



# County of San Diego

**THOMAS E. MONTGOMERY**  
COUNTY COUNSEL

OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 355, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101  
(619) 531-4860 Fax (619) 531-6005

**JOSHUA M. HEINLEIN**  
SENIOR DEPUTY  
Direct Dial: (619) 531-5850  
E-Mail: [joshua.heinlein@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:joshua.heinlein@sdcounty.ca.gov)

July 12, 2019

**VIA EMAIL**

Theodore J. Griswold  
PROCOPIO  
525 B. Street, Ste. 2200  
San Diego, CA 92101  
[ted.griswold@procopio.com](mailto:ted.griswold@procopio.com)

**RE:** Julian Fire Station 56; APN 292-011-45-00

Dear Mr. Griswold:

This Office of County Counsel for the County of San Diego represents the San Diego County Fire Authority (“SDCFA”) with regard to the July 10, 2019 Notice to Vacate Premises sent by you on behalf of the Native American Land Conservancy.

Your client’s Notice to Vacate is based on the assertion that the Julian-Cuyumaca Fire Protection District (“JCFPD”) permanently abandoned the fire station on May 31, 2019. That assertion is incorrect; the fire station has not been permanently abandoned.


As you are aware, SDCFA and JCFPD are currently engaged in litigation regarding which of these entities has the legal right to provide fire protection services to Julian and the surrounding areas. As a result of that litigation, control and possession of the fire station at issue is subject to orders of the San Diego Superior Court and California Court of Appeal. A Temporary Restraining Order now in effect prevents JCFPD from using the fire station. That Order has been appealed by JCFPD. Nevertheless, the fire station is manned by SDFCA personnel on a daily basis and, once the litigation is resolved, the fire station will resume providing fire service to Julian and the surrounding areas. In short, the fire station has not been “permanently abandoned,” and SDCFA is not in unlawful possession of the property as asserted in your letter.

July 12, 2019

Should your client file a lawsuit, SDCFA will appear and vigorously assert its legal right to own and possess the property and continue its use as a fire station.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS E. MONTGOMERY, County Counsel

By 

JOSHUA M. HEINLEIN, Senior Deputy

cc: Herman Reddick  
Suedy Alfaro  
John Cooley