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KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

Yolo County District Attorney

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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December 9, 2011

The Honorable Jeffrey W. Reisig
District Attorney, County of Yolo
301 Second Street
Woodland, California 95695

The Honorable Edward Prieto
Sheriff, County of Yolo
2500 East Gibson Road
Woodland, California 95776

RE: University of California-Davis Pepper-Spray Incident

Dear District Attorney Reisig and Sheriff Prieto:

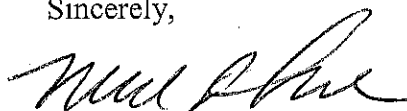
This Office has received your letter dated November 29, 2011, which requests the Attorney General's involvement regarding the November 18, 2011, events on the campus of the University of California at Davis. As you have mentioned, none of the traditional criteria warranting this Office's assumption of the primary law-enforcement role in this matter -- including a conflict of interest or inadequate resources -- are present. This Office justifiably maintains great confidence in the commitment of your office, and that of local law enforcement generally, to discharge its duties, and we therefore decline your request.

We also note that the Governor has directed the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to review its guidelines for law enforcement on the proper use of non-lethal force, particularly pepper spray, in the context of civil disobedience and other forms of public protest. This Office is closely monitoring the efforts of the Commission to fulfill the Governor's directive, as its work is important to the development and adherence to appropriate policies by law enforcement, both on and off university campuses.

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As always, this Office is available to provide supplemental or specialized assistance to local law enforcement as it fulfills its role as the primary law enforcement safeguard. Moreover, we will honor any request you might make to review your investigation and its conclusions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael P. Farrell".

MICHAEL P. FARRELL
Senior Assistant Attorney General

For KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

MPF:drb