on their ranch.” PAYNE said, “But if they decide that they’re going to turn themselves in, I believe we still have a duty, we still have a responsibility to ensure that they’re not, that they can’t. Not, not necessarily by impeding them from doing it, but by impeding the other side from taking them.” HUNT said, “Well, I need to have some idea. I can’t conceive how that can be done.” PAYNE said, “Well we’ve already talked through one course of action which is obviously very aggressive...but I think those are the types of things that are going to have to be considered if we’re actually going to take that stance that the HAMMONDS are, are not going to serve another day in prison.” HUNT said, “Well that’s where planning needs to, you know, come [unintelligible] various scenarios based on this, I think.” FOLEY said, “And we need to start drawing something up, like, yesterday, since there’s only maybe six weeks left.” PAYNE said, “Right, yeah, because anything that’s gonna have to happen, we’re going to have to drum up, not only come up with an approved course of action, but then disseminate that course of action and get the support for it. And then allow time for movement, people are going to have to haul ass.” FOLEY asked for grid coordinates for the HAMMONDS’ ranch and HUNT said he would get them out.

At 0:47:18, DICKENSON asked PAYNE if there will be an OMD mission in support of the HAMMONDS regardless of the HAMMONDS’ decision or the Sheriff’s decision. PAYNE did not answer the question directly. HUNT said, “The unknown right now as far as the HAMMONDS is whether Steven would object to our intervention.” DICKENSON said, “But the discussion I’ve heard from Ryan are, it doesn’t matter whether the HAMMONDS agree or
disagree, it just changes the course of action, there’s still an OMD mission.” HUNT said, “I
thought we decided that if they…didn’t want us there that we would…that was when we were,
you know, we were three to two the other day. I would still continue to vote the same way. If
he’s going to turn on us and say, no I didn’t want them here, then, you know, I still think that
closes the door. I think participation on the HAMMONDS side with Oath Keepers is out of the
question unless they’re willing to agree to, that we can’t share with them.” PAYNE said, “That’s
why I asked the HAMMONDS directly, what their position was as far as, you know, the feeling
that it doesn’t really matter what their decision is, that, that, it’s going to be ensured that they’re
not, don’t spend another day in prison. And they said that surely they’re not going to come out
against it and that most likely they’d be in support of it.” HUNT asked PAYNE, “That’s Susan
and Dwight, what about Steven?” HUNT continued, “If he comes out against us being there and
says I don’t want these people like…Kim Davis did, that’s the Door 3 scenario.” At 0:51:48,
PAYNE said, “I still find the notion that we’re going to allow them to…spend a day in prison
contrary to why we exist.” HUNT and FOLEY disagreed with PAYNE. HUNT said, “If they
decide that they want to acquiesce to the law as it’s applied, that’s their choice, too.” PAYNE
said, “Yes, and it’s our duty then to step in and say the law is being misapplied we’re not going
to allow you to do it.” HUNT said, “I can’t go there…we cannot make…somebody do
something they don’t want to do because one of the consequences, quite simply, is the
government can bring additional charges…we don’t know what the consequences could be.”
PAYNE said, “That is why…some type of something needs to be pursued to where the other side
won’t even accept them if they tried to turn themselves in.” FOLEY and HUNT discussed what
an OMD mission would look like if the HAMMONDS decided not to turn themselves in but
didn’t accept OMD’s support. FOLEY and HUNT discussed the challenges and questioned
whether this would be a good OMD mission. At 0:55:22 FOLEY said, “My feeling is that they need to be behind it 100 percent. Which means allowing us on their property, saying no we’re not going…it is there right to say, screw it, I’m done, I’m going to jail. PAYNE said, “Well then I guess the way that I feel is that we don’t have the same goal. My goal is to stop tyranny. I quite honestly don’t care if the people want to, are going to submit themselves to tyranny, or not. My goal is to stop tyranny. HUNT said, “Your goal is to take somebody’s right of choice away.” PAYNE said, “No, my goal is to stop tyranny.” HUNT replied, “By taking somebody’s rights away, you’re forgetting…” PAYNE said, “Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.” HUNT asked PAYNE, “Does the HAMMONDS don’t have a right to make choice because Ryan decided so, is that what you’re saying?” PAYNE said, “They have the right to go turn themselves [skipping] the right to stand in front of that government and say, you’re not going to accept these people.”

98. The OMD Advisory Board decided to cancel the next Sunday’s meeting and agreed to schedule a meeting when the board members were available.

99. A portion of this recording is duplicated in the file titled, “151119 Special OMD AB meeting For Gary.”
100. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151129-OMD-AB.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Ryan PAYNE, Gary HUNT, Dennis DICKENSON, Jon RITZHEIMER and Timothy FOLEY discussing the HAMMOND situation. The BUNDY Standoff and the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge were also discussed during this recording. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 7 minutes and 10 seconds long. PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense (OMD) Advisory Board meeting for November 29 at 11:00 Mountain Time. The following is a review of this recording.

101. At the beginning of the meeting PAYNE shared that after today he would be in Oregon working full-time and his time for OMD matters would be limited.

102. At 0:01:30, HUNT asked PAYNE if OMD wanted to reaffirm that OMD is not part of the HAMMOND situation. PAYNE provided an update on the HAMMOND situation. PAYNE said that they now know that the Sheriff is passing information to, and actively working with, “the other side.” PAYNE also discussed using a state law about force may be used in defense of another individual as long as an unlawful act of force is being put on them. PAYNE said that he had attorneys working on this “so the defense will be justified.”

103. At 0:03:22, PAYNE said, “At this point the basic course of action is to get over there...establish a quick reaction force and an over watch of the ranch and the house.” PAYNE continued, “If the over watches happen to see...them coming in, as they have threatened to do, to arrest them early if they requested assistance or working with anybody.” PAYNE said that
beyond that we have a flyer campaign going door-to-door to get a public meeting together so the issues can be presented to the people of the county. At that meeting PAYNE said that they had a few resolutions to be presented to the county board that will require the Sheriff to act in defense of the HAMMONDS. At 0:6:28, PAYNE said, “So that’s the idea, is to ah get the people, a movement of the people started up there and get them start exerting pressure on their elected officials, and which will basically culminate in whatever happens...the idea is to have all of this done a week before January 4th and put all of our faith and strength in each one of these endeavors. And then that gives us a week before the 4th to determine ah, you know, with all the people on the ground and anybody who wants to be involved what the, the specific course of action is going to be then and I’m sure there’s going to be plenty of conversation on the ground with people that are involved as to how that’s going to look. That’s basically where it sits.”

HUNT asked PAYNE about the HAMMONDS situation. PAYNE said the HAMMONDS are incommunicado and silent out of fear for their lives.

