

CONCERN 32: SPLC coordinating with FEDERAL GOVERNMENT resulting in violations of 1A and Due Process – is SPLC functioning as a ‘State Actor’?

EXHIBIT 13: Discrepancy in BLM May 2014 interview and FBI June 2015 interview with SPLC (RYAN LENZ).

MAY 2014.



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Office of Law Enforcement & Security

Form 5260-2.7
(March 2012)

Form 5260-2.7
(March 2012)

Page 2-May 22, 2014
IMARS LM14-015035

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY

Date: On May 22, 2014, at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Person Conducting Activity: Senior Special Agent Kristofer Pasquale

Activity Location: Southern Poverty Law Center
400 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Reference: Gold Butte Investigation, IMARS LM14-015035
Conference with Southern Poverty Law Center

1. On May 22, 2014, the United States (U.S.) Department of the Interior (DOI), Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES), Bureau of Law Management (BLM), Gold Butte Investigation Team (GBIT), was invited to a meeting with the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) in Montgomery, Alabama in furtherance of an official investigation regarding potential criminal activity committed by CLIVEN BUNDY and others concerning cattle grazing and trespass on federal public lands. Information obtained throughout the course of the meeting was the following information:
2. The SPLC provided background information concerning the historical ebb and flow of the sovereign citizen and militia movement, ideology, and context, as well as the SPLC's efforts in tracking, disrupting, and providing intelligence of their viewpoints and countering their actions as a private entity.
3. The SPLC revealed they were present in Nevada during the period of April 12, 2014, and personally observed actions and statements of several BUNDY family members, as well as obtained information directly from RYAN PAYNE during this event.
4. The SPLC revealed they observed the staged event, whereby CLIVEN BUNDY provided an ultimatum to the BLM, and DOUGLAS GILLESPIE, Sheriff, Clark County Sheriff's Office, Clark County, Nevada, that they had "one hour to do these things [several demands were made]," after which the announcement was made the BLM would "suspend the round-up."
5. The SPLC revealed RYAN PAYNE provided information voluntarily without promises of anonymity regarding prior conversations directly with CLIVEN BUNDY, after April 7, 2014, in which BUNDY declared a "range war starts tomorrow." The SPLC revealed PAYNE informed them directly he had a conversation with CLIVEN BUNDY on the phone whereby BUNDY requested assistance in his efforts against the BLM. PAYNE reportedly informed BUNDY, "The type of help I'm bringing is militia," and noted they

would have weaponry. BUNDY reportedly responded to PAYNE: "I'm not going to tell you what to bring," but accepted the offer of assistance.

6. Upon his arrival to the BUNDY ranch, PAYNE reportedly was driven around by BUNDY and informed him that a Militia Cohesion Plan (MCP) was being developed. BUNDY reportedly revealed to PAYNE where various "sniper positions" would be placed, and PAYNE subsequently went to work developing a "response plan," in coordination with MEL BUNDY. PAYNE reportedly revealed to the SPLC the tactical aspects of a "Quick Reaction Force (QRF)," and various "counter-sniper positions."
7. PAYNE reportedly revealed the MCP included three main objectives: 1) Ensuring the safety and security of the BUNDYs; 2) Opening all public lands at issue in this matter; and 3) Getting all the BUNDY cattle back.
8. The SPLC revealed information specific to the April 12, 2014 incident in "the wash," as militia members moved across the highway. The SPLC revealed the movement of personnel and weapons across the highway was not as "organic," as it appeared on social media. The SPLC revealed they were briefed that morning by PAYNE regarding "defensible positions" the armed militia members would take to establish an "overwatch" on the overpass. Additionally, PAYNE reportedly informed the SPLC the opportunity to overtake the U.S. government was "pre-ordained from God," and noted the militia would have "overwhelming tactical superiority."
9. PAYNE reportedly stated he envisioned the event ending through violence.
10. The SPLC reportedly observed CLIVEN BUNDY make the statement: "All we have to do is open that gate...we need a little bit of safety here."
11. The SPLC reported there were several other third-party witnesses to this event, primarily from local news stations, including Channel 8 News, Channel 3 News, and others.
12. The SPLC provided media clips and photographs obtained throughout the course of the events since April 12, 2014, and reported several militia groups posted rosters online regarding committed "boots on the ground," which included approximately sixty individuals.
13. The SPLC revealed there was a BUNDY cousin who may be sympathetic to the government cause in this circumstance, and noted "she lives in the area."

Senior Special Agent Kristofer Pasquale
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JUNE 2015.

FD-302a (Rev. 05-08-10)

100T-LV-4739895-302

Continuation of FD-302 of Interview of SPLC Editor Ryan Lenz.

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Jason Patrick, aka Boomhouser or George Clooney, who stated he was a school teacher and he was leaving the ranch. Lenz then found himself in a trailer speaking to Ryan Payne, who was very much in charge. Payne spoke to Lenz and laid out everything, including how he became involved with the Bundy Ranch. Prior to traveling to the Bundy Ranch, Lenz had called the Bundy residence and someone directed Lenz to speak to Payne. Lenz then spoke to Ryan Payne and made plans to meet with him. Lenz felt it was bizarre that Payne was willing to speak to him. Payne had a cold when Lenz spoke to him. During the meeting, Payne sat with a rifle with a Rangers handbook next to him. Payne's trailer was one hundred feet from the Bundy residence. This trailer belonged to a member of the Bundy family.

EXHIBIT 14: Affidavit claiming violations of DUE PROCESS – is SPLC portraying itself as media while functioning as a ‘State Actor’ in coordination with governments?

Affidavit of Ryan Payne Concerning Specific Events Circa April 2014

I've been asked to provide a true statement pertaining to specific events which occurred during and in connection with the Bundy Ranch affair in and around April of 2014 near Bunkerville, Nevada.

