

Conversation Contents

Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>

From: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 09:15:40 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: [REDACTED] <l50porte@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, jfontana@blm.gov, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, lmbryant@blm.gov, rmorales@blm.gov
Subject: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Hi, I am going to ask that everyone stop responding to these questions so we can get a handle on the facts and then get one voice for our Agency. Many of us are getting questions about Cultural LE incidents. I had another one this morning from Sherriff Eldredge wanting to know if the Washington post quotes are accurate. I have not responded because I want to verify the facts. [REDACTED] Ex. 5 Deliberative Process Privilege

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Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>

From: Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 09:31:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
[REDACTED] <l50porte@blm.gov>, [REDACTED] <rtlloyd@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, "jfontana@blm.gov" <jfontana@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, "lmbryant@blm.gov" <lmbryant@blm.gov>, "rmorales@blm.gov" <rmorales@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Lance -- do we need a quick conference call on this? I provided the WaPo the LE stats based on the IMARs information that [REDACTED] Ex. 6 and 7(C) put together and OLES confirmed. To my knowledge they were accurately represented. Unfortunately WaPo didn't attribute the information to me, but lumped them with remarks made by Don. Let me know if we need to do a quick call. I'll find out from Megan how we plan to address the inquiries from national outlets -- CBS and HCN. Thanks. J Sent from my iPad > On Jun 8, 2016, at 9:15 AM, Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov> wrote: > > Hi, > > I am going to ask that everyone stop responding to these questions so > we can get a handle on the facts and then get one voice for our > Agency. > > Many of us are getting questions about Cultural LE incidents. I had > another one this morning from Sherriff Eldredge wanting to know if the > Washington post quotes are accurate. I have not responded because I > want to verify the facts. > > [REDACTED] Ex. 5 Deliberative Process Privilege

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"Morales, Raul" <rmorales@blm.gov>

From: "Morales, Raul" <rmorales@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 11:37:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
[REDACTED] Ex. 6 and 7(C) <l50porte@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, Joseph Fontana <jfontana@blm.gov>, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lmbryant@blm.gov>, [REDACTED] Ex. 6 and 7(C) <l50porte@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

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Raul Morales
Acting Utah Associate State Director
801-539-4015 (o)

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"Bryant, Lisa" <lbryant@blm.gov>

From: "Bryant, Lisa" <lbryant@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 11:43:59 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

FYI,

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Lisa Bryant
Public Affairs Specialist
BLM - Green River and Canyon Country Districts
435 259-2187 (office)
435 260-7003 (cell)
lbryant@blm.gov

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/blmutah
FLICKR: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/blmutah>
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From: Morales, Raul <rmorales@blm.gov>
Date: Wed, Jun 8, 2016 at 11:37 AM
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To: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
Cc: **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** <[\[REDACTED\]@blm.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@blm.gov)>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, Joseph Fontana <jfontana@blm.gov>, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>, **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** <[\[REDACTED\]@blm.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@blm.gov)>

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Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>

From: Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 13:01:20 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Bryant, Lisa" <lbryant@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Ex. 5, Deliberative Process Privilege

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 8, 2016, at 11:44 AM, Bryant, Lisa <lbryant@blm.gov> wrote:

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Date: Wed, Jun 8, 2016 at 11:37 AM
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To: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
Cc: "Richard Lloyd Jr." <rlloyd@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, Joseph Fontana <jfontana@blm.gov>, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>, **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** <Ex.6and7C@blm.gov>

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Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 13:14:15 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

I had to respond to them yesterday morning. Given the concerns, **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process Privilege**

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From: "Bryant, Lisa" <lbryant@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 15:22:55 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Jenna mentions HCN, do we have another media inquiry? I wasn't aware of that one.

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Date: Wed, Jun 8, 2016 at 9:31 AM
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To: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@blm.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@blm.gov)>, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@blm.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@blm.gov)>, Lola Bird <bird@blm.gov>, "jfontana@blm.gov" <jfontana@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, "lbryant@blm.gov" <lbryant@blm.gov>, "rmorales@blm.gov" <rmorales@blm.gov>

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Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov>

From: Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 16:06:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Morales, Raul" <rmorales@blm.gov>
Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <lbird@blm.gov>, Joseph Fontana <jfontana@blm.gov>, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>, Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov>, Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov, Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov, Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED]@blm.gov
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Jenna, Raul and Lance,

Good afternoon. I just had a quick meeting with Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED], Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED], Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED] and Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED] in regards to the LE information that has been in the Washington Post and Salt Lake Tribune in the past few days.

Here are the latest statistics for LE cultural incidents that have occurred in the Monticello Field Office from October 1, 2011 to June 8, 2016. These numbers have been triple-checked by both Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED] and myself. Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED] and Ex. 6 and 7(C) [REDACTED] have been briefed as to their content and accuracy. The current total stands at 25 vandalism/ theft of resources incidents within cultural sites on public lands in that time frame. There have been a total of 3 cultural incidents that are documented to have occurred on public land in the past 6 months (December 9, 2015- June 8, 2016).