104. At 0:08:28, PAYNE discussed the role of the Oath Keepers and the Pacific Patriot Network (PPN). PAYNE said that some members of Oath Keepers told him that, “If and when this thing with HAMMOND goes into a situation where...a tactical response is required, that they will be responding.” PAYNE explained that this was Oath Keepers stance, not the PPN. PAYNE said that the Oath Keepers are trying to distance themselves from the Pacific Patriot Network (PPN). At 0:10:41, PAYNE said, “Quite honestly, it seems like Ammon and myself are the only ones who have a cohesive plan to move forward and Ammon wants to see unity between everybody on it, but as long as their...balls don’t drop then they’re not going to feel comfortable on moving forward on a brazen plan of action.” HUNT said, “Unless things change drastically, and Ryan reports back with something that would move OMD to participate, we’re,
ah, keeping our distance from it.” DICKENSON said, “I’m willing to see about the plan when
the time comes and make a decision then, so I’d like at least have Ryan brief OMD and give us
an opportunity to take a second bite out of it.” HUNT said, “Well that’s what I’m suggesting.
At this point we’re where we were two weeks ago; however, if things chance and Ryan continues
to report, OMD may jump in if circumstances warrant it.” PAYNE said, “As far as it goes, I, I
can tell you now that the HAMMONDS are not going to make a request. And... Suzy and
Dwight have said that they won’t... would surely come out and support any type of action, but
we have no such guarantee from Steven, so basically the decision is based on that, right? That we
don’t know that Steven would come out against it? Ah... and so I don’t mind updating you. At
some point I’m not going to be talking about any of it on the phone.” HUNT said, “What I’m
thinking about, thought, if the government decides to act against the patriots that have gathered
in Burns and the surrounding area, ah, make a preemptive attack, that might be something that, I
would think perhaps, depending on all the circumstances, that OMD might jump in. Not in
defense of the HAMMONDS, but in defense of the patriots.” RITZHEIMER said, “If something
goes down and it turns into an ‘us or them’ situation then absolutely we need to jump into that at
that point. Because then we’re not defending the HAMMONDS, we defending Americans that
are being [unreadable] upon. So maybe we should keep something, or get something like that
in the works as well though.” HUNT asked, “Is everyone in agreement with that, if
circumstances change and our defense is not in the HAMMONDS that it might be something that
OMD would just in on? Then we need Ryan to keep us apprised of the circumstances on the
ground, the actions of the feds to the extent that he can comfortably do so on the phone?” The
OMD Board voted for HUNT’s proposed course of action, with PAYNE abstaining. PAYNE
said, “So as far as that goes, then ah, you guys want to be kept in the loop on the HAMMOND

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situation enough to make a determination as to whether or not there will be an OMD alert to... support the people that gather, ah, to defend the HAMMONDS, but not to defend the HAMMONDS. Am I correct?” HUNT said, “I think that’s where we’re going, yeah... if the patriots that have gathered in Burns and the surrounding area in defense of the HAMMONDS are attacked by the government, we’re not defending the HAMMONDS, we’re defending the patriots who are defending the HAMMONDS. I know that there’s a stretch there but I think that it makes a big difference to me and... I think to the other members of the board that if, you know...” PAYNE cut HUNT off and said, “I get it. When we’re dead or in prison, then, ah, we’ll issue an alert. Got it.” PAYNE asked to move onto the next OMD issue. HUNT said, “If they move troops in facing you, not the HAMMONDS, I mean, I don’t know what they’re going to do, Ryan. You don’t either. The whole thing is if they’re the provocateurs. If they become the provocateurs in this against patriots then there’s a cause for OMD.” PAYNE said, “You see, I’m already going out on a limb by even talking about it on an opened line of communication in the first place. Because, of the threat that they have... if they feel that anybody’s going to become involved, they’re going to arrest them early. See, so our, our, the idea is get in there and gather whether or not we can even get a public uprising of the people within that county. Ah, and basically try to be undetected in doing so. This idea has not been thrown around very much. There’s not a whole lot of people that are completely aware of it. And ah, there’s not a whole lot of people... that we’re asking to come at this moment. Only people that are going to be effective in that first, hard course of action. And also just enough people to prevent them being arrested if they do decide to come and get them early. You know, I’m opened.” HUNT said, “You know, you’re trying to bring two other elements involved... there’s a number of irons in the fire right now that could change the whole situation.” HUNT went onto say, “if the nature on the ground
changes...it could be something that we’re not going where we’re wanted and somebody other than the HAMMONDS has sought help...whether it be the patriots because the government surrounded them and threatening to arrest them, whether the county takes the position, whether the state takes the position, any one of those three could be elements that would change the nature of where our defense was not of the HAMMONDS, it was the county, the state, or the patriots...and you’ll see movement on the ground before there’s any action. So when they bring in the National Guard or anything, those are the indicators that something’s going to happen...Waco took awhile to build up.” PAYNE said that there may not be a lot of time to keep OMD updated.

105. At 0:21:05, HUNT spoke about RITZHEIMER’s trip to New Hampshire. HUNT said that the press called him “American Taliban” and that he is working on an article that will clear the air. RITZHEIMER spoke about his road trip to the East Coast. RITZHEIMER also spoke about the FBI visiting him at his home. PAYNE cautioned RITZHEIMER in talking to the FBI. RITZHEIMER said that he recorded the conversation with a GoPro.

106. At 0:35:44, PAYNE said that he plans to leave for Oregon early the next morning and he would remain there “until it looks like there’s going to be no movement,” or “until we succeed in what we’ve set out to do.” PAYNE told FOLEY that after the Oregon situation he plans to meet with FOLEY and work out an OMD training plan.

107. The OMD Board discussed FOLEY’s operations in Arizona.

108. At 0:44:33, PAYNE addressed the “Melissa DIEGEL” situation. PAYNE said that he is unwilling to make a medical determination. PAYNE asked for more time to finish his review of the DIEGEL information and get back to her.

109. At 0:47:07, FOLEY introduced a situation concerning a lady in Oklahoma that is
similar to DIEGEL’s complaint. FOLEY said that he would do more digging into the case. PAYNE asked FOLEY to send out that information to the OMD e-mail address. At 0:50:46, PAYNE said, “Outside of Burns, I don’t have any coverage. And the HAMMOND ranch is 60 miles outside of Burns, um, so very, very little coverage. But when I do get coverage I can download whatever documents are put out there and I can review them.”

At 0:51:05, RITZHEIMER asked PAYNE, “You’re going to the HAMMOND ranch?” PAYNE said, “Not on the HAMMOND ranch, particularly, ah, because we’re not, because we have no request, but near it. The HAMMOND ranch is surrounded by public lands.” At 0:51:35, PAYNE continued, “We have basically the same issue as the, ah, the Bundy Ranch. The Malheur Wildlife Refuge, ah, it started with Theodore Roosevelt and the whole National Parks system. Apparently, what was uncovered by Suzy HAMMOND, was, ah efforts by the Federal Government to, they started reacquiring land that they had already dispensed with, um, forcing people off the land, purchasing it, offering up lucrative offers. A lot of people stayed there until it was just economically impossible to do so and of course the government puts itself as first buyer, so. They’ve been expanding this land for this wildlife refuge, Malheur Wildlife Refuge, for quite a long time now. And ah, the HAMMONDS are one of very few ranchers that are left in the area, just like the BUNDYS. And once they have that land then they seal it off again…and all of the studies are there, to show the mismanagement of the BLM. That the people being on the land and working it and cattle grazing and all that stuff was highly beneficial. There’s been huge migrations of the wildlife away from the Malheur Wildlife Refuge because of the lack of people working the land and keeping it up, so. Um, it’s just another one of those things. Land is power and control and they’re, they’re doing it again.” RITZHEIMER said, “I really wish that they were willing to take a stand, you know? I just, I do…all of us are,

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our thoughts are definitely up there with you, dude. And I don’t want you to, you know? I know you’re definitely probably not happy with ah, our approach with things right now. I sense that…” PAYNE said, “It’s not that I’m not happy with it, and I understand what you guys are saying, ok? It has more of a sense of duty that I feel, which is that I don’t expect them to make a request…if they’ve been beaten into submission. They’re in fear for their lives and if they’re fear for their lives that they’re not going to make a request. And they don’t, they don’t believe that the patriot community is such that it can remove that fear. So, there’s no expectation that they would make a request. And so, quite honestly I don’t expect them to. But that doesn’t mean that I still don’t feel a sense of duty to defend uphold my oath.”

