

**SHOWING ANIMALS RESPECT AND KINDNESS**

PO Box 28  
GENEVA, IL 60134  
[WWW.SHARKONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.SHARKONLINE.ORG)

Estevan López  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington DC 20240-0001  
202-513-0501

August 31, 2015

Dear Commissioner López,

On September 5, 2014, United States Senator James Inhofe held a political fundraiser on Bureau of Reclamation property located in Kiowa County, Oklahoma. This fundraiser included an extremely cruel live pigeon shoot where 1,000 tame birds were thrown into the air and shot for fun. The manager of the Bureau of Reclamation property is Tom Buchanan, who was present and participated in the political fundraiser, including working at it as a one of the people throwing the pigeons into the air to be shot.

**My organization has filed an ethics complaint in Oklahoma against Mr Buchanan for allowing this political fundraiser on government land, and I am including that complaint in this letter.** We believe this will explain in detail all of our concerns, however, there are issues outside of that complaint that deal with the Bureau of Reclamation property that needs your immediate attention.

1. Senator Inhofe has another political fundraiser scheduled for 9/11/15. The lodging for this fundraiser is at the Quartz Mountain Lodge in Lone Wolf, OK. This is the same place it was held last year. Donors to Senator Inhofe then drove the short distance from the lodge to the Bureau of Reclamation property.

• **We are deeply concerned that this property may be used again this year for political purposes and for another pigeon shoot. We are therefore calling on you to make sure that does not happen.**

2. Part of the Bureau of Reclamation property has a permanent brick structure on it. Our investigator overheard that to was built specifically for pigeon shoots. Moreover,

there are large bales of hay on the property used as stands for the shooters. All this suggests that Mr. Buchanan has used the federal property to create his own private shooting club.

- **We call on you to investigate the structure and use of the field, and any potential violation and misuse of federal property by Mr. Buchanan.**

Here is a picture of the structure:



Here is Mr. Buchanan working at the structure throwing birds:





3. Use of explosives/firearms on the Bureau of Reclamation property.

As part of our ethics complaint against Mr. Buchanan, we brought up federal law regarding discharge of weapons and explosives. This issue is extremely important so I am repeating it in this letter.

[http://cfr.regstoday.com/43cfr423.aspx#43\\_CFR\\_423p30](http://cfr.regstoday.com/43cfr423.aspx#43_CFR_423p30)  
§423.30 Weapons, firearms, explosives, and fireworks.

*(b) You must not discharge or shoot a weapon unless you are:*

*(1) Using a firearm or other projectile firing device lawfully for hunting or fishing as allowed under §423.32, or at an authorized shooting or archery range; and*

*(2) In compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local law.*

*(c) You must not use or possess explosives, or fireworks or pyrotechnics of any type, except as allowed by a permit issued pursuant to subpart D of this part 423, or in special use areas so designated by an authorized official under subpart E of this part 423.*

**The pigeon shoot was not a lawful hunting event, nor is the property an authorized shooting range. Therefore the discharge of shotguns on the property was illegal. In addition, a cannon was used at the fundraiser to fire two cannonballs at a nearby mountain range. This clearly violated section (c)**

In addition to Mr. Buchanan turning the Bureau of Reclamation property into a private shooting gallery for a political fundraiser, it is quite shocking that he allowed a cannonballs to be fired onto nearby mountain range. This was incredibly reckless, dangerous and flat out stupid. He also put the Bureau of Reclamation at extreme liability if someone had gotten hurt.

Here are frames from the video showing the two cannonballs shooting out of the cannon. Video of it is available upon request.



We believe that there is more than enough evidence to show that there are serious problems and misuse of Bureau of Reclamation property. We are therefore calling for a full investigation into all the issues we have presented to you, and for your agency to make sure that Mr. Buchanan is held accountable for any wrong doing that has occurred.

Sincerely,

Steve Hindi  
President, SHowing Animals Respect and Kindness

- I am including a Google maps picture of the area in question so that you can see the property location.

