



MALDEF

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

National Headquarters
Los Angeles
Regional Office
634 S. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90014
Tel: 213.629.2512
Fax: 213.629.0266

May 4, 2007

Atlanta
Regional Office
41 Marietta Street
Suite 1000
Atlanta, GA 30303
Tel: 678.559.1071
Fax: 678.559.1079

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State of California Attorney General
Department of Justice
Attn: Public Inquiry Unit
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

Sent Via Fax and U.S. Mail
(916) 323-5341

Chicago
Regional Office
11 East Adams Street
Suite 700
Chicago, IL 60603
Tel: 312.427.0701
Fax: 312.427.0691

Re: Request for State Investigation of the May 1, 2007 Incident

San Antonio
Regional Office
110 Broadway
Suite 300
San Antonio, TX 78205
Tel: 210.224.5476
Fax: 210.224.5382

Dear Attorney General Brown,

On behalf of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, I write to urge you to conduct a prompt and full investigation of the May 1, 2007 incident at MacArthur Park in Los Angeles. MALDEF shares the community's outrage concerning the events that transpired on May 1, 2007 involving the Los Angeles Police Department's use of excessive force against families and members of the media who gathered peacefully at the park.

Washington, D.C.
Regional Office
1717 K Street, NW
Suite 311
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202.293.2828
Fax: 202.293.2849

Los Angeles Chief of Police Bratton has promised to conduct his own investigation, and that is a much needed first step. However, there is also a need for the community to have an independent review of this matter by the State Attorney General's office. A local investigation alone is not enough because the victims of the May 1st incident may be hesitant to speak freely to agents of the LAPD. This barrier would be minimized if the state conducts its own independent review.

Houston
Program Office
Ripley House
4410 Navigation
Suite 118
Houston, TX 77011
Tel: 713.315-6494
Fax: 713.315-6404

A state investigation is also necessary given what transpired on May 1st was a generalized attack on the community as a whole. As you are probably aware, there are prior incidents of strained relationships between the LAPD and the community arising out of allegations of excessive use of force, such as the Rodney King incident and the killing of KMEX and LA Times Reporter Ruben Salazar.

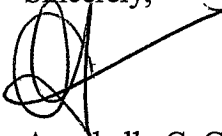
Sacramento
Satellite Office
1107 9th Street
Suite 240
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916.443.7531
Fax: 916.443.1541

These unfortunate events make it crucial to have the state conduct its own investigation in order to give credence to any ultimate findings that are made. A state investigation will have the critical independence to be meaningful and to help heal the damage caused by Tuesday's actions.

Celebrating Our 37th Anniversary
Protecting and Promoting Latino Civil Rights
www.maldef.org

We look forward to having the opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Annabelle C. Gonzalves', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Annabelle C. Gonzalves
Regional Counsel

cc: Chief William J. Bratton