111. At 0:54:57, RITZHEIMER asked, “What if OMD organized a show of force just a, you know, and then there’s a thousand patriots right there in front of their ranch, just armed, just to show them that we’re there, that we support them.” PAYNE told RITZHEIMER that a show of force was an element of the BUNDY Ranch. PAYNE told RITZHEIMER that a militia member spoke to an officer with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department who told the militia member that he was tasked to report to Sheriff Gillespie the number of militia and protestors on scene at the protest site before the Sheriff arrived to speak with Mr. Bundy on the same morning as the unrustlling. PAYNE said that the Metro Police Officer told the militia member that, “As soon as he rounded the corner and saw what was gathered there, that it was the most fear that he had ever been in his life. There were hundreds of, of militia, which were keeping protection over thousands of protestors. And as far as the standoff itself, the militia presence, so everybody left the protest site to go to the, where the BLM compound was, where they were holding the cattle. The militia effort was kept first off, ah, the people that were um, not in uniforms but had firearms with them, ah, were asked to maintain, ah, a totally civilian presence amongst the protestors. So
quite a few of those protestors that you’re seeing in the, those videos are actually militia guys, but there purposefully there to look like protestors and ah…” RITZHEIMER cut PAYNE off and said that, “I know and I’ve seen it. The numbers, you know, what was it, a thousand people there? I just think that it needs to be bigger. It needs to be bigger and…” PAYNE cut RITZHEIMER off and said, “Let’s say that there was anywhere between three and five hundred and we know that there was at least three because that’s what was there initially. There’s a lot of people who arrived that morning and were on the…freeway running towards the whole thing….quite honestly all of the pictures that I’ve seen are all from the overpass where there was only a, a scattered few guys. Most of the guys were either on the front overpass staring directly down at the BLM, or they were on the side where nobody was filming anything. Um, and then there was counter sniper positions put out on the, ah, the BLM’s positions. So, it was a total lockdown, but quite honestly it was beautiful in the sense that it sure does look like a lot more of a movement of peaceful citizens then it did an actual militia effort. You know a lot of people that were there didn’t understand quite the extent of the effort, ah, but the BUNDYS surely know about it. Um, and a lot of the people that, that were there for numerous days know, because they got to see the, the militia coming in and out and all of that type of stuff, moving out from this OP to that OP…all that type of stuff. Anyway, it was there and it was surely enough that there would not have been much of a fight. And that’s essentially why they backed down. Once Metro, Metro came in and inserted themselves and told the BLM that had to leave, um Ryan BUNDY’s up on the overpass pointing out where all these militia positions are, saying, ‘This thing’s going to get nasty very quickly.’ And that’s when it, when it ended up getting broken up. As far as the HAMMOND situation, I don’t know… I agree, and if, if a massive presence could be built up then that is the route that’s going to be pursue, quite honestly. Except we would like
to get a public sentiment, a gauge of the public sentiment first, um, so we can get an up, uprising of the people within that county. And once we have that, ah, then they can make requests which are going to help legitimize what we do, as far as the defense of the HAMMONDS.”

RITZHEIMER asked PAYNE to keep OMD posted. At 0:59:44, RITZHEIMER said, “As of right now, even if it doesn’t, if it’s not an OMD ah, ordeal, but I hear that, you know, militia men or, or troops are planning on headed that way, which is the feeling that I’ve already been seeing through social media and through other sources, that, ah, you know, I, I’m probably going to have to head up that way and follow my heart.” At 1:00:08, PAYNE said, “At this point... Ammon and I have both some people that we’ve been talking to, um, has been, we’re going to start it out very low key. Basically I’m going in with a ah, an initial party to do some fact finding and, and some ah, setting up of the ground. Um, you know, getting, getting things to where they, we have, we can put together a cohesive plan, rather than just at this point what’s a tentative course of action. Um, and then once that starts to happen. We already have quite a few folks who are on standby for the word that things are in place and then they will roll in pretty ugly and we’ll see where things go from there.” RITZHEIMER asked PAYNE what the living situation would be like if he were to come to Oregon to help in the first week of December. At 1:01:34, PAYNE said, “I stay in a hotel when there’s other people that are staying there and they have an extra spot. I have zero funds as far as that goes. So no, I camp. Um, and ah, I’ll be camping. Initially when I get down there I’m going to take a drive straight down to where to the ranch is and I’m gonna start getting the lay of the land type of thing. And ah, comparing the public access to what’s private and then just getting that setup and then, that’ll probably be Wednesday. And then ah... Thursday through Sunday I’ll send the rest of the time in Burns. Ah, Burns is really the only population center in that county. Um, so all of the effort can be focused
there as far as that goes.” At 1:03:18, PAYNE said, “Part of what I’m gonna do is establish a
hard-site. So that ah, people coming in the area, its’ fairly out of the way… anybody who’s in the
know is gonna know why we’re there, but ah, it’ll be far enough out of the way that they can’t
directly [unintelligible].” At 1:04:54, HUNT said, “Well I think Ryan… it’s safe to say at least
from where I am, that you have my moral support, but not OMD support just so we’re clear on
that.”

112. At the close of the meeting, the OMD board agreed that they would have the next
OMD meeting “next Sunday.” PAYNE discussed a desire to participate as much as possible in
OMD with his extra time. At 1:05:52, PAYNE said, “Part of what’s going to bring people there
[to Burns, Oregon in response to the HAMMOND situation] is that there are people on the
ground doing things. Ah, and, so you know that’s, that’s part of my effort is once I get there and
get that established then… there’s already so many other people… that are talking about making
their way up there, they just want to know what the lay of the ground is, so if there was
somebody else to do that I would have a lot more time to put handling that task takes up my
time. On the other side of that, I’ll still be putting whatever extra time I do have into keeping
apprised on OMD stuff.”
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151206-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE and Dennis DICKENSON. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 6 minutes and 28 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense Advisory Board meeting for Sunday, December 6, 2015. The conversation was centered on the HAMMOND situation in Harney County, Oregon. Specifically discussed in this recording are PAYNE’s efforts to rally the support of the HAMMONDS among the people of Harney County and PAYNE’s plans to put together a forceful operation when that fails. PAYNE also discussed the National Wildlife refuge. Below is a more complete review of this recording.

At 0:00:51, PAYNE addressed HUNT and DICKENSON. At 0:01:10, PAYNE said, “Gary, you’ve put a lot more effort into ah, I know what you view as, molding me into, ah the most effective personality in, in my positions. And Dennis, I appreciate the trust…that you’ve put into this entity…and it’s possibility for effect. I don’t believe that the…focus of this entity given our…developing situation, ah, can be permitted to be as narrow as we have, have ah formed it to be. Um, I…believe at this point now, that we have, we’ve been attacked numerous times, preemptively. We, we’re been attacked, ah, openly and disgustingly. And…if you’ve been paying attention to the news the deal on San Bernardino has put a veil over many of the other things that are going on, ah, along the same light of domestic terrorism, um all over the country. There’s been four or five different things that have happened since the…events there in
San Bernardino. And also the information that’s coming out from the FBI and different entities...alluding to operations on a grander scale. And what I’m getting at here, it would definitely appear that the game is afoot now. And ah, I’m going to say, ah, personally, I know that, that others have felt this for a long time. That we are in a state of war and we are in a state of nature. We’re in a state of war, ah, given that the enemies are clearly defined and that they have taken action against us at this point, against the people. One of those entities has been taking action against the people for quite a period of time and ah, and that enemy is, was birthed by the people and has ah, molded its purpose into something that, people who established this union knew that it could form into and gave us provision to protect against, ah should it becomes that. I believe that this is the most poignant of the two enemies having taking action against the people. The other one is obviously radical Islam. And ah, in order to combat this threat it requires ah, quite a different approach than the other one. And that approach is going to have to be much more local...and smaller unit focused. But information is going to be the key and sharing of information...with those smaller units who do take it upon themselves to move against that...enemy. The bigger problem is, that the other enemy, the first one I mentioned, is the root of all the problems. It’s the root of all the problems within our own borders and it’s the root of many problems throughout the world. And the longer we allow this problem to persist and grow in strength and power and exert its influence over the people, in the union and without, then the greater our fault in allowing it to do so...there’s no easy way to go about this but, the core of what I’m driving at here is that, in a state of war a body such as this, which is reactive and which focuses on specific events, as opposed to a broad spectrum of actions has to necessarily morph itself to meet the demands of the changing scenario...I’m asking that each of us, and ah, and even those who are going to listen to this later, begin to call upon their relationships, call upon...
their contacts, those with the knowledge of how to proceed in light of what it is that’s being laid out, um, with strategic knowledge and planning ability to address all these issues, ah, on a greater spectrum. And to being that down to a more narrow topic. It really needs to start at the... grassroots level. That level from which everything grows, which is the individual and the individual’s community...we can’t expect people from all over the ah, union, to, when there’s so much danger at home, difficultly at home, um direct threats right in their own back yard. Be willing to pick up and travel across the country, excuse me, across the union, in order to ah, answer the threats...that are effecting the individual. And those that do have felt the particular calling...and they’re answer it regardless. What we need to focus on is fortifying the individual communities so that people can become aware of how they can begin to take action in their own yard and, and correct these problems and defend themselves. So what I’m asking for is that, we begin the process of creating the body of, of people that are knowledgeable in how to proceed. And without getting into too much detail I think you know exactly what it is that I’m talking about. So I know that...what I’m pursuing up here in Oregon is a microcosm of the greater issue...but it is a...pretty poignant mark and I don’t just mean the HAMMONDS themselves, I mean the intrusion of the Federal Government into every aspect of these people’s lives. And I’m going to use it, this microcosm to illuminate the greater pictures. This ah, this county was once very prosperous. There was a booming community and a booming...land mass in its entirety. It had two great industries, logging and ranching, which promulgated its boom. There used to be 60,000 head of cattle running...in this valley here. And now I’ve heard numbers of 20-25,000, I’ve even heard 15,000. And there’s virtually no logging that is done in this county whatsoever anymore. Ah, both of these things, the decimation of both of these industries, and thus the former economy of this county are caused by federal regulation, federal intrusion, and federal

