

George W. Bush Presidential Library

Collection: Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Office of (OFBCI)

Series: Willett, Don R. – General Files

Folder Title: Correspondence [Folder 2]

Nieupointe

June 12, 2001

Don Willit, Esq.
Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives
The White House
Washington DC 20502

Re: Follow-up from White House visit 6/6/01

Dear Don:

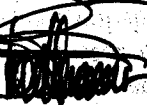
It was a pleasure to have made your acquaintance last Wednesday at the White House. Like you, I am originally a Texan from West Texas, as I believe I heard you are from Forney, east of Dallas.

As you might recall I was with the Peb Jackson group that you met with in the Executive Building with John Dululio, and Don Eberly and later, the President. As you might recall I am involved with the Orange County Rescue Mission (OCRM) where you are working on a conveyance of property from the Tustin Marine Base. Also, Sealy Yates is the attorney representing the Rescue Mission who has had correspondence and dialogue with you.

I want to extend the thanks of many people here in Orange County for what you are doing with respect to our project, the Village of Hope, at the Tustin Marine Base in your efforts of conveyance to the City of Tustin and OCRM. I was most impressed by the leadership of the President to place such a high priority on faith based initiatives. Don, the work you are accomplishing is monumental and we will be in prayer for you in the days ahead. I was likewise impressed with your understanding of the issues to prohibit discrimination of clients from having access to our facility while allowing the Rescue Mission freedom in their hiring practices and administration of our program. Don, as I stated at our meeting, we will have all approvals by the end of July and the resources are standing by to begin the project as soon as you complete conveyance. Do you anticipate that being a realistic schedule for conveyance completion?

Don, the local partnership of OCRM, along with the private in-kind donations of HomeAid (local building association) and other resources, models very well the programs the President is seeking to accomplish. We would like to invite the President and your office to come to California and use this very large project to illustrate the Vision of the President. Of all places in California, Orange County is "home turf" to the President. We hope to hear from you soon and would love to host your visit to see this project become a reality. Once again our prayers are with you as you are "in the battle" for these noble efforts. Thank you again for all you are doing.

In His Enterprise



Bart Hansen
Chairman of the Board, OCRM