

Subject: Children's Pool beach harassment and misuse of police and fire services

From: "Kenneth L. Hunrichs" <khunrich@cris.com>

Date: Wed, 04 Aug 2010 23:00:54 -0700

To: harassed@san.rr.com

Here's a copy of the letter we sent to the mayor, city attorney, Police Chief, Fire Chief and the city council members regarding the abuse of emergency services at CP during our BBQ.

On Saturday July 31st, 2010 just after sunset, I was about to attend a beach barbecue in La Jolla at the Children's Pool beach. My friends had started a small fire in a container on the beach and were sitting and standing around the fire preparing to cook. However before I could descend the stairs to the beach, a fire truck with sirens and lights arrived and the crew descended the stairs to check on the fire. They promptly returned to their truck and left since everything was fine. I was about to descend again when I saw a SDPD car arrive. The officer peered over the wall to look down on the beach. He spoke briefly to one member of our group at the top of the stairs and then left without going onto the beach. Though I don't know the details of the nature of the alleged violation the officer's call was in response to a report made to the dispatch center and not part of his regular patrol.

Our fire was in a legal portable metal container several inches above the sand. It was attended at all times and was in the middle of the nearly empty Children's Pool Beach. Both encounters with the fire department and the police department seem to have been initiated by a false report about our fire or being on the beach. A group of seal activists were standing above the beach on the sidewalk near the green gazebo just before the fire truck arrived. They were shouting down at the group on the beach to "get off the beach". The group of seal activists left just before the fire department arrived. Though I do not know who called 911 you can initiate an investigation into this waste of city resources.

This familiar scenario occurred the previous Saturday at night, July 24th, 2010, when our group was on the beach and a police officer was dispatched to check on us. Again, we were in full compliance with all regulations with our fire and were legally on a public beach. An anonymous caller had falsely reported illegal activity on the beach.

These incidents are just a few of the many false reports to the San Diego Police and Fire Departments over the many years that Children's Pool has been allowed to become a battlefield by the city. The false reports to emergency services is illegal and wasteful and must be stopped. I am asking that these incidents are investigated fully and the people who repeatedly are making false reports be prosecuted.

That same day July 24th, while we were barbecuing and eating, two women and a man came down the stairs to our area on the Children's Pool beach. There were a few people other than our group on the beach at the time but we were the one and only target of their aggression. The women demanded to know what we were doing there. They became hostile and verbally abusive demanding that we get off the beach. The man with them stood back and videotaped the encounter by holding a camera at waist height in an attempt to conceal his actions.

The aggressive behavior with the companion photographer makes me believe they were attempting to provoke a physical confrontation which they would capture on tape to later provide evidence of illegal behavior or an assault by someone in our group. Our group is well

aware of this harassment tactic and were very restrained in their response and asked the two women to stop and leave us alone. It took a while for the women to run out of energy and they finally left without videotaping any excessive response to their aggression. I was able to capture some part of the confrontation on video using a still camera. The quality is not good but is sufficient to demonstrate the aggressive behavior and attempt to bully us off this beach. In the photo below the woman in the tan shirt is following up from the extremely aggressive verbal assault by the woman in the black shirt. These women were unknown to anyone in our group.

In the background of the photo, along the seawall, there are a few harbor seals resting on the beach. Even with the loud shouting from these two women, the seals were undisturbed. Fortunate for these women that they will not be prosecuted for a violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act by disturbing these animals. The seals are, after all, the most important thing on the beach and are the only being worthy of protection from disturbance and assault in some people's minds.

At any other beach in Southern California this act of aggression would have triggered a response to call the police for protection. This encounter is typical of the people hating seal activists we are forced to endure almost every time we go onto the public beach at Children's Pool. Our group is very familiar with this tactic and we went back to enjoying our beach party to await the next assault which was carried out using the services of the San Diego Police Dept twice that evening in responding to two more false reports. The potential for violence is increasing each time we are subjected to these aggressive tactics from the seal activists.

I would ask that you contact me in response to this message. I am available to assist in your investigation in any way possible to discover who is responsible for these false reports and unnecessary calls for emergency services.

Marie
San Diego Resident, Council District 4

