

# DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Los Angeles Chapter 5  
16083 Sierra Pass Way  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

February 18, 2009

Sr. Vice Commander Paul R. Varela  
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 5  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

To the parties concerned:

This letter is with regard to the Federal Building located at 11000 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, California. It has come to our attention that Government Services Agency's (GSA) plans to allow the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to occupy the entirety of this building, essentially evicting the only Federal agency that belongs in this building, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA).

In a meeting that took place with District Director, Trevor Daley, a representative of Senator Feinstein's office here in Los Angeles, he confirmed the plan to relocate the VBA was moving forward. Mr. Daley outlined the details of this plan to relocate the VBA, as the FBI would be consolidating field offices to this Federal Building. Mr. Daley also stated that VBA would be better suited on the VA Medical Center (VAMC) grounds to further enhance the services to our veterans.

On behalf of our Chapter membership, the Department of California, our National Organization, veterans, and concerned citizens, be it formally known that we *oppose* this plan to relocate the VBA. The Federal Building is in fact located on land that was set aside by an act of Congress in 1887 to be used as the National Soldiers Home. Information obtained from the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office further confirms this land is in fact designated as the Soldiers Home. Information from the LA County's Assessor's office is attached for your review.

It will be our mission to ensure that the VBA remains at its current location as the land, which the Federal Building sits upon, was specifically intended to serve the needs of our Nation's veterans, not the personal interests of other agencies. It is both an insult and disgrace to even consider relocating the VBA, as this move would adversely affect service to veterans.

The VBA is presently located just 0.73 miles away from the West Los Angeles VAMC. As veterans receive medical treatment, they also utilize the VBA to receive various forms of benefit related services.

It appears that GSA and the FBI have given no consideration to how this move further

compounds the distress of our veteran's by relocating the VBA to some far-off location, which makes accessibility to vital services an insurmountable obstacle.

On more than one occasion it has been mentioned that this plan will require the VBA to relocate to Culver City, California, grossly unacceptable given this areas traffic congestion and limited to non-existent mass transit options.

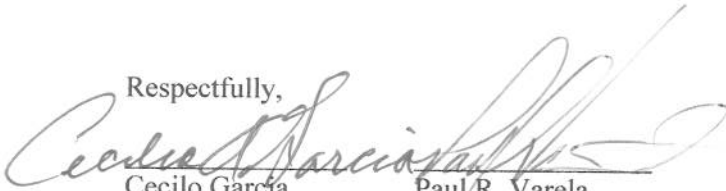
To Senator's Feinstein, Boxer, Waxman and Congressman Filner, we request a written statement on your official position of this plan. Support of our position requires a statement to both GSA and the FBI of your intention to support our position. Also note that support of this relocation plan would be most unsettling to your constituents and would result in constant requests imploring you to support our position.

To the officials of GSA, we request a written statement from your office outlining how you have come to believe that ownership of the building somehow transcends into ownership of the land, this land was donated to the Federal Government to serve the needs of veteran's. Also we request that your written statement provide information on how you expect veterans to receive adequate service as a result of this relocation.

We ask that GSA and the FBI discontinue any attempt to relocate the VBA from this facility, additionally, should outside forces continue their pursuit to relocate the VBA, we will persistently encourage our elected officials to consider rededicating this building as the Veterans' Building in honor of their service to this country.

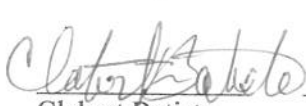
To the parties concerned, we ask that you respond within 30 days of this letter. After that time, you can expect to hear the concentrated voice of concerned veterans' and citizens who are unwilling to accept this ill thought out plan, which is folly in its attempt relocate this vital resource relied on by our Nation's veterans.

Respectfully,



Cecilo Garcia  
Commander  
DAV Chapter 5

Paul R. Varela  
Sr. Vice Commander  
DAV Chapter 5



Clabert Batiste  
Jr. Vice Commander  
DAV Chapter 5



Albert Aviles  
Adjutant/Treasure  
DAV Chapter 5

CC:

Congressman Filner  
Senator Waxman  
Senator Boxer  
Mr. Jeffrey Neely Assistant Regional Administrator

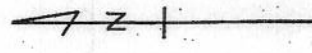
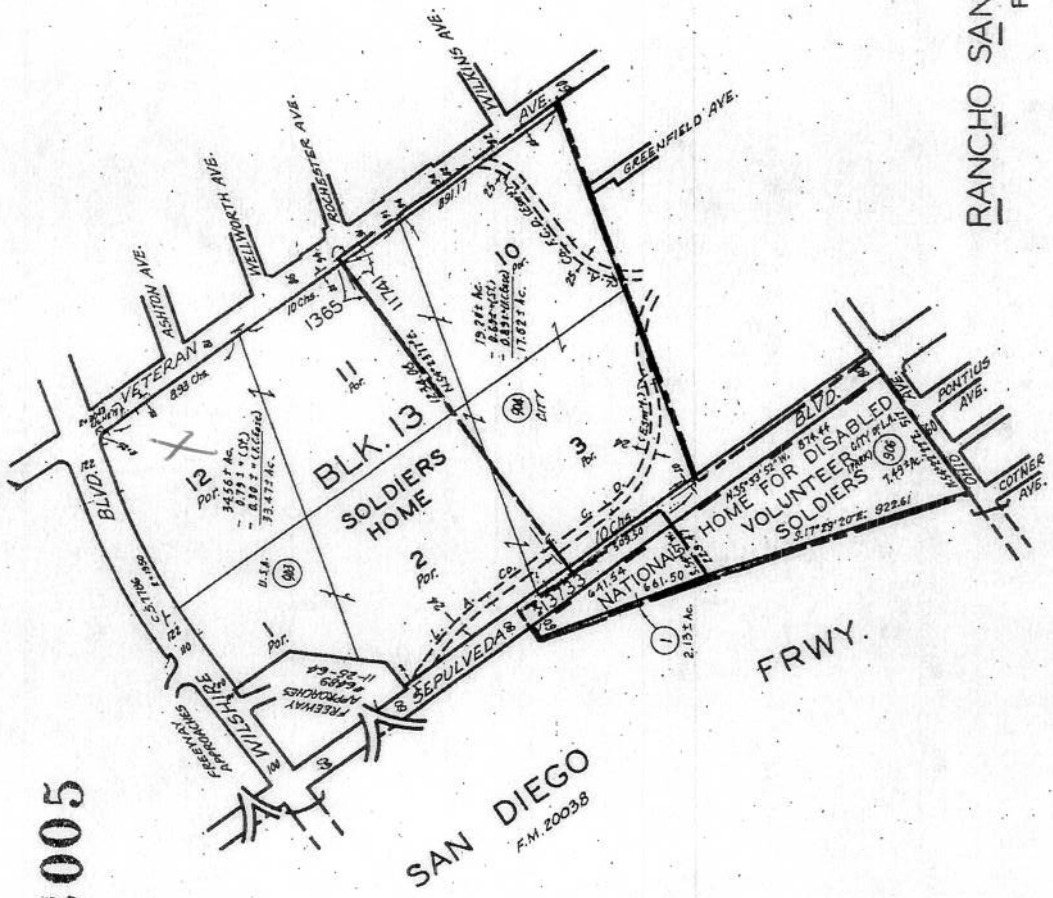
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