

## Northern Arapaho Business Council

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June 05, 2014

Fremont County Commissioners  
450 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Lander, WY 82520

Riverton City Council  
816 North Federal Blvd.  
Riverton, WY 82501

Re: Citizens Equal Rights Alliance (CERA)

Dear Governmental Representative,

Despite the innocent sounding name, the Citizens Equal Rights Alliance (CERA) is renown throughout the country as an anti-Indian group working against rights recognized in the U.S. Constitution and what CERA calls "increasingly militarizing federal employees." CERA has been called the "Ku Klux Klan of Indian country" (Lundgren, Indian Country Today, 6-23-04). "CERA and the anti-Indian movement promote misinformation and bigotry... Their aim is the wholesale abrogation of tribal treaty rights and the outright termination of Indian tribal governments. This is racism plain and simple" (Tanner, author of 2013 report to Institute for Research & Education on Human Rights, cited in Indian Country Today, 3-28-14).

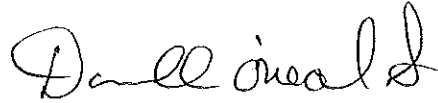
The sovereign authority of Indian Tribes is recognized and re-affirmed in the U.S. Constitution and by the U.S. Supreme Court. CERA "[uses] bogus legal arguments designed to rile up local resentment and to enlist new uninformed members and contributors. When their popular slogans and phony catch-phrases are exposed to the light of reality, however, we learn that their real problem is with the Constitution" (Lundgren, Indian Country Today, 4-2-14).

We are concerned about the recently publicized meetings of CERA in Riverton, Wyoming. CERA has announced a meeting at Riverton City Hall (which is closed to the public) on June 13 and public forums at the Fremont County Fairgrounds on June 14 and 15. (Copies of CERA flyers enclosed). Apparently, the County and City have agreed to provide these public locations for use by CERA. "Citizen sovereignty" and other references in the CERA flyers are thinly disguised efforts to incite distrust and racial division in our communities.

These CERA events present a stark contrast to the symposium last month at Central Wyoming College about how Indian and non-Indian communities resolved their disputes about reservation boundaries at Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Our leaders need to work together to help bring our communities closer together.  
We should be building bridges, not encouraging the anti-Indian rhetoric of groups like CERA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell O'Neal, Sr.", written in a cursive style.

Darrell O'Neal, Sr., Chairman  
Northern Arapaho Business Council

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xc: Patrick Goggles  
Cale Case  
Rosa Salamanca