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insertion of themselves into both of those industries. Now to further this invasion from an outside entity, they have also, there’s been an importation of entitlement folks in here. And once…those other two industries were virtually destroyed, one of them almost…to very little impact economically in the county and the other one in its entirety, in destroyed completely. There became obviously an exodus from this area to others in order to…seek…what we can see is in line with Agenda 21 and such, the idea is to drive people out of the rural areas and into the large population centers where they can be more easily controlled. And in replacement of those productive and industrious folks, there’s been an almost importation of the entitlement folks and there’s a very clear delineation in this county between the two and an animosity growing between the two. This is the case all over, in every state. In almost every rural area. Industry is being destroyed and people who feed off of the system are being imported. And so now, if you subtract the…very wealthy ranchers…who offset the income ratio drastically, if you take those…very wealthy ranchers out of the picture and you look at the economy of Harney County, it is mostly influenced by outside entities. The money is being imported from all over the country through…taxes and such and redistribution of wealth through these entitlement entities. For instance, all of the loggers…are now BLM firefighters and government workers. A lot of the ranchers have become refuge employees on the, ah, National Wildlife refuge here, which is the ah, I believe is the second or third largest in the…entire union. And so effectively they have created a rift where the people are now turned against each other. In the interest of securing their…own sustenance these people have had to sought jobs…and purposefully the Federal Government has inserted themselves to…give those jobs to people, to create work. And as we know the work is the work of oppression and tyranny. The idea is to drive the people off the land and they’re using the people within the, the local themselves in order to accomplish this,
which turns brother against brother. Down, even narrowing the spectrum of this microcosm, the HAMMONDS issue itself in my research here over the past few days, I find about 50% of who I talk to, to be an utter and complete support of the HAMMONDS. Most people don’t know they’ve been convicted of an Anti-terrorism…Act. Nobody considers them to be terrorists, even those who…aren’t in support of them don’t consider them to be terrorists. Everyone I’ve talked to has a high regard for the HAMMONDS.” PAYNE then went on to talk about one individual who had an unfavorable opinion of the HAMMONDS. At 0:16:25, PAYNE continued, “So the other fifty percent of the people, of the population here is either government workers, who won’t talk to you, and have been specifically instructed not to speak with us, government employees, or apathetic people. The people that they don’t give a damn one way or the other and quite honestly with the…entitlement folks that have been ushered in here and…taken advantage of here as industry went away, it’s easy to see that a lot of that 50% is going to be people who are never going to be involved in anything whatsoever anyway, except for feeding off the system.

What I’m getting at is, as those other 50% of those who are apathetic or employed by the entity that has caused the destruction in this county. If they were to see their brethren on the other half start to stand up and voice their opinions and not only voice their opinions but…make their actions to regain control of their county known, I’m of the firm believe that, that 50% would turn into a much lower number and be grafted into those in support of returning sovereignty to this place. And this microcosm demonstrates what exists all over the union and, I know the numbers are probably different in a lot of other places but the key is if we don’t start to free these people from the hand of oppression on a larger scale. Focusing on individual liberty and fostering unity around that idea. If we don’t begin to address these issues on a larger scope then the ability of…our two enemies to capitalize on our lack of unity is going to overshadow any effort that

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we… take in the future, given our responsive nature.” HUNT responded to PAYNE’s comments and said that there are other people throughout the country that are willing to stand with those that are willing to stand with them. HUNT said that if something were to go wrong OMD would be responsible if they acted independently. At 0:20:36, HUNT said, “As far as building… getting… the community effort and all this together, when you were here and we were working and we were over halfway through… putting together the… PowerPoint presentation that would build that, would get the unity, would get people organized… first the places visited and second it would carry over to other communities around them and could spread like wildfire. Ah, as far as, creating a foundation that was… fully functional, in terms of responding to something like the HAMMOND Ranch… or anything else… the Committees of Safety and The Plan. You know, that is the means of getting it back… a single fire… even if you put the fire out what effect is it going to have? The government is still going to take rancher’s lands, or try and take rancher’s lands and when rancher’s ready to stand against it we’ll stand with them. But Committees of Safety is really instrumental when people realize… and key element of the Committee of Safety is when people realize they are in a state of nature and they have become their own government and they’ve shed off the shroud of… encroaching administrative federal agencies. But until the people feel that they’ve got the ability, in a self-governing country, to govern themselves, you’re fighting an uphill battle. So what is more important? Is it more important to get that road trip out and going, or is it more important to fight a fire… where they don’t want you to fight the fire for them. So when you look at priorities… you can’t fight a war until you build an army. The effort, the road trip, is to build an army. Once that army is built you can fight a war. That’s my response to what you’ve said.” At 0:23:01, PAYNE said, “Maybe I can narrow it down, where… I’m going with this and where I think that efforts should
be placed. I’m no general... and I’m not a colonel. In the capacity I’m serving now, I’m barely a
sergeant. And when things start to ramp up maybe you could attribute some, maybe a captain
status to the function that I can perform. But I don’t have the experience... nor the persona, to be
a general. I, I can’t build an army. What I can do, and what I do do, and what I am doing, is I
can get on the ground and I can speak... directly to them in a manner which gives them hope,
hope that has been crushed. And that hope comes with the knowledge... that enough people that
will come and support them if they decide to make that stand themselves, also but the idea is to
rally the community. At 0:24:39, PAYNE said, “I agree that... The Plan, the Committees of
Safety, and... getting that knowledge out there is important, but I’ve already started that process
here in talking to these people about forming... another body and putting together town hall
meetings... we have a pretty comprehensive course of action already being pursued.” HUNT
interrupted PAYNE, “When that Committee of Safety asks... OMD to back them in their
position, I will, you’ve got me 100% at that point because we’ve been invited... I mean, you’ve
got the county, and your state, either one of them could call, the HAMMONDS wont, so you got
the county and you got the state. If either one of them gets to a position where they want to resist
the Federal Government in what they’re doing to the HAMMONDS then we go to help the
county or the state. We can’t go help the HAMMONDS because they don’t want us. It is very
simple. I think last meeting I said the same thing, if you could get the county or the state to go
for it, then issue the call, then that gives legitimacy. At Concord they sent riders out, at
Lexington they sent riders out, asking for help. And they got the help. You know, I’m basing
my perception of the whole thing on history, you know.” At 0:26:17, PAYNE said, “Well I
think that’s my point... my utility especially in that I’ve chosen to take up this specific fight, I’m
very well aware what’s going on in other places and, and ah, although, 90% of my times is going