Location  
Kiowa County, OK  
34°52'29.9"N 99°18'21.6"W







The following is the ethics complaint we filed against Mr. Buchanan with the Oklahoma Ethics Commission

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Oklahoma Ethics Commission  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., B-5  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

SHowing Animals Respect and Kindness hereby alleges a violation of the Oklahoma Ethics Act by Tom Buchanan, whose mailing address is c/o Oklahoma Farm Bureau, 2501 N.Stiles, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 and/or c/o Oklahoma Water Resources Board, 3800 N. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Mr. Buchanan simultaneously serves as the president of Oklahoma Farm Bureau and is vice chairman of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. It is his position as general manager of the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District, however, that this complaint is focused on.

On September 5, 2014, United States Senator James Inhofe held a political fundraiser on the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District property (which is a project of the United States Bureau of Reclamation), with Mr. Buchanan present and participating in the political fundraiser. The fundraiser consisted of an "Old World Pigeon Shoot" and clay target shoot on the federally owned property that Mr. Buchanan manages (see Exhibit 1 for location). The only people allowed to participate in the activities were those who donated to Senator Inhofe's political campaign.

Our complaint is in three parts:

**1. Use of Government Property for a Political Fundraiser**

Oklahoma Code - Title 82, the Oklahoma Irrigation District Act, specifically states the following:

§82277.21. *Conflict of interest.*

*B. Directors and employees shall not:*

2. *Directly or indirectly spend district funds or permit any property of the district to be used for political campaigns;*

The event invitation (Exhibit 1) states that checks were to be made out to "Inhofe Victory Committee 2014," and further defined it as being "...a joint fundraising committee authorized by and formed to benefit Friends of Jim Inhofe and the Fund For A Conservative Future."

This was not a public event; security, in the form of two Kiowa County Sheriff deputies were stationed at the gate to keep anyone not associated with the political fundraiser outside of the property.

**By allowing a political fundraiser to be held on on Irrigation District property, we believe Mr. Buchanan violated state law.**

## **2. Violations of Oklahoma Anti-Cruelty Statutes**

The "Old World Pigeon Shoot" consisted of 1,000 pigeons being hand thrown into the air, then shot at by participants who surrounded the shooting filed at set positions. Birds were shot, wounded, abandoned, kicked and killed. We contend that these acts violated Oklahoma's anti-cruelty statute 21 Okla. Stat. Ann. § 1685 and 21 Okla. Stat. Ann. § 1686.

21 Okla. Stat. Ann. § 1685:

- *Any person who shall willfully or maliciously torture, destroy or kill, or cruelly beat or injure, maim or mutilate any animal in subjugation or captivity, whether wild or tame, and whether belonging to the person or to another, or deprive any such animal of necessary food, drink, shelter, or veterinary care to prevent suffering; or who shall cause, procure or permit any such animal to be so tortured, destroyed or killed, or cruelly beaten or injured, maimed or mutilated, or deprived of necessary food, drink, shelter, or veterinary care to prevent suffering; or who shall willfully set on foot, instigate, engage in, or in any way further any act of cruelty to any animal, or any act tending to produce such cruelty, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary not exceeding five (5) years, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding one (1) year, or by a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). Any animal so maltreated or abused shall be considered an abused or neglected animal.*

21 Okla. Stat. Ann. § 1686(A):

- Any person owning or having charge or custody of a maimed, diseased, disabled, or infirm animal who abandons the animal or who allows the animal to lie in a public street, road, or public place one (1) hour after the person receives notice by a duly constituted authority that the animal is disabled or dead, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Mr. Buchanan was filmed working at the fundraiser and throwing birds into the air to be shot (Exhibit 3).

