

Erica Ruiz
KRQE News Ch. 13
13 Broadcast Plaza SW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Cc: Kali Maestas

January 30, 2003

Dear Ms. Ruiz:

In tonight's broadcast, you allowed Kali Maestas a forum to continue her attack on our decision to involve ourselves in the affairs of David Siebers. I have done everything in my power to explain our position, yet Ms. Maestas continues to further inaccurate statements and personal attacks on us.

RUIZ: "Vice President, Kali Maestas said she and others were shocked to learn that Scott Goold had issued an invitation to the convicted sex offender without letting them know."

MAESTAS: "It was extremely disturbing, uhm, he didn't consider our feelings at all. He talks about Christianity, but yet he forgot his friends and neighbors, and took it upon himself to assume that we would just jump on the bandwagon."

On Sunday morning, January 19th, I initiated a lengthy telephone conversation with Ms. Maestas to inform her of our intentions. I explained our concern that Mayor Chavez had mismanaged this situation. While I offered to speak with her, and any additional neighbors, in greater detail, she rejected my request, and forged ahead with her reactionary plan to demonstrate angrily outside our home. Rather than sitting down in a calm, rational manner – allowing our neighbors to consider "jumping on the bandwagon" – she choose to incite a mob of hysterical neighbors into a fearful frenzy. Yet we had a workable plan.

In the subsequent report tonight by Chris Williamson, he noted the Michigan State Police employed a different approach than did Albuquerque. They conducted undercover surveillance, hoping to catch Mr. Siebers in the commission of a crime. I explained to Ms. Maestas I believed the mayor's strategy to heighten media focus and instill fear in this community was counterproductive. He turned law enforcement into "baby sitters," and sent Albuquerque residents to bed each night with terrible images of terror.

Our concerns materialized when two Verguita-area residents attacked Mr. Siebers the week of January 13th. Taken to the logical extension, the continued psychological warfare imposed on Mr. Siebers, fueled by the unremitting fear-inducing nightly media reports, had the potential to end in a disaster of catastrophic proportions. This is what compelled us to extend our invitation.

If Mr. Siebers is mentally unstable, this continued harassment **might work**. These amateurish protestors could drive this "wounded animal" crazy, possibility triggering a horrific reaction. You will note the protestors routinely include their kids in their activities. They are willingly placing their families in harm's way, without any idea of what they are doing.

Simply put, the policy furthered by our mayor was illogical, irrational, and frankly, placed citizens in an untenable and dangerous position. A more rational strategy would be to assist Mr. Siebers find a permanent place of residence, whether in New Mexico or elsewhere. Such a policy might yield more positive outcomes.

This was the intent of our invitation. We knew if we provided Mr. Siebers safe sanctuary in our home, we would have a contingency of law enforcement and media present at all times. I would be able to assist David locate a suitable long-term place of residence, which would be impossible while living in a trailer. During his stay with us, I planned to assist him develop job skills, as I work from home and engage in a number of productive enterprises. As he would be in a stable environment, rather than bounced place-to-place, we would be able to submit him to psychological counseling, involve him in support groups and seek appropriate medical assistance.

A person such as David has likely missed much of the technology revolution. Yet with his background, he might be well suited to work from home in a telemarketing/computer technology environment. This would allow him to remain semi-anonymous, providing him a bit of relief from the highly negative stigma that likely will precede him everywhere.

The issues surrounding David, and sex offenders such as him, are complex and convoluted. Bill Forsyth, Kent County prosecutor, asked FBI profilers to do an assessment on David. It was their belief “he still is a threat.” Why then did the State of Michigan release David into society? What is wrong with our criminal justice system? David is arguably not the first offender to present society with such a challenge. Why have we failed to provide adequate safeguards to protect the public? Why are we failing to rehabilitate these offenders?

These social shortcomings are not the fault of David Siebers. Clearly, he has a history of unacceptable anti-social behavior. Many others offenders do as well. The mayor’s policy to back this man into a corner; force him out of Albuquerque onto a less fortunate, and inadequately-equipped community such as Verguita; and further a campaign of high visibility fear-inducing grandstanding, will not increase the probability of finding a acceptable permanent solution for David and other similar offenders.

I would like to close by noting I am saddened by the continued efforts of Kali Maestas and Seth Heath. They are devoting considerable energy and attention to attacking me, although I have asked them on repeated occasions to join us in our search for a permanent solution to this problem. They continue to invest their resources toward damaging my reputation, tying us up in legal wrangling and engaging in divisive tactics. If we assist David to find a home, there would be no reason to invite him to the New Holiday Park. It would seem that pooling our efforts in this direction, rather than fighting amongst us, would be a more rational strategy.

Our government has failed all of us. The State of Michigan released David into the civilian population, believing full well he was a danger to society. The solution is not to use the resources of Albuquerque to push him somewhere else – to other communities with women and children who are equally afraid.

My wife and I have tried to provide a workable strategy whereby we volunteered to establish a temporary “halfway house.” We offered to assist finding a permanent solution. We did not ask for taxpayer support or personal recognition. We only wanted to help make America – not just one small corner of Albuquerque – a bit safer. Sadly, our adversaries can only think of themselves. They are unwilling to accept that we are ALL in this together. America is a great nation, not a patchwork of separate and independent neighborhoods.

I thank you for your continued dedication to our great city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Goold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

Scott Goold
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