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into my tasks here...I am spending the other 10% of that time coordinating with people all over about the other issues. And there’s been a lot of discussion and there’s been a lot of unity coming together. And the unfortunate part of that is that the unity is building around the individuals and not their...entities because they have the same issues that we have here. The organizations are protecting themselves and it’s the individuals that are stepping out and pursuing what needs to be done. And...given my...focus, what you’ve called an obsession on this particular case...because, having removed myself from the duty of the OMD response coordinator and made myself essentially a freeman’s response coordinator in this. That task is all encompassing and requires all my efforts. So, what I’m getting at is...I’m not a general. I don’t sit back on a chair and talk to advisors and...all these folks about...what’s going on here and there and...make decisions based on that. I dove myself directly into the issue....and I focus on it and I try to get a grasp on it and rally people around it. That specific issue. I can speak to the greater spectrum of things, but I’m not sure what my utility is in them, other than after this is wrapped up, my intention is, I have to...get some...money back...so I can get back on the road and start to pursue this, you know, dissemination of The Plan. But at this point this is what’s going on with myself and...a lot of other people are already on alert to respond when it’s necessary...and that’s what I’m asking you guys for. Dennis...given your former occupation, you...have to know the people that can help in these efforts. And...whether or not they believe in...the people’s side of it, or they...believe in the legitimacy of the government to handle such things. At least the time is now to start having those conversations about how to go about it. And we all have a range of people that we can talk to about bringing together and unifying a strategy and...those efforts are taking place right here. One thing that the Bundy Ranch taught me was that and event like that brings together the leaders. The leaders are the ones who show

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up. The leaders are the ones who... put their face in there, or are involved throughout that process from afar.” At 0:30:10, HUNT said, “There were leaders in the Boston Massacre, too. Don’t forget that.” HUNT continued, “Now that I’ve got the coordinates, in looking at that, you don’t even have cover out there... that’s going to be hard to develop a plan to do that, ah, not having access to the Ranch.” PAYNE said, “On the contrary, the Ranch is the worst place to mount that defense. And looking on the ground and driving through it and walking on the ground, I have not seen a more defensible location... against anything but the air... a more defensible location doesn’t exist... there’s pinch points, there’s high ground with... very good line of sight. OCOKA gives all of the advantage to the defender on that ground.” [Writer Comment: OCOKA is a U.S. Military acronym for evaluating a defensive position and stands for ‘Observation and Fields of Fire,’ ‘Cover and Concealment,’ ‘Obstacles,’ ‘Key or Decisive Terrain,’ and ‘Avenues of Approach’] HUNT responded asking, “Now... how are you going to defend if... the HAMMONDS get in a truck and drive to the prison?” PAYNE said, “You don’t. You don’t. But there’s one thing that... we have enough assurance of, to feel very comfortable in... that scenario right there and that is that the family... I’m going to give it a 95% assurance, that the family will not come out against any efforts to assist their cause that they support. And I have a... very good feeling that if they saw the support and started to feel the support from their community that they would... be fortified to join the stand themselves.” At 0:32:25, HUNT said, “I know you can’t talk about plans on the phone, but, ah, still it comes back to unless somebody asks OMD that has an interest in it, not Ammon BUNDY, not Ryan PAYNE, but the HAMMONDS, the county, or the state, I still see no way. I mean there are plenty of events. One that may be coming up is Red River, you know, but that’s apparently back in court and I think they’ll lose on that.” HUNT continued, “Let’s go back to BUNDY Ranch, what happened
when the shared command acme into place? Things sorted out. The conflicts disappeared, some of the conflicts. The idea of OMD now with the board is the same thing. It doesn’t keep you from acting as a freeman doing what you’re doing. But ah, as far as OMD, the board…is the heart of this thing and the brain of this thing and it’s gotta be at least a majority… it’d be better if it was unanimous.” HUNT continued, “Now like I told you, I’ll cover the story as long as I’m provided information but I can’t give the background, and I’m in the same place and we’ve got time now and I still can’t get the background on this.” HUNT went on to explain that the Antiterrorism Act was misapplied in the case of the HAMMONDS, such as with MASSEY, BEACHER and WOLF. At 0:35:02, Hunt said, “These things happen and they’ve got to stop, but if we’re going to stop them we’ve got to have the best situation we can, which is we’re going to help somebody that asks for our help.”

115. At 0:35:25, DICKENSON asked PAYNE what he needed as far as support. PAYNE replied, “What I’m specifically asking for is not anything for me, Dennis. What I’m asking for is for the cause itself. Is for the…idea itself…I think I outlined a few minutes ago that it’s…a difficult position and it’s…quite honestly putting yourself into a dangerous position. I understand that given your former affiliation and level of involvement with…that entity. I understand that it’s dangerous. But unless we start putting ourselves out, way out of our comfort zone, in starting to rally the correct individuals to bring their weight to bear on…the entire situation, not just this one, then I don’t think that we’re putting our true faith in the cause that we say that we believe in. What it is that…I’m specifically asking for is to…begin to go outside and…seek unity from the people that you know that can bring the effect into what needs to be accomplished.” PAYNE provided examples of things DICKENSON can do to personally to further their cause.

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116. At 0:40:39, PAYNE said, “Another thing to look at, Dennis…as just a, I’m going to call it a practice…like JRTC, a real world planning scenario…the feasibility of, and therein the man power requirements and the…logistical requirements for replacing…lets use this county for this exercise…for replacing that entity…that is the problem here with the people of Harney County and supplemented by those that will come to support them. And by that I mean all of them, all of those entities.” HUNT then asked PAYNE for details about the HAMMONDS’ allotment and their two trials. PAYNE said that the information hasn’t been passed to HUNT for a variety of reasons. HUNT said that he would prefer not to further discuss the HAMMOND situation as long as he was being kept in the dark.

117. At 0:45:49, PAYNE and DICKENSON talked about public interest going from the HAMMOND situation to the “Islamic problem.” PAYNE referenced conspiracy theories and said that he and people that are like-minded see the beginning of that [the Islamic problem, previously they spoke about the San Bernardino attacks] as “a purposeful insertion in order to try and divert us.” At 0:47:59, PAYNE said, “As far as the information campaign goes, you know the media part of this, is to refocus everybody that, yes we do have to address the direct threat, that… radicals pose, but to make sure we keep our focus on…from where those enemies are…gaining their strength and their facilitation for them to even be where they are to do what they’re doing. And that is really who the enemy is. The others are just agents of the enemy.” At 0:48:56, PAYNE began talking about an information campaign that would be put into place over the next month that included a broad regional message and a local and specific message about the HAMMONDS and Harney County situations. PAYNE said that their message would be inserted into the main stream media. PAYNE discussed the use of advertisements, social media and targeted articles.
118. At 0:51:58, Dennis DICKENSON said, “And obviously, the deadline as I understand it, is still 4 January?” PAYNE replied, “Correct...where our...goal is to have the rally of public support here reach its apex at least a week before the 4th.” HUNT asked PAYNE if his operation had a name.

