

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney  
James K. Hahn City Hall East  
200 North Main Street, 8th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA. 90012  
213-978-8100  
mike.n.feuer@lacity.org

Dear Mr. Feuer,

I am writing to ask that you please drop all criminal charges against the 11 Refuse Fascism protesters your office is currently prosecuting for their protest actions in October and November, 2017. They were exercising their First Amendment right to free speech and taking an important stand against the criminal actions of the current president and his crooked and bigoted cabinet. It is a misuse of our city's precious funds to prosecute them. Rather than criminally charge these eleven people, if anything our city should commend them for their courageous actions to protect our democracy from corporate criminals.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Andrew Claycomb, RN, BSN

## **Statement by Bill Ayers on the #Freeway9 Protesters**

The wreckage is all around us:

---ongoing war and the threat of new US aggression including nuclear attacks in Iran, Venezuela, and all over the world;

---white supremacy galvanized and on the rise;

---the scapegoating of specific groups of human beings, the roundups, the targeting;

---an omnivorous national security and surveillance apparatus;

---the abrogation of privacy and civil liberties, and the rise of repressive state power;

---the wide use of mass incarceration;

---the banality of torture, domestically and internationally;

---the undermining of tolerance everywhere;

---catastrophic capitalist environmental collapse.

Resistance is breaking out all over---and it's absolutely imperative.

Join us!

Shoulder-to-shoulder with immigrant communities and all who fight back against the outrages of empire and racial capitalism.

Stand in solidarity with the #Freeway9Protestors on trial in LA today!

Before Donald Trump was elected Refuse Fascism was sounding the alarm. The country did not respond to their call, perhaps because of their association with the Revolutionary Communist Party. While I do not agree with the RCP, I do agree with Refuse Fascism's statement that in the name of humanity we cannot accept a fascist America. Instead it seems that the LACity administration does indeed accept and defend a fascist America!

The Democratic Club of which I am president, Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains, has met with member of RF. I have attended a meeting and sent a club representative to their meetings. These are peaceful people. They have a right to meet without being spied on by a terrorist task force! They have a right to protest peacefully without fear of being charged with conspiracy.

I regret that the Democratic Party did not step up and call for mass protests. Now we see what the Trump administration is willing to do to immigrants and, perhaps sooner than we think, to us. The Democratic administration and legal system of Los Angeles should be supporting protests against this administration, not spying on peaceful protesters.

This is my personal statement. For identification purposes only I tell you I am a member of the Los Angeles Democratic Party Central Committee and the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party as well as the president of Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Dorothy Reik  
President, Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains  
310.291.1300  
More info @ [PDSMM.org](http://PDSMM.org)  
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## *Echo Park United Methodist Church*

1226 North Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026  
Office: (213) 484-8214 Fax: (213) 484-1826  
e-mail address: echoparkumc@gmail.com  
website: <https://echoparkumc.wordpress.com>



Pastor: Rev. Frank Wulf

June 21, 2019

Mr. Mike Feuer  
Los Angeles City Attorney  
James K. Hahn City Hall East, Suite 800  
Los Angeles CA 90012

Dear Mr. City Attorney Feuer:

I am writing to express my opposition to the ongoing prosecution by your office of several people from *Refuse Fascism* who have been involved in protests demanding that the Trump/Pence regime must go. These individuals were arrested and charged because of their participation in provocative actions designed 1) to raise public alarm about the outrages being committed by the Trump/Pence administration, 2) to increase public support for *Refuse Fascism's* demand that the President and Vice President need to be removed from office, and 3) to engage more and more of the population in a popular movement to end the administration's efforts to consolidate power.

Several of the individuals who have been arrested and charged were involved in separate actions on September 26 and November 21, 2017, during which they unveiled a banner across the 101 Freeway during rush hour demanding that the Trump/Pence regime must go. (The trial for two of these individuals will begin on Monday, June 24, 2019.) Others were arrested and charged because of their involvement in a range of protest activities on the campus of UCLA, most notably the disruption of an address by Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin on February 26, 2017.

