



# ACORN

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now

22 W 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 204, National City, CA 92109 (619) 235-9593

November 16, 2009

Mr. Tony Krvaric  
Republican Party of San Diego County  
5703 Oberlin Drive, Suite 107  
San Diego, CA 92121

Dear Mr. Krvaric,

I am in receipt of your letter to me dated November 11, 2009, which appears to be based upon two short snippets of audio recorded surreptitiously during a presentation that I gave on October 15, 2009.

In the court of legal opinion – unlike in the court of blogs – Americans are innocent until proven guilty. Indeed, as Ronald Reagan once said, “facts are stubborn things.” Please allow me the opportunity to share with you the facts and what I actually said.

On October 1, 2009, the Attorney General's office announced an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the videos taken of ACORN employees – both the actions of the ACORN employees and those of the videographers.

That same day – well in advance of any meetings with investigators from the AG's office – I was quoted on October 1 in the *San Francisco Chronicle* saying, “The investigation will show that the only crime committed was by the self-described conservative undercover videographers in illegally recording ACORN employees without their consent, we are cooperating fully with this investigation.”

My position did not change after receiving a visit to our offices from the investigators. From their questions to me, and mine to them, it appeared to me that they are doing a thorough and fair investigation. ACORN takes this investigation seriously and has fully cooperated with authorities, and any communication we have had with any representatives of the Attorney General's offices has been as a matter of course in their investigation.

I restated my position when I spoke to the East County Democratic Club on October 15, 2009, which you have referenced in your letter. Specifically, in response to a question about whether the Attorney General's investigation would cover the possible criminal wrongdoing of the videographers, I responded that, “fault will be found with the people that did the video, not with ACORN.”

Upon what have I consistently based my position?

Simply put, our own viewing of the videotapes and reading of the transcript did not reveal any criminal acts committed by our employees. In fact, the employee in question contacted the police about what he believed were planned criminal acts on the part of the two videographers.

ACORN is always open to a dialoguc about our organization and our mission of improving the lives of low-income and working families. We can agree to disagree on some issues without resorting to unfounded allegations. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David Lagstein  
San Diego ACORN