119. At 0:56:03, PAYNE began to describe a two-pronged approach to gain public support of the HAMMONDS, which involved a public meeting and a flyer campaign. PAYNE continued that the purpose for this approach was to get the public to flood a county board meeting, “so that the county board can pass a resolution first to call forth an evidentiary review...of the entire case. And then a second resolution to require that the Sheriff provide a sanctuary for the HAMMONDS while that evidentiary review is taking place and if the Sheriff will not uphold that...requirement by the people, that the people perform that, giving that sanctuary themselves. And then ah, the goal is to get the county board to pass that. Once again...the effort is also being started up, that if the county board, no matter what, what’s being pursued here is that we’re going to illuminate the failures of the government at every level by giving them...ample opportunity to respond in the way that they should. But at the same time, planning for them not to uphold it and for the people to ultimately take up that task...that’s the outline, kinda, of what we’re doing.”

120. At 0:58:04, PAYNE said that he’s spoken to the County Commissioners and neither was supportive of the resolutions. PAYNE said that the Commissioners were among the 50% of people that somewhat support the HAMMONDS but apathetic about their situation at this point. PAYNE said, “That’s why the movement of the people needs to be created in order to force them to show their cowardice or their uprightness.”

121. At 0:59:15, DICKENSON and PAYNE generally discussed personnel and
resources. At 0:59:39, DICKENSON said, “Cause this thing could, like the Bundy thing, maybe go for awhile?” PAYNE responded, “Yes...that’s part of the reason that I...asked you for that...planning exercise to look at what I was talking about...because in the event of...an extended operation you...can see how that’ll be a key. Those resources that already exist can be taken advantage of, ah, given the scenario I laid out for you.” DICKENSON asked, “So... the scenario would basically to be taking over the entire county infrastructure for a period of time?” PAYNE responded, “Not the county infrastructure, but one particular entity’s infrastructure...but there again, the reason that it’s an exercise, is ‘cus that it’s going to rely on the people. And ah, I know that we can put together the, ah, you know, force to make it happen. The, the key is that...you know, you don’t want to be sitting out there, you’re going to be looking at Waco again or something like that if you’re sitting out there in a compound and the people aren’t in support of you.”

122. At 1:01:30, PAYNE talked about the “Radical Islam” issue and the course of action that he’s sent out regarding the refugee situation. PAYNE said that he’s been asked numerous times over the past week for a plan. PAYNE suggested that OMD develop a cohesive plan for the small units to take action themselves.

123. At 1:03:11, the Advisory Board discussed holding their next meeting on Wednesday at 7:00, Eastern Time. HUNT said that he would set up the call.
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151208 Special OMD AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE, Dennis DICKENSON, Jon RITZHEIMER and Timothy FOLEY. This recording is approximately 1 hour, 27 minutes and 1 second long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense Advisory Board Special Meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 2:00 Pacific Time. PAYNE said that the purpose for calling this meeting was due to the arrest of Schuyler BARBEAU in Washington State by federal agents. The conversation was centered on the arrest of Schuyler BARBEAU and OMA’s commitment to securing the release of individuals, like BARBEAU, who assisted in OMA action at the BUNDY Ranch. The HAMMOND situation, the establishment of the Harney Committees of Safety, and OMD administrative matters were also discussed during this meeting. At the end of the meeting, Timothy FOLEY discussed potentially stepping down as an OMD Advisory Board member. Below is a more complete review of this recording.

At 0:01:09, PAYNE discussed an agreement made by both Operation Mutual Aid and the participants of the leadership council at the BUNDY Ranch, to secure the release of individuals who participated in an OMA operation if they were apprehended or incarcerated while coming or going from an OMA operation. PAYNE said that at the meeting that was expanded to include a vigilant watch over each other after the events. PAYNE regarded BARBEAU’s arrest as the first arrest of an OMA participant. PAYNE put forth a motion that a similar agreement be made in support of that same idea for OMD. HUNT said, “Ryan and I

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talked about this extensively before we started OMD and that that was the commitment made to the people that have been willing to stand up defying the Federal Government. They have stuck their neck out. And even though they came under a call from OMA, they…we’re a child of that original organization…if we are as lax as the Veterans Administration is at protecting the Vietnam, Iraq ad Afghanistan veterans we’re scumbags. We have an obligation to them. Once they stand up they put themselves at risk and…we can’t ignore that.” The Advisory Board members agreed so far as the participant’s action is not immoral or a violation of the Constitution. PAYNE said that he would like to discuss a possible course of action.

126. At 0:06:58, HUNT provided a brief to the OMD Advisory Board on the BARBEAU situation. HUNT described the arrest of BARBEAU at a truck stop and a simultaneous search warrant executed at a residence where BARBEAU was staying. HUNT described the federal agents’ actions during the execution of the search warrant “abusive” and “excessive.” At 0:13:24, PAYNE said that members of the community agreed that BARBEAU’s arrest appeared to be a direct aggressive action towards their community. PAYNE said that BARBEAU was regarded as a trusted individual who was brought in as part of the BUNDY family’s security detail. PAYNE said that “they” [the government] know the stature of BARBEAU within the community and it is an aggressive action towards that and towards the whole movement. At 0:15:50, HUNT discussed Blaine COOPER’s references in the BARBEAU situation and warned the other members about COOPER. PAYNE shared that he contacted COOPER and asked him to put out a “message of awareness” regarding BARBEAU. HUNT directed the members of the OMD Board to the criminal complaint, “Document 1” in their shared documents.

127. At 0:18:06, PAYNE discussed the PPN [Pacific Patriot Network]. PAYNE
shared that the PPN was warning members of their community that PAYNE’s response to BARBEAU would be aggressive. PAYNE said that they [PPN] were trying to withhold information from him and OMD and are spreading information that PAYNE and OMD wants a war with the Federal Government. PAYNE also said that members of the PPN are disgusted with their organization’s lack of desire to action and are becoming disenfranchised with PPN and they have made contact with PAYNE and given him his support in Harney County and with any action that is planned for BARBEAU.

128. From 0:21:55 to 0:48:18, the OMD Advisory Board discussed their own procedure for responding to emergency situations as well as individual board member’s actions and how they affect OMD’s reputation.

129. At 0:48:25, the Advisory Board continued to discuss Schuyler BARBEAU. At 0:50:20, PAYNE outlined a plan for the 14th of December at his court appearance wherein he planned to relay a message to BARBEAU that there are people there to support him. PAYNE discussed a two-pronged approach to secure BARBEAU’s release, including a protest effort and the actual effort to secure his release. PAYNE said that he was going to leave the details of this plan in the dark for the moment. At 0:53:04, PAYNE said, “A call is going to be going out at some point ah, here shortly…probably within the next couple of weeks to…assemble in this area, where I’m at. And that…is going to bring forth a lot of the resources that would be necessary in order to…request Schuyler’s release. And ah, at that point the…more intricate plans for the…other side…can come together. And, ah, so that…seems to be ah, the best avenue we’ve come up with so far, which is basically to stay hands off. Let Schuyler know that we’re here and we haven’t forgotten about him by showing up and seeing him and letting him see us. And then ah, basically using the muster, um, that is probably going to be coming about for this effort…in

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order to draw the man power and support from...to secure him.” PAYNE said that there are other folks, outside the PPN, that are knowledgeable with this plan and are gathering schematics for developing this plan. HUNT suggested that the plan for BARBEAU needs to be completely secret.

