



Brothers and Sisters,

It has come to my attention that representatives of the McFarland Group have approached several Community Granges today asking them to sign “leases” for their Grange Halls, and threatening to change the locks to their Grange Halls if they do not sign. The McFarland Group is NOT affiliated with The Grange, and has NO right or claim to property held by any Subordinate or Pomona Grange. What these representatives of the McFarland Group are threatening is illegal. Any attempt on their part to change the locks or otherwise take the property of any Community Grange constitutes trespassing and theft, among other crimes.

If any of these individuals should show up on your doorstep, please do not be intimidated. Their threats are hollow and they have no right to do anything to you or your Grange. Do not sign anything. Politely ask them to leave, and if they do not, contact your local authorities or call me, and I will get in touch with the authorities for you. Please DO NOT engage in any physical altercations with these individuals. If you have signed something because the McFarland Group threatened your Grange, please let me know ASAP. The McFarland Group knows that it has lost the court cases, and now apparently has no qualms trying to intimidate or deceive Grange members by any means necessary. This conduct is reprehensible, and contrary to all of the values of The Grange.

If you have any questions or would like to report being contacted by the McFarland Group, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me. The California State Grange has a team of experts standing by to address any concerns you may have in response to these despicable actions by the McFarland Group.

Fraternally yours,

Ed Kowski  
President and Master  
California State Grange

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