



U. S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUL 19 2011

Mr. Thomas J. Fitton
President
Judicial Watch
425 Third Street, SW
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20024-3206

Dear Mr. Fitton:

This responds to your letter to the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division dated April 28, 2011, regarding Ted Hayes of Los Angeles, California, in which you request an investigation into whether a video posted on YouTube comprised a violation of federal civil rights statutes. We apologize for our delay in responding to your letter.

The Department of Justice is committed to combating violations of federal law that are motivated by racial or ethnic bias. The Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division in conjunction with the United States Attorneys' Offices is responsible for investigating and prosecuting criminal conduct involving deprivations of rights. In general, these matters include acts involving racial or religious violence, misconduct by local and federal law enforcement officials, violations of peonage and involuntary servitude statutes, and violence against reproductive healthcare facilities.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted an investigation into the matter referenced in your letter. We and the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California reviewed the results of that investigation and concluded that this incident does not constitute a prosecutable violation of the federal criminal civil rights statutes. Accordingly, we cannot authorize a criminal prosecution of this matter.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Department if we may be of assistance with this, or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Perez". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Tom" and the last name "Perez" written in a cursive-like font. To the right of the name is a circular flourish or stamp.

Thomas E. Perez
Assistant Attorney General