

West Bank Homeowners Association

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Captain Dan Ison
Riverside County Sheriff – Blythe Station
260 N. Spring
Blythe, California 92225

February 11, 2004

RE: Disputed Area
Sheriff's Policy - Eviction Attempts

Dear Captain Ison:

I am sending this letter to confirm our telephone conversation last week. In response to my questions you stated that the Sheriff's Department would not allow CRIT to proceed with evictions on the California side without first obtaining Federal or State Court orders.

It is reassuring that your Department understands that attempted evictions of permittees by CRIT requires due process. And due process requires that CRIT must, under California law (in accordance with PL 280), refrain from engaging in a criminal violation to remove a tenant by self help and/or by way of an invalid and "illegal" citizens arrest; and instead obtain a court order (from a court of competent jurisdiction i.e. Federal or State Court) against each and every occupant to force eviction.

We have tried to settle these matters through the courts but the shield of sovereign immunity has prevented this resolution. It is also reassuring that you recognize that these legal challenges to CRIT's claim of jurisdiction in the disputed area are independent of due process requirements.

Please be aware that West Bank Association members are being notified of your comments so it is imperative that I understand the Sheriff's position correctly. If I have misunderstood your comments please notify me immediately.

As always, your attention to this pressing matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Dr. Steve Montgomery
Vice President