

SOUND OFF!



BULLETIN

#24

THE NEWSLETTER OF VETERANS UNITED FOR TRUTH, INC.

“VETERANS STANDING UP FOR EACH OTHER”

6 DECEMBER 2008

URGENT!

120 years ago, on 3 March 1888, a plot of land was deeded to the United States for use in perpetuity **“on which to locate, establish, construct and permanently maintain [a]branch of [the] National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.”***[quoted from the original deed]*. That property is now called the “VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System” property, and is managed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, commonly called the “VA”.

In September 2007 the local VA entered into a “Shared Property” agreement with a group of Brentwood and Beverly Hills residents calling themselves the “Veterans Park Conservancy” to use 16+ acres of that land, rent-free, as a public park. The improvements are to be paid for by the “conservancy” (after the VA spent \$1M+ on a new cast iron fence to remove what the Conservancy termed an “eyesore” to this wealthy community). All maintenance costs are to be paid for by the VA. The agreement runs for 20 years with an option for 10 more.

Intense political pressure has been placed on the opponents to this agreement, and attempts to rally support against this agreement have been thwarted by direct intervention of Congresspersons and their staffs, as well as other highly placed political operatives.

The full story is covered in the attached recent editorial from Veterans United For Truth’s newsletter ***SOUND OFF!***

Please read the full story before you act [Attachment 1].

This land-grab must be stopped! Time is of the essence! This is a **national** problem not a state or local problem.

What you can do – an you need to do it **NOW**:

1. Print out and sign the attached resolution [**Attachment 2**] as an individual supporter.
2. Mail (**snail mail please**) a copy of the signed resolution to:
 - a. The Honorable Henry Waxman
8436 West Third Street, Suite 600
Los Angeles, CA 90048
 - b. The Honorable Robert Filner
Chairman, Committee on Veterans Affairs
333 F Street, Suite A
Chula Vista, CA 91910
 - c. Your Congressperson – NOTE: mail to their local field office **NOT** to their DC office; DC mail takes 6-8 weeks.

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3. Print additional copies of the resolution and the article and solicit support **at the very next meeting** from any organization you belong to – veterans, social, community, political, business, etc. – and likewise forward those signed resolutions to the three addresses above.
4. Notify us via a brief email at vetshome@vuft.org of the actions you have taken – we need to show that veterans and their families and supporters around the nation are adamantly opposed to this blatant violation of a sacred trust.

The people of Brentwood and Beverly Hills have no rights to this land. It is there solely for the care of veterans in perpetuity!

This is serious stuff folks. We must not let this land be stolen from our veterans so that a community that already has its fair share of parks and golf courses can improve its property values at veterans' expense.

Attachment 1 ~ Editorial, Vol. IV, #7, **Sound Off!**

Attachment 2 ~ Resolution to Protect a National Sacred Trust