**In addition to specific acts of cruelty committed by Mr. Buchanan, the fact that he was the manager of the property, and that he allowed the event to be held on the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District property, means that he held overall responsibility for any/all acts committed on that property. As soon as he unlocked the gate to the area, he became responsible for what happened on the property.**

### **3. Violation of Federal Law**

The Lugert-Altus Irrigation District property is a project of the United States Bureau of Reclamation. The following regulations are from TITLE 43 — PUBLIC LANDS: INTERIOR [ 43 CFR ], PART 423 — PUBLIC CONDUCT ON BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FACILITIES, LANDS, AND WATERBODIES [ 43 CFR 423 ]

[http://cfr.regstoday.com/43cfr423.aspx#43\\_CFR\\_423p30](http://cfr.regstoday.com/43cfr423.aspx#43_CFR_423p30)

§423.30 *Weapons, firearms, explosives, and fireworks.*

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*(c) You must not use or possess explosives, or fireworks or pyrotechnics of any type, except as allowed by a permit issued pursuant to subpart D of this part 423, or in special use areas so designated by an authorized official under subpart E of this part 423.*

**The pigeon shoot was not a lawful hunting event, nor is the property an authorized shooting range. Therefore the discharge of shotguns on the property was illegal. In addition, a cannon was used at the fundraiser to fire two cannonballs at a nearby mountain range (Exhibit 4). This clearly violated section (c)**

For all of these reasons, we contend that Mr. Buchanan has violated the Ethics Rules, and we call on the Ethics Commission to fully investigate our claims and hold Mr. Buchanan responsible for his actions.

Sincerely,

Steve Hindi  
President, SHowing Animals Respect and Kindness

## Exhibits

Exhibit 1: Location  
Kiowa County, OK  
34°52'29.9"N 99°18'21.6"W



Exhibit 2: The fundraiser invitation



**10th Anniversary Inhofe Dove Hunt • Sept. 5 & 6**

**Gold Level Host**

**\$1,250 per person (\$2,500 per PAC)\***  
 Special recognition as **Gold Level Sponsor**.  
 Friday host reception and dinner. Host location for  
 Saturday morning hunt and lunch.  
 Includes commemorative 10th Anniversary Dove  
 Hunt Pocket Knife.

**Silver Level**

**\$500 per person (\$1,000 per PAC)\***  
 Special recognition as **Silver Level Sponsor**.  
 Friday host reception and dinner. Host location for  
 Saturday morning hunt and lunch.  
 Includes commemorative 10th Anniversary Dove  
 Hunt Pocket Knife.

**Non-Hunting Reception & Dinner Tickets \$250 per person**

Friday host reception and dinner.

**\*Lodging not included**

RSVP, please contact Amanda Hall 405-418-7545 or amandahall@jiminhofe.com, or  
 Amy Bradley 703-836-5351 or amyforbradley@comcast.net.  
 Fax completed form to 866-224-6886.

Lodge reservation deadline for guests and hunters is August 31, 2014 - Please Contact Amanda Hall

**Gold Level Host** - \$1,250 Individual - \$2,500 PAC

Please recognize \_\_\_\_\_ as Gold Level Sponsor

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shotgun Shell: 12 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ Shotgun Shell: 12 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_

**Silver Level** - \$500 Individual - \$1,000 PAC

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shotgun Shell: 12 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ Shotgun Shell: 12 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 Ga: \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-Hunting Reception & Dinner Participant** - \$250 per person

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, I cannot attend, but I wish to support Senator Inhofe and his campaign.

**Enclosed is my contribution for \$1,250 \$500 \$250 Other \$**

Please make checks payable to: **Inhofe Victory Committee 2014**

Mail to Inhofe Victory Committee 2014, 901 N Washington St, Suite 700, Alexandria, VA 22314

Paid for by Inhofe Victory Committee 2014, a joint fundraising committee authorized by and formed to benefit  
 Friends of Jim Inhofe and the Fund For A Conservative Future

**Joint Fundraising Notice and Contribution Guidelines**

The Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 is a joint fundraising committee formed to benefit Friends of Jim Inhofe and the Fund For A Conservative Future.