As far as the Washington Post article, it should also be noted that the Ex. 3 ARPA [REDACTED] occurred on private property near Bluff, Utah and is therefore not captured in the BLM data. BLM Law Enforcement is also not aware of the "pristine ceremonial chamber" that has reportedly been looted.

Sheriff Eldredge of San Juan County contacted me via email on June 6, 2016 regarding an article in the Salt Lake Tribune from this past weekend. The article stated that there were "5 looted sacred sites in the Bears Ears area over the past weekend." I responded to Sheriff Eldredge that I was not aware of any recently looted cultural sites anywhere in San Juan County. It should be noted that these may have occurred on lands administered by the US Forest Service, of which BLM would have no record. The USFS LEO position recently became vacant.

As cultural incidents are reported to BLM Law Enforcement, each instance is investigated by a BLM Ranger and archaeologist to determine if the site is a crime scene and for potential evidence collection, or if the reported site is the result of natural activity (erosion, animals, etc). There is currently a site in Ex. 3 ARPA [REDACTED] that needs to be visited, as well as a site in the Ex. 3 ARPA [REDACTED] area that needs to be investigated. An email comment made regarding the Ex. 3 ARPA [REDACTED] site stated that it appeared to possibly be the result of animal digging. BLM Archaeologist Cameron Cox believes that the Ex. 3 ARPA [REDACTED] site may be the result of a BLM permitted research excavation. Both sites will be visited in the coming week to determine the

accuracy of the initial reports. Additionally, Josh Ewing with Friends of Cedar Mesa sent me an email as I have been typing this with a report of graffiti vandalism at **Ex. 3 ARPA** site. This incident has reportedly occurred in the past 7 days, as the reporting party has been there twice in the past week. This will also need follow up investigation in order to attempt to identify a suspect.

I am currently away at annual LE in-service training but can step away as necessary to respond to requests for information or to clarify data. Please feel free to call me as needed. If **Ex. 6 and 7** or I can be of any help by calling Sheriff Eldredge, we can surely accomplish that.

Ex. 6 and 7

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 8, 2016, at 10:37 AM, Morales, Raul <rmorales@blm.gov> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Ex. 6 and 7(C) and Ex. 6 and 7(C) thank you for clarifying the numbers and triple checking to make sure we have accurate BLM information. Next steps based on your info will be forthcoming. Stand by regarding contacting the sheriff and appreciate your willingness to reach out to him, if necessary.

Raul Morales
Acting Utah Associate State Director
801-539-4015 (o)

On Wed, Jun 8, 2016 at 4:06 PM, Ex. 6 and 7(C)@blm.gov wrote:

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I am currently away at annual LE in-service training but can step away as necessary to respond to requests for information or to clarify data. Please feel free to call me as needed. If Ex. 6 and 7(C) or I can be of any help by calling Sheriff Eldredge, we can surely accomplish that.

Ex. 6 and 7(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 8, 2016, at 10:37 AM, Morales, Raul <rmorales@blm.gov> wrote:

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They are very concerned with the Washington Post article and the number of looting that was reported in the article. They are saying their Sheriff is not aware of these numbers and that since looting of sites is a very sensitive issue in San Juan County they have asked their sheriff to basically be in the know of all things looting down there.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process Privilege

I let him know that we are looking into the numbers to verify that what we are saying is correct, and that the SD was the one reporting out our numbers. I also let him know that Lance will be our POC on this and that when we have verified our numbers Lance will reach out to Bruce and close the loop with him. He was fine and appreciative of that.

Raul Morales
Acting Utah Associate State Director
801-539-4015 (o)

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Hi,

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Many of us are getting questions about Cultural LE incidents. I had another one this morning from Sheriff Eldredge wanting to know if the Washington post quotes are accurate. I have not responded because I want to verify the facts.

There are a few concerns with the quotes from my perspective and understanding. **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process Privilege** There are concerns with the numbers of sites being looted. My understanding is that the incident of **Ex. 3 ARPA** is a site on private land not BLM.

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Jeff, I am on leave, but feel free to call my cellphone.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

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Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>

From: Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 16:50:44 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Megan Crandall <mcrandal@blm.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

Keeping u in loop.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Morales, Raul" <rmorales@blm.gov>
Date: June 8, 2016 at 4:24:53 PM MDT
To: **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** @blm.gov
Cc: Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>, Lola Bird <bird@blm.gov>, Joseph Fontana <jfontana@blm.gov>, Jenna Whitlock <jwhitloc@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>, **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** @blm.gov, **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** @blm.gov, **Ex. 6 and 7(C)** @blm.gov
Subject: Re: Accuracy questions on cedar Mesa media interviews

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"Crandall, Megan" <mcrandal@blm.gov>

From: "Crandall, Megan" <mcrandal@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Jun 08 2016 17:00:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>
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Cell: 385-315-5271
Fax: 801-539-4013

Join the Conversation!