The focal point of all events contained herein is the 12th of April, 2014 when the Bundy Family's cattle was released by Bureau of Land Management Special Agent In Charge Daniel P. Love, under the direction of United States Department of Justice attorneys for the explicit and stated purpose of manufacturing future criminal charges which were subsequently prosecuted on 17 Americans in the District of Nevada Federal Court and 9th Circuit in 2016-2018.

Near the end of April 2014 -a couple weeks after the notable day of egregious government conduct, Mr. Ryan Lenz, who identified himself as an investigative journalist with the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), came to chat with me during a period of illness while serving my brief tenure near Bunkerville (about a month).

My recollection of the particulars of our interview is somewhat foggy given the distance in time from the present and my health at that moment.

I clearly recall that Mr. Lenz presented himself as trying to form a full picture of the events for the purpose of clarifying them to the public, and made no indication of compiling evidence of criminal activity or other intelligence to be handed over to "law enforcement" or other government entity or personnel.

In an interview with the FBI as documented in 2015, Mr. Lenz states that on April 12th, prior to the rally, protest and the cattle being released: "Ryan Payne told me of the plans to place counter-sniper positions and obtain tactical superiority..."

Having met with numerous individuals and groups throughout the days leading up to the events of April 12, it is difficult to say for certain that Mr. Lenz could not have been present at one of these meetings.

However, I do not recall having met Ryan Lenz before our "interview"/intelligence gathering operation of late April 2014 (has an article or other evidentiary disclosure been publicized to support SPLC's labelling of myself and others on their Hate Watch website, and which might qualify as journalism? Clearly "intelligence gathering operation" is more appropriate given the flow of information and Mr. Lenz's former title and department with the SPLC; "FBI Intelligence Gathering Operation" might be the most fitting, given the outcome and despite the apparently separate entities). Having not met with Mr. Lenz prior to our interview in late April, I certainly did not divulge any plans which did not exist on April 12, 2014.

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The previous statement requires a little clarification. The information which Mr. Lenz passed to the FBI in 2015, was gathered during an interview late in April of 2014. In my capacity as Response Coordinator for Operation Mutual Aid (a dissolved network of militia groups and Americans gathered to effect proportional defense to episodes of metastasized government malfeasance), and as the militia liaison on site, I was on a consistent mission to ensure the safety of all parties, which always explicitly included federal agents and personnel. This was the constant subject of nearly every meeting or interview at all times surrounding the 12th of April, 2014, among 2 other critical objectives which were forwarded (1. Cessation of all Public Lands closure operations, and 2. Release and reclamation of all Bundy's cattle).

After the events of the 12th, and given the circumstances in their wake, an additional concept was added to public statements by certain individuals, for the sake of casting a misinformational security-blanket over the efforts to assist the Bundy Ranch's return to normal operations: overwhelming ability to regroup quickly and effectively to defend against the immediate effects of similar government overreach which occurred on 12 April and its pre course.

The notion that the government would eschew actively pursuing the situation on the dirt following their abandonment of the cattle and operation, in favor of a fabricated prosecution at a later date, did not seem to occur to most of us (however, the facts played out in precisely this manner). Instead, I pursued a course based on the history of such matters, which inculcated that the withdrawal of the government agencies and personnel on the 12th might only precede a much greater effort to reclaim that which had been apparently forfeited (a "feint" of sorts). Having such as a basis, it was agreed and decided that conveying to all outlets a posture of readiness, a high degree of cohesion, and rapid ability to act defensively in great numbers underrepresented on the ground, was advantageous to effecting a peaceful defense of the life, liberty and property our convictions had drawn us to.

Among the tools used for affecting this line, was to paint the situation on the 12th as if it had been highly orchestrated and cohesive. This was intended to have the added benefit of directing legal repercussions upon those willing to endure them, and away from the men and women who had directly placed themselves in danger when seeking to offer support or defense. Basically, if myself and a few others claimed to have some control over the generally organic events of the 12th, then responsibility and focus would be placed on us; and our defense of the Bundy's, their rights and property, AND all of those who responded to the tenor of the events, would be complete.

Since this line and these tools were arrived at and implemented AFTER April 12, there is no possibility that on the 12th Mr. Lenz heard me mention anything of the nature which he reported to the FBI in 2015. It is a glaring contradiction to the factual timeline of events.

While we can say with certainty that people from both sides employed disinformation in order to obtain their objectives (gleaning from the Wooten memos revealing intentional

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government psychological operations and provocateurism conducted against Americans), there is a discrepancy of intent, and whether one or the other is criminal. It seems clear by the outcome of the general case in Nevada, that the truth is brutally inconvenient to the government's activities, once they can be discovered; -although numerous counts of prosecutorial misconduct were disclosed before the presiding federal court of record in Nevada, no publicly notable reprimand of the behaviors or personnel involved has taken place, as yet.

Apparently, "misconduct" has no greater connotation than the mere mention of it; a mist-verb, lacking substance or outcome to animate its form.

But uncovering the deception employed by Americans, conveys an entirely different intention, whether it was effective or not: to defend Americans at distinct physical disadvantage and capability, from the very manner of criminality discovered when the government's conduct is investigated, as it is hoped will be immediately endeavored concerning these exigent matters.

This AFFIDAVIT is true and accurate to the best extent of my knowledge, and is sworn to this 15th day of September, 2023,

Ryan Payne


Please feel free to contact me via email concerning these matters:
ryan@thepaynes.family

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California
County of Sacramento

On Sept 15, 2023 before me, V. Shay, notary public
(insert name and title of the officer)

personally appeared Ryan Payne
who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature  (Seal)