At 0:57:44, PAYNE said, “Up here, as far as the Harney County effort, our public meeting on this Saturday...I’m going to give the presentation on Committees of Safety, and one of the...objectives of that public meeting is to...get the seats to that Committees of Safety established. Now that Committees of Safety will then...have the authority, first off to call forth the ah, evidentiary review board, and also to call forth for the...sanctuary to be provided for the HAMMONDS while that evidentiary review board is taking place and all of this initiated by the local, ah populace, by the people. So once that...Committees of Safety comes together and...decides what call to issue...I believe that would satisfy the criteria that we’ve set forth in order to support this effort up here. Is there a disagreement with that?” HUNT said, “No there’s not. What I’m suggesting...prepare a motion for them to work with. Have that in hand. Once the council is formed give them the motion that you think is there. Let them work it up to their satisfaction and then we’ve got this piece of paper rather than getting what you intend in the motion out of before, ah, well before the meeting where the government could have people in there arguing against it rather than having them having to spontaneously argue.” PAYNE continued, “Basically the idea of the meeting is to present them with all of the information and then...induce the idea of forming that...body at that meeting. Because of the gathering of the people.” HUNT responded, “But then you need to have in hand what you want to...propose what their motion be, their first order of business.” PAYNE agreed and said, “That will obviously conjure forth the necessary resources in order to ah...to put together a more cohesive

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plan...as far as our friend up there in Washington.” HUNT said, “Same thing there... at assembly, that only the assembly be announced and then the...tactics be given at the last minute...immediately before implementation. Give them as little time.” At 1:01:10, PAYNE said, “In order to... go any further with any of the plans or intents are up here...I can’t do that over this line of communication, so...but as I said, we basically do have what looks like enough support within the local populace that...moving forward...it appears as if it’s feasible, anyway.” HUNT said to PAYNE, “Well I think up there in your circumstance you need to find some people that you trust absolutely. Make a little group and close the door once it’s formed, you know, like a security team. You’re aware of that concept, I know. Create a security team up there to do all the planning and we don’t even need to know what it is. I mean, you can tell us the same time you...hand it out to the people there. There’s no, even though we have a structure that allows for certain planning in this instance...maybe we need to look in the future at ah, a method of ah, secured communication.” HUNT went on to explain a technique called duel encryption.

131. At 1:04:01, the OMD Advisory Board discussed making a public statement regarding BARBEAU. At 1:06:56, RITZHEIMER said, “Just to be clear as well, I’m free and at liberty to do my own...rallying up of the troops, so to say. Not...this is not an official call to arms yet, or anything like that, but basically I’m allowed to put it out there, get your gear ready?” The members of the OMD Advisory Board discussed how they will discuss the BARBEAU situation and the potential for OMD to uphold an obligation to those that are willing to face off with the government. At 1:11:05, HUNT explained that he would try and get his story explaining the BARBEAU situation written as soon as possible so it could possibly go out at the same time as the OMD press release. HUNT said that he would post the story on the Outpost of

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Freedom. At 1:11:49, PAYNE warned RITZHEIMER, “Just so you’re aware…we are going to be… the effort up here is looking like the possibility of being an “extended effort.” Just so you can take that into account for your preparations.” RITZHEIMER questioned PAYNE what he meant by “extended effort.” PAYNE and HUNT agreed that enough had been said about PAYNE’s effort in Oregon. HUNT and PAYNE then spoke about getting a secure means of communication as soon as possible. PAYNE suggested that RITZHEIMER fly to meet with PAYNE and RITZHEIMER said that he would be driving. RITZHEIMER said that he has a meeting on the 14th and then he’s making the drive up there [Burns, Oregon]. PAYNE suggested that with a face-to-face communication he could make it more clear to what was going on. HUNT suggested PAYNE and RITZHEIMER meet at his residence because he is in between the two. HUNT asked RITZHEIMER his intention for traveling to Oregon, whether it was for the long term, or if he was just going up for background and planning. At 1:14:17, RITZHEIMER said that, “If I’m making a drive like that it’s going to be… like I said, I’ve got my meeting on the 14th and then I’m making my drive up there for… the duration. Do what I gotta do.”

132. At 1:16:45, PAYNE shared that the encrypted communication that he was discussing earlier was “digital burst” and is not a vocal communication. PAYNE said that it’s as easy as downloading it. PAYNE said that he would contact DICKENSON directly and talk about this later at 8:30.

133. At 1:18:40, FOLEY said that he’s debating stepping aside from OMD. FOLEY said that he’s heard that others have been warned by the FBI to stay away from him and he planned to meet with the FBI, DEA and Border Patrol to get things straightened out. At 1:20:30, FOLEY said, “If they ask me any questions and I don’t know anything… then I can’t tell them

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Regardless, I doubt I would tell them anything anyway. But the less I know about what’s getting, could happen, because I’m pretty sure they know that I’m tied in with you guys, because they listen and look at us more than they do Muslims, or anybody else… and that’s why I’m bringing it up. I’m debating whether to step aside for awhile until I can get to the bottom of this mess and try and figure out, because, like I say, I ain’t got nothing to hide. I’m not doing anything wrong but they are who they are and eventually if I don’t go to them, they’re going to come to me and if they come to me again, it could turn out to be another… situation.” PAYNE shared that it is his assumption that these conversations. At 1:23:17, HUNT warned FOLEY of Melvin LEE. During this discussion PAYNE reminded HUNT to turn off the recording, which he did.
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151213-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT, Ryan PAYNE, Dennis DICKENSON and Jon RITZHEIMER. This recording is approximately 42 minutes and 17 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense Advisory Board Meeting on Sunday, December 13. The conversation was centered on Schuyler BARBEAU’s court appearance. The Harney County community meeting and Committees of Safety were also briefly discussed during this meeting. Below is a more complete review of this recording.

At 0:2:30, HUNT asked PAYNE, “What about the Committees of Safety, did you talk to the...local people about that?” PAYNE replied, “At the public meeting I will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on it.” PAYNE said that the public meeting was scheduled for Tuesday at 6 p.m. HUNT replied, “I’ve got no more questions. Looking forward to the reaction though, on that.” PAYNE responded, “Yeah. Absolutely.”

At 0:04:10, PAYNE cryptically said, “Our eyes are basically closed if you get what I’m saying...so we have pretty good clarity this morning, but if they’re smart they’ll know exactly when to slip us. Although they won’t be able to at that point either, so.”

From 0:04:37 to 0:35:00, the OMD Advisory Board discussed the Schuylar BARBEAU situation in Washington. PAYNE said that he would attend BARBEAU’s hearing in Washington. HUNT told PAYNE that BARBEAU may have tried to defend MURPHY and nothing should happen to him (MURPHY). PAYNE and HUNT discussed the potential that
BARBEAU may wish to pursue his court case and the OMD Advisory Board agreed to wait until they learned BARBEAU’s intentions before they attempted to free him from Federal custody. PAYNE said that BARBEAU will likely use the Mike SCHOOL’s arguments for his defense.

138. The OMD Advisory Board planned for OMD meetings on the following day (after PAYNE attends BARBEAU’s court hearing), after PAYNE hosts the public meeting in Burns, Oregon on the upcoming Tuesday, and after HUNT learns more about BARBEAU’s intentions. The OMD Advisory Board also discussed pushing their next regular Sunday OMD Advisory Board meeting to 1:00 p.m. PST.
Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151220-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Gary HUNT and Ryan PAYNE. This recording is approximately 22 minutes and 8 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the OMD Advisory Board Meeting on December 20, 2015. The conversation was centered the establishment of the Harney County Committee of Safety and using them to issue a call for OMD or militia action in Harney County. Schuyler BARBEAU and Timothy FOLEY’s resignation from the OMD Advisory Board were also briefly discussed during this meeting. Below is a more complete review of this recording.

At the beginning of the conversation PAYNE discussed how individual patriots were moving towards action in the Harney County situation without the support of their associated organizations.

The OMD Advisory Board briefly discussed the Schuyler BARBEAU situation in Washington.