I understand these acts of protest are disruptive and annoying. And yet, I also know that protests are never convenient. They are effective precisely because they cause a disruption to the normal course of people's lives. And, they are absolutely essential to the maintenance of a free and just society. This is why the framers of the Constitution enshrined the right to protest in First Amendment protections of Free Speech and Free Assembly. Whether or not one agrees with the protestors' message or their chosen means for communicating it, their right to engage in non-violent protest should not be curtailed except under the most extreme circumstances.

I am deeply troubled by what I perceive to be an attempt by the Trump/Pence administration and other governmental agencies such as your office to intimidate those who engage in principled and courageous resistance to the outrageous policies and behaviors of the President and his associates. I urge you and your office to drop all charges against these protestors. Doing so would be a sign that you truly do intend to protect basic civil liberties granted by our nation's constitution, including the rights to free speech and peaceable assembly.

Sincerely,

Rev. Frank Wulf

**GOD IS LOVE**  
English

**DIYOS AY PAG-IBIG**  
Tagalog

**하나님은 사랑이십니다**  
Korean

**DIOS ES AMOR**  
Spanish



Gisela Rodriguez  
[rgisela@pdx.edu](mailto:rgisela@pdx.edu)  
(503) 725-8901  
P.O. Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207-075

Friday August 31, 2018

To: The Honorable Mike Feuer  
L.A. City Attorney

Dear Mr. Feuer:

This letter is in reference to the decision of The Los Angeles City Attorney to criminally charge 11 members of **Refuse Fascism**, including numerous members of the Revolution Club in LA, an Iraq War vet, a Ph.D student and college instructor, as well as a noted artist and USC professor, whose arraignment dates begin August 27 and continue through September and October.

As an university professor at Portland State University (PSU) and a member of various anti-fascist organizations, such as the International Socialist Organization and PSU Rapid Response Mobilization Network, I fully respect and support those individuals and groups that stand up against the separation and incarceration of immigrant families, and against the scapegoating of marginalized communities such as Muslims, African-Americans and LGBTQ people. While this not new, it is evident that Donald Trump's policies and rhetoric have normalized hate speech and hate crimes and even more worrisome, his administration is leading our society into a fascist regime. This is why the citizenry of this country needs more than ever people such as the 11 members of Refuse fascism to defend our tenets of democracy and freedom for all. Therefore, the courage to protest in the Freeway and standing up to white supremacists is critically necessary to stop the madness of the Trump administration.

For all of these reasons, the 11 members of Refuse Fascism have my unconditional support and therefore I and urge you to DROP ALL CHARGES against them.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gisela Rodriguez".

Gisela Rodriguez, MPH  
PhD candidate, Sociology  
Adjunct professor  
Portland State University



L.A. City Attorney Mike Feuer  
200 N. Main St.  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90012

September 11, 2018

Honorable City Attorney Mike Feuer,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Edward Gomez and I am currently a professor of History at San Bernardino Valley College in San Bernardino, California. The purpose of this letter is to ask that you, in your position of power, consider dropping all charges being brought forth against members of *Refuse Fascism* who rightfully expressed themselves in a form of civil disobedience in these troubling times.

As a professor of History, I am often challenged by my position to engage students in understanding the role that our country and its citizens have played over our nation's existence to the ideals of "justice and freedom". From the time of our Founding Fathers, who in righteous indignation "tarred and feathered" officials of the British Empire to protest their discontent for the unfair and unjust actions of the tyrannical king against his own people, to the men like Henry David Thoreau who openly defied the government's oppressive, unjust position it took in the invasion of our neighbor Mexico, to the uprising of Black slaves and others who protested the laws of this nation's rich and powerful that kept some humans as property to others, to the millions of men, women and children jailed for protesting in the streets of urban America the dangerous unhealthy, unfair conditions in the factories of America in early industrialization, to the thousands upon thousands of citizens that marched in the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's in solidarity against racist laws and policies that favored some American citizens over others because of their race or gender, to the uncountable veterans and their supporters that lined the streets of America in resistance to the involvement of our nation's violent actions against the people of Vietnam and to the millions upon millions of world citizens who marched in protest against the U.S. involvement in an illegal invasion of Iraq, in **each** of these cases brave and selfless people made a stand against the immoral, illegal, unethical and disgraceful actions of a few to support the ideals of our nation's beliefs in "justice and freedom". And in each of these instances, people were unlawfully persecuted and jailed by officials who lacked vision and understanding of their own individual roles in history.

