Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage Committee

Florin Japanese American Citizens League (Florin JACL).
Council on American Islamic Relations - Sacramento Valley (CAIR-SV)
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RE: Letter from Back Alley Bowl (6-9-15) Backing out of Agreed Meeting on Exclusion

Dear Mr. Hammon:

We are deeply disappointed that Back Alley Bowling, Bar, and Grill, owned by Mr. Tom Flesia, backed out of its agreement to meet with us on being excluded as stated in your 6-9-15 letter. Additionally, we found the letter completely inaccurate, patronizing, and insulting. We continue to ask Back Alley Bowl to honor its agreement to meet and discuss this complaint.

The issue of 15 Asian and Muslim American members of our group being denied service the night of April 25, 2015 during openly posted business hours when bowling alleys functioned and white customers bowled has not been discussed with us or resolved in any way. The recent refusal of Back Alley Bowl to meet with us as agreed has made a discussion and solution impossible to this point.

We are still seeking justice for being denied service that evening. The fact that we were denied service is indisputable. There is no misunderstanding or misperception about being excluded. A non-apology for a "misunderstanding" or "misperception" is not acceptable.

We call on Back Alley to issue: 1). A public apology for excluding our group from bowling that night. 2). A public commitment to follow the non-discrimination civil rights laws of the State of California and the United States. 3). A public welcome to culturally diverse people, including the Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage.

Instead of being forced to consider which of our various options as next steps for redress, we hope that Back Alley Bowl will change its mind about backing out of our agreed meeting to discuss these issues and to resolve them justly and reasonably.

We wish to prevent such mistreatment from ever happening again to us or other culturally diverse Americans.

Sincerely,

Andy Noguchi, Chairperson
Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage Committee

Twila Tomita, Co-Chair
Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage Committee

Brice Hamack, Esq.
Northern California Civil Rights Coordinator
CAIR-California

Joshua Kaizuka, Esq.
Civil Rights Co-Chairperson
Florin JACL

CC:

Bishop City Council
Bishop Chamber of Commerce
Bishop Paiute Tribe
Bishop Rotary Club
Inyo County Supervisors
Inyo Register Newspaper
Manzanar National Historic Site
Manzanar Committee
National - Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR)
National - JACL