At 0:03:44, the OMD Advisory Board discussed FOLEY’s departure as an OMD Advisory Board member and accepted his resignation. RITZHEIMER and HUNT discussed the potential that FOLEY stepped down from the Advisory Board because HUNT spoke negatively about Melvin LEE. The Advisory Board then spent time discussing LEE and his relationship with KC MASSEY. The Advisory Board discussed finding someone to replace FOLEY as the OMD’s Training and Communications positions.
143. At 0:10:45, HUNT asked PAYNE about the Committee of Safety in Harney County. PAYNE provided an update as to the structure of the Harney County Committee of Safety. At 0:12:41, PAYNE said, “It’s moving along pretty well. They have ah, accepted myself and Ammon as advisors to it. Um, and they have some pretty good ah, some pretty good contact made now for ah, local militia officers to recommend when they decide it’s time to call forth the militia and, and ah…” HUNT asked, “Are they freedom loving Americans?” PAYNE responded, “Oh yeah. Oh, yeah. Their ideas were put forth. Well, I’ll put it this way. Our ideas were put forth by them without them being told what our ideas were. So that just shows the unity that exists outside any influence.” HUNT then said, “Well, I’m fully satisfied that the way you’re going up there now is the proper way that we will have the invite that I feel is so necessary and I’m glad you were able to get the Committee of Safety going.” Later, HUNT said that he hoped that A. BUNDY would now take the concept of the Committee of Safety down to the people of Bunkerville, Nevada.

144. From 0:16:29 to 0:19:08, the OMD Advisory Board briefly discussed BARBEAU and Oliver MURPHY.

145. At 0:19:10, PAYNE asked HUNT if he had any additional questions about what’s happening in Harney County and HUNT said, “No, just waiting for, you know, when they put out the invitation then, I think OMD is, is fully justified in going to the aid of the, the residents of Harney County.” PAYNE said, “The idea that’s been pursued, um, and planted in there, for them, is that they, when they call up, ah, the militia, if they do, then they, they do it from within their county using a, the appointed militia officers and we have an outline to help them with establishing that and getting it going. Um, and that, that was acceptable to the other folks we talked to so in that regard then the people, ah, who come in, if they request outside support, ah,
would already have a command structure to fall under.” HUNT said to PAYNE, “Well, just keep us informed, or me informed. I’m kind of looking forward to us being able to go to Harney County now, you know, with a clear conscience.”
146. Special Agent Matthew Catalano reviewed the file titled “151227-OMD-AB meeting.mp3” located in the “OMD” folder of Dropbox user account ID 328858080, which was seized from Dropbox, Inc. pursuant to search warrant 2:16-mj-000224-NJK in the District of Nevada. This file is an audio recording of a conference call-style conversation between self-proclaimed Operation Mutual Defense (“OMD”) Advisory Board members Ryan PAYNE, Dennis DICKENSON, Jon RITZHEIMER, and Gary HUNT. This recording is approximately 23 minutes and 50 seconds long. At the beginning of this recording Ryan PAYNE identified the meeting as the Operation Mutual Defense Advisory Board Meeting on December 27, 2015. The conversation was centered on the HAMMOND situation, the Harney County Committee of Safety and Schuyler BARBEAU. Below is a more complete review of this recording.

147. From 0:01:03 to 0:05:40, the OMD Advisory Board discussed the BARBEAU situation in Washington. HUNT said that he had a new article out about BARBEAU on his blog.

148. At 0:05:40 PAYNE said that he is trying to push for the Harney County Committee of Safety to put out a public meeting soon. PAYNE said that there was a peaceful rally scheduled on January 2, 2016 in support of the HAMMONDS.

149. At 0:08:28 PAYNE said that the Harney County Committee of Safety has had two meetings since they formed. HUNT asked if has attended these meetings and PAYNE said that he had not. HUNT asked PAYNE if he had any idea what their current thoughts were and PAYNE said, “Well, they’re, they’re kind of split. Um, one gentleman left the board because he’s a former law enforcement and he didn’t necessarily want the affiliation. Ah, and then ah, the others are kind of split between kind of the negativity that’s going on, ah, around town. And, ah, there’s a very small group of people who are participating in a, a disinformation campaign and a ‘militia go home,’ ah, is posted up around town-things like that, so. Some of those folks
are, are entertaining that side of things and ah, the other ones are still fully in support of, ah, the original idea, so. Just kinda guiding them through the understanding that they’re not supposed to be a, an existing government lobbying entity, they’re supposed ah, the true representation of the people, direct representatives. And guiding them along that path is how it’s going at the moment.” HUNT responded, “Well something comes up and they do put out the invitation make sure you call a special meeting so we can get the word out. You know, I’m still optimistic that maybe they’re [unintelligible] cleared to see that they don’t want the federal thugs in there, they’d rather have the militia.” PAYNE guessed that the Harney County Committee of Safety is a couple of weeks off of making a decision. At 0:14:39, HUNT said, “I’d be interesting at the Committee of Safety, ah, got everybody that was a member in the room and said, ‘those that stand with the Federal Government stand against that wall, those that are with Harney County stand against this wall,’ and then remove all the people that are Torries. Because it sounds, I mean, you know it makes sense, I mean, you don’t want the enemy on your side, in your organization. That’s what they did 200 years ago. Ah, but the ones that stand with the Feds, you know, unfortunately they’re a vote. Unless they get rid of the Torries the crown wins, so to speak.” RITZHEIMER said, “We also in that we separate the people that are on the fence. If anybody’s willing to admit that they’re on the fence about…the situation. Instead of kicking everybody out.” RITZHEIMER said, “Ryan said it good today, earlier, he said, ‘We’re convincing the dog to bite the hand that feeds it.’ But Ryan also made it clear, because we see the poison. The dog’s being fed the poison.”

150. The OMD Advisory Board went back and forth discussing the HAMMOND and BARBEAU situations. PAYNE said that the BARBEAU situation might affect the folks that show up in Harney County, in either increasing numbers or decreasing numbers.
Before the Board of County Commissioners for Harney County
State of Oregon

Proposal for Resolution of the Peaceful Occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge by Citizens for Constitutional Freedom

First Request
The Harney County Board of Commissioners and Sheriff have been presented with a Redress of Grievance by the Committee of Safety, detailing out concern’s of the citizens. Harney County Administration has stated they wish to work with the Committee of Safety, yet have failed to respond nor answer the Committee’s Redress of Grievance.

Therefore;

Citizens for Constitutional Freedom request the Harney County Government address all stated grievances in writing, demonstrating they intend to work with the newly formed Committee of Safety addressing matters of county citizens concern.

Second Request
Two witness have come forward and provided recorded eye witness accounts of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), using drip torches, lighting fire along the boundary of the Hammond Ranch. One BLM crew started at the south end of the ranch and the second BLM crew started on the east side of the ranch creating a horseshoe of fire around the Hammond ranch. The Hammond’s responded with lighting back burns to prevent fire spread onto their ranch protecting their private property. The witness was interview by Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Frank Papagni, Jr.. AUSA Papagni never called on this witness, nor in pre-trial discovery reported to the defense the existence of these witnesses.

Therefore;

Citizens for Constitutional Freedom request the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conduct a criminal investigation into prosecutorial misconduct for unlawfully withholding eyewitness testimony which would have aided in the Hammond’s defense. The withholding of evidence and action’s by US Attorney Amanda Marshal has further lead to the violation of the Hammond’s 5th Amendment and 8th Amendment Constitutional Rights.
Third Request

The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, publicly owned land, is currently under management by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, a Federal Government agency. Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 of the United States Constitution clearly states what land the Federal Government may own, with permission of the State. Article 6, Section 2, Clause 2 define the United States Constitution as the supreme law of the land.

Therefore;

Citizens for Constitutional Freedom request Harney County Government petition and give notice to the Federal Government for the transfer and unconditional return to local control of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge as allowed by Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2. Harney County Government in equal Partnership with the Burns Paiute Tribe will manage and administer this publicly owned land to the values and vision of the local community.

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing, Citizens for Constitutional Freedom put forth these requests, to be individually address in written format and entered into the official record, to bring resolution to the peaceful occupation of publicly owned land currently identified as the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Upon deliver and posting of documents in the official record, Citizens for Constitutional Freedom will vacate the aforementioned land within 24 hours.

Signed this 8th day of January in the year of 2016.