



VOLUNTEER HOMELAND RESERVE UNIT

July 6, 2011

VHRU

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James M. Wright
Interim Chief
Department of Public Safety
Division of Emergency Management
2478 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Your letter dated July 5, 2011, "VHRU Identification Cards"

Dear Chief Wright:

We are in receipt of the above captioned letter which, I have to say, comes as a surprise to us.

The cards in question are titled Nevada Division of Emergency Management and came into existence pursuant to an appropriately signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State of Nevada, Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and The Volunteer Homeland Reserve Unit (VHRU) that became effective January 11, 2005 upon the approval of the Nevada State Board of Examiners. Though this MOU expired in June 2007, our understanding with the Division was that the relationship with VHRU remained unchanged. Since all the salient provisions of the MOU were contained in the Nevada statutes, the need for an additional MOU, given the existing relationship, was considered unnecessary by both the Division and VHRU.

Characterization of the cards as VHRU identification cards, while technically accurate, does not fully define the nature of the cards - these are cards issued pursuant to authorization of the Division to VHRU volunteers in State service who are specifically identified as such on the card.

The emblems (including the State seal) on the cards and the language were approved by the Division and the Senior Deputy Attorney General who served as counsel to the Division. Production of the cards by VHRU is a ministerial function performed at the request of the Chief of the Division to assist in eliminating a backlog at the Division's office. The initial run of cards was produced by the Division itself. VHRU production of the cards was simply done to assist the Division with the backlog. The template for the cards subsequently produced was in all material respects identical to the cards initially issued and approved by the Division.

We are quickly compiling a chronology of the uninterrupted relationship between the Division and VHRU dating back to 2004. The chronology will specifically document and support the statements above. Once this is completed, we will immediately provide it to the Division and very much wish to visit with you to discuss the future relationship between VHRU and the State of Nevada - which we value greatly.

Sincerely,

Ted Farace

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