I therefore call upon you, as a sworn representative of "justice" to **we, the people**, to take into consideration the history and ideals of our great nation and drop the charges against these citizens of *Refuse Fascism*, who have the courage and strength to stand against the current forms of injustice and corruption being perpetrated against the American people by its leadership and have been unduly charged with crimes.

Signed, Ed Gomez, Professor of History, San Bernardino Valley College

**Statement on the Refuse Fascism Freeway9 and UCLA 5 cases from Isabel Cardenas; Salvadoran-American Activist**

*“If more Germans and Jews in Nazi Germany had done what these defendants have done (and are doing), millions of lives could have been saved. This country needs people such as those who have been criminally charged so that those who have no voice may have someone with the courage to defend them. They are striving to save us all from THE TRUMP-PENCE NIGHTMARE so that we – billions of us on the planet earth, including millions of Immigrants who helped to build this country – may stop enduring the madness that goes on in the White House.”*



Dear Mr. Feuer,

I am writing to ask that you drop all criminal charges against Refuse Fascism members from September 2017 and November of 2017 in Los Angeles. These criminal charges represent an effort by the state to silence dissent. The actions were non-violent and were necessary in order to break out of the routine of “normalizing” a dangerous fascist regime. The members involved in this action have contributed to society in many important ways and it would do society more harm than good if they were to face criminal charges and not be able to continue teaching, working and volunteering in the many projects in which they are involved.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Melissa Quintela

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**Melissa Quintela, Ph.D.**

Course Instructor, General Education

**Western Governors University**

Toll Free 1.877.435.7948 Ext. 7602

[melissa.quintela@wgu.edu](mailto:melissa.quintela@wgu.edu)

"The actions of these defendants were courageous and necessary. I have marched for many progressive causes these past two years and I share their deep concern about the current direction of society. We must expose and stop the political persecution of activists, and support a new wave of civil resistance against the Trump-Pence regime. City Attorney Mike Feuer: Drop all the criminal charges against the Freeway 9 and the UCLA 5!"

-Tanya Nieri, Associate Professor of Sociology, UC Riverside  
Collaborating Faculty, Center for Healthy Communities, School of Medicine (UC Riverside)

## Norwood Fischer - from the band FISHBONE on the Freeway 9 cases

I stand behind all those who stand up for freedom and justice and stand against fascism and oppression. The actions that were taken on the Hollywood Freeway would seem to be on the same level as action taken by those who are called the forefathers of America. Like the actions of the Boston tea Party and any other revolt in the formation of the USA. The fact that the political arm of the LAPD - the Anti Terrorist Division - sent a spy to infiltrate a Refuse Fascism meeting shows absolutely this is a political effort. At most people should just get a traffic ticket. There is a long history of protests in America, many of which involved stopping traffic - marching in the 50's and 60's sought to disrupt everyone's normal everyday movements and wake them up to their message. Drop the charges!

September 1, 2018

L.A. City Attorney Mike Feuer  
Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney  
James K. Hahn City Hall East  
200 North Main Street, 8th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA. 90012

Dear Mr. Feuer:

I am writing to you because I recently learned that the City of Los Angeles has leveled criminal charges against 11 protesters, singled out especially because of their membership in Refuse Fascism. Although it should not matter, those charged include an Iraq War vet, a Ph.D. student and college instructor at the University of California, and a professor at the University of Sothern California. These are serious people, doing serious work in a time of constitutional crisis. Some of the arraignments have already happened and others remain on the docket through October.