Contributions to the Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 will be allocated as follows:

- For contributions from an individual or non-qualified PAC, the first \$5,200 received will be allocated to Friends of Jim Inhofe, with \$2,600 applied to the Primary 2014 election and \$2,600 applied to the General 2014 election. After June 24, 2014, Friends of Jim Inhofe will only be eligible to receive the first \$2,600 from an individual or non-qualified PAC applied to the General 2014.
- For contributions from an individual or non-qualified PAC, the next \$5,000 received will then be allocated to the Fund For A Conservative Future.
- For contributions from a multicandidate PAC, the first \$10,000 received will be allocated to Friends of Jim Inhofe, with \$5,000 applied to the Primary 2014 election and \$5,000 applied to the General 2014 election. After June 24, 2014, Friends of Jim Inhofe will only be eligible to receive the first \$5,000 from a multicandidate PAC.
- For contributions from a multicandidate PAC, the next \$5,000 received will then be allocated to the Fund For A Conservative Future.
- Any contribution to Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 by any donor which upon allocation is determined to exceed the contribution limit of that donor to one of the Participants shall be reallocated to the other Participant to the maximum contribution limit allowable from the donor to the Participants.
- Any contribution or portion thereof to Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 which is determined to exceed the contribution limit of that donor to both Participants, as proscribed by 2 U.S.C. § 441a, shall be returned to the donor.

Notwithstanding the allocation formula described above, contributions may be designated by the contributor for a specific Participant as specified below.

\_\_\_\_\_, I/we wish to allocate our joint or my individual contribution as follows (circle election(s) designated):

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (self) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse) Friends of Jim Inhofe Primary 2014\* or General 2014  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (self) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse) Fund For A Conservative Future to Annual 2014

\*After June 24, 2014, a donor may only contribute to Friends of Jim Inhofe's 2014 General election.

Signature of Individual: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Spouse (if joint): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 By credit card: VISA MasterCard American Express Discover \$  
 Card#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

The maximum an individual or non-qualified PAC may contribute to the Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 is \$10,200 with \$5,200 allocated to Friends of Jim Inhofe for the Primary and General 2014 elections and \$5,000 allocated to the Fund For A Conservative Future. Couples may contribute \$20,400 from a joint account if each spouse so designates the contributions. Qualified multi-candidate PACs may contribute \$15,000 to the Inhofe Victory Committee 2014, with \$10,000 allocated to the Friends of Jim Inhofe for the Primary and General 2014 elections and \$5,000 allocated to the Fund For A Conservative Future. Contributions are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Corporate contributions may not be accepted by Inhofe Victory Committee 2014 or either of the Participants. Federal law requires us to use our best effort to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose aggregate contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year or election cycle.

# 10th Anniversary Inhofe Dove Hunt

**Friday, September 5th and  
Saturday, September 6th, 2014**

**Quartz Mountain Lodge & Resort  
Lone Wolf, Oklahoma**

## **Agenda**

### **Friday, September 5th**

- 12:00pm Registration and Lodge Check In
- 2:00pm Gather at Outdoor Amphitheater for Photos
- 2:45pm Group Photo Shoot
- 3:00pm "Old World" Pigeon Shoot on shooting ground with Five Stand
- 6:30pm Host Reception with Senator Inhofe &  
Special Guests - To Be Announced  
Including the famous "Wild Game Hors D'Oeuvres"
- 8:00pm Dinner with Senator Inhofe & Special Guests

### **Concert by Musical Guest Stoney LaRue**

### **Saturday, September 6th**

- 5:00am Breakfast at Lodge Restaurant
- 6:15am Depart Quartz Mountain Lodge for morning hunt
- 10:30am Lunch at Altus Cotton Gin

### **RSVP:**

Amanda Hall at 405-418-7545  
amandahall@jiminhofe.com  
or

Amy Bradley at 703-836-5351  
amyfordbradley@comcast.net.

**Lodge reservation deadline  
for guests and hunters  
is August 31, 2014**

Paid for by Inhofe Victory Committee 2014, a joint fundraising committee authorized by and formed to benefit Friends of Jim Inhofe and the Fund For A Conservative Future



Exhibit 3: Mr. Buchanan working at the political fundraiser, throwing birds to be shot  
(video available upon request)





Exhibit 4: Cannon being fired twice (video available upon request)



