

NEWS

From Supervisor Gary Ovitt
Fourth District, San Bernardino County



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Chairman Gary Ovitt Responds To ACORN Video

Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt today alerted District Attorney Mike Ramos to a video that shows a staff member at a federally funded office in San Bernardino apparently offering to assist in the establishment of a brothel where child prostitutes would be employed.

The video was originally displayed at <http://biggovernment.com/> and is now the subject of a Fox News report. Alerted to the video by a concerned constituent, Chairman Ovitt immediately contacted District Attorney Ramos, with whom Ovitt has been working on a countywide fight against child prostitution. Ramos created the San Bernardino County Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) to address the problem.

“Child prostitution is one of society’s most heinous crimes,” Chairman Ovitt said. “We don’t want to see an expansion of young prostitutes in our communities, and we particularly don’t want to see a federally funded agency lending support to that end.”

The video was created by an independent filmmaker, who posed as a pimp accompanied by an assistant posing as a child prostitute. In the film, they receive assistance from a staff person at the San Bernardino office of the Association of Community Organizers for Reform Now (ACORN) in obtaining housing for an illegal sex business and advice on how to avoid detection by law enforcement.

The ACORN staffer also admitted having once had sex for money herself after the filmmaker and his assistant told her that they planned to bring 12 girls from El Salvador to a home they hoped to acquire with ACORN’s help.

The filmmaker and his assistant were also told they could classify their desired home as a group home to avoid detection. They were also told they could conceal the prostitution business by calling it a massage parlor or maybe a spa, perhaps even adding a line of vitamins to hide the true purpose.

“I am shocked that something like this would happen in our county seat,” Chairman Ovitt said. “And I am incensed to see something like this occurring at a facility funded largely by U.S. taxpayers.”

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