I am a sociolegal scholar at Portland State University and did my doctoral work in Los Angeles. As a prosecutor, I know that you understand how the law works and its real and limited capacities—what it can do and what it cannot do. The law is not organized to address crisis and yet we are in a time of crisis. The President has plunged us into constitutional crisis; the climate is an ongoing crisis—neither can be addressed through law, which looks backward to precedent rather than forward to morality and conscience. The crimes being committed by the President every day in the name of America (not to mention the past 4 decades)—including child separation, corruption, sexual assault, housing discrimination, defrauding investors, antitrust violations, breach of contract, and many many others—will likely never be brought to any sort of justice like the kind you can prosecute.

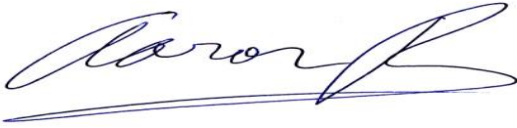
Neither is the law organized to bring to justice those with means. The list of crimes above will never be prosecuted because the perpetrator is rich and powerful. You and I both keenly understand that there is a multitiered system of justice in this land. The brave people of Refuse Fascism are attempting to perpetuate the only kind of justice that Donald Trump will ever face. You can help them, knowing full well that the people who run the place are immune from conventional justice.

There are times in history where people need to take a stand. We will look back on this era in history as one of those times. In 20 years, when you look back either in awe of what we accomplished in resistance or in horror at the unraveled social fabric, what will you be able to say you contributed? Will you have worked for justice? Or will you have worked against it? Well-meaning attorneys have ended up as depicted as villains in the rearview mirror, such as those who prosecuted Mandela, Dr. King, Dr. Angela Davis, and many other figures whose righteousness exceeded the law.

The country needs brave protesters, organizers, and activists right now more than it ever has, but it also needs professional people who realize that they do have the power to exercise their conscience. You are not an automaton, but a powerful figure who can take a stand and make real justice happen. Drop the charges. We need all hands on deck in this fight and that includes yours.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this further. No justice, no peace; know justice, know peace.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Roussell", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Aaron Roussell, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Sociology  
Portland State University

Dear LA City Attorney Mike Feuer,

I am writing to urge you to drop the charges against activists involved with Refuse Fascism. I write as a professor and researcher working in the field of political sociology. This is a critical point in the history of the United States. Fascism is working its way into everyday life. Protesting is a civil liberty and it is unjust to bring charges for acts of civil disobedience by peoples whose lives are at stake and directly impacted by the current political climate. These activists are defining the boundaries of acceptability when it comes to the issue of fascism. Punishing the voices of reason is anti-democratic and unacceptable. They are citizens on the frontlines of democracy protesting to defend the rights of all. The work they do is an important contribution to society at this critical juncture in not just U.S. history but also world history. Again, I urge you to drop the charges against activists involved with protesting against the fascist creep.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Samantha Fox  
Michigan State University

## Statement on the LA11 cases

Stephen F. Rohde Esq.

Constitutional lawyer, lecturer, writer and political activist; author  
of *American Words of Freedom*

*"I have signed the national statement 'We Demand: Drop the Charges Against Members of Refuse Fascism and Revolution Club!' because I think the common ground we are on, when it comes to these arrests and this effort in silencing dissent, is something we can all agree upon because from what I can see from the 101 Freeway protest actions in downtown LA to the Mnuchin protest at UCLA - these were classic non-violent tactics.*

*"The civil liberties issue is here is very clear: in public meetings and in a public forum like the UCLA campus, the exchange of ideas is what is at stake and is what is protected by the First Amendment. We have question and answer periods in public meetings. The fact that the audience chooses the time for the questions and answers is protected by the First Amendment. There was no actual disruption of that Mnuchin event which is the legal test for criminality. There was an exchange of ideas. The fact that the three spokeswomen chose that moment to express their ideas was an outgrowth of their First Amendment right. They spoke for just a few minutes, their message was on target, they were speaking to the issues being raised by Mnuchin and they should have been allowed to finish their remarks. Mnuchin presumably would have continued his remarks and there may have been other questions and answers. That is what a democracy can sustain rather than the police tactics of silencing people who chose to express themselves at that point. This is especially important on a university campus. Mnuchin did not have the right to dictate the timing and the exchange of ideas that day.*

*"'Conspiracy' - one charge leveled at 2 Freeway protesters - has been used by the government for centuries to silence protest and anti-authoritarianism. They called labor organizing a conspiracy and got injunctions from courts stopping labor organizing by labeling it a conspiracy. In the law a conspiracy is any two people pursuing the same end. I think conspiracy is a dangerous weapon when it comes to free speech. I'm ashamed of LA City Attorney Mike Feuer for using conspiracy to escalate the charges.*

*"I do hope we all sign this petition 'We Demand: Drop the Charges Against Members of Refuse Fascism and Revolution Club!' and contact LA City Attorney Mike Feuer to demand the criminal charges be dropped."*

September 15, 2018

Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney  
James K. Hahn City Hall East  
200 North Main Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA. 90012  
213-978-8100  
[mike.n.feuer@lacity.org](mailto:mike.n.feuer@lacity.org)

The Honorable Mike Feuer,

In regard to charges against 11 members of Refuse Fascism who stopped traffic in Los Angeles in November of last year:

These are unusual and dangerous times. The administration in Washington is pursuing policies that contradict the values of most Americans and threaten institutions and programs on which we depend to maintain and advance our quality of life.

The actions of those charged must be seen in this context. These were principled acts of civil disobedience, not crimes. I personally know several of these people. I admire their courage and conviction. They remind me of the man in Beijing in 1989 who blocked tanks heading in to Tiananmen Square to put down the pro-democracy movement.

Events in this country today are alarmingly similar to certain events in Germany in the early 1930s. I am referring to the racism, the scapegoating of minorities, the threats and use of violence against political opponents, etc. Too many "good Germans" stood by and did nothing. Would that there had been more like these 11 at that time, willing to put their bodies on the line to oppose the Nazis.

I urge that all charges against the Refuse Fascism 11 be dropped.

Sincerely,

Steve Schuh  
Adjunct Professor of Astronomy (semi-retired)  
Riverside City College



Dear Mr. Feuer:

I am dismayed by the prosecution of the RefuseFascism activists. This is clearly, to me, an over-reach. It reminds me of my days, many decades ago, when I and others rode buses to protest discrimination in the deep south. I was thrown into jail in both Jackson, MS and Montgomery, AL, with charges like those you are bringing again those who protest clear injustice at the border. Surely, L.A. is a bit more progressive than the deep south in the 1960s. It is one thing to restore "public order" but another to prosecute those who are exercising their constitutional rights.

I say this as the 38th University Professor of the entire University of California system. I have spent more than 60 years fighting against ethnic discrimination and prosecution of those exercising their rights as American citizens. For a progressive city like Los Angeles to be intent on prosecuting those who have ideals is, to say the least, troubling.

When those who protest for the rights of the less advantaged are taken to court, while those who dominate and control the fate of so many are left to freely exercise their power, justice is not being done.

My impression of you over the years has been that you seek justice, and justice is not done by prosecuting those who exercise their rights to assembly and protest. Thus, I urge you to drop these charges, and devote more time to prosecuting those who are doing the real harm in American society. I say this not as a radical but as a moderate liberal, now old man, who remembers how bad a society can be from my experiences in seeking justice and fairness for African Americans in the deep south all those years ago.

Respectfully,

Jonathan H. Turner  
38th University Professor  
University of California system

Distinguished Professor of the Graduate Division, U.C. Riverside  
Research Professor, U.C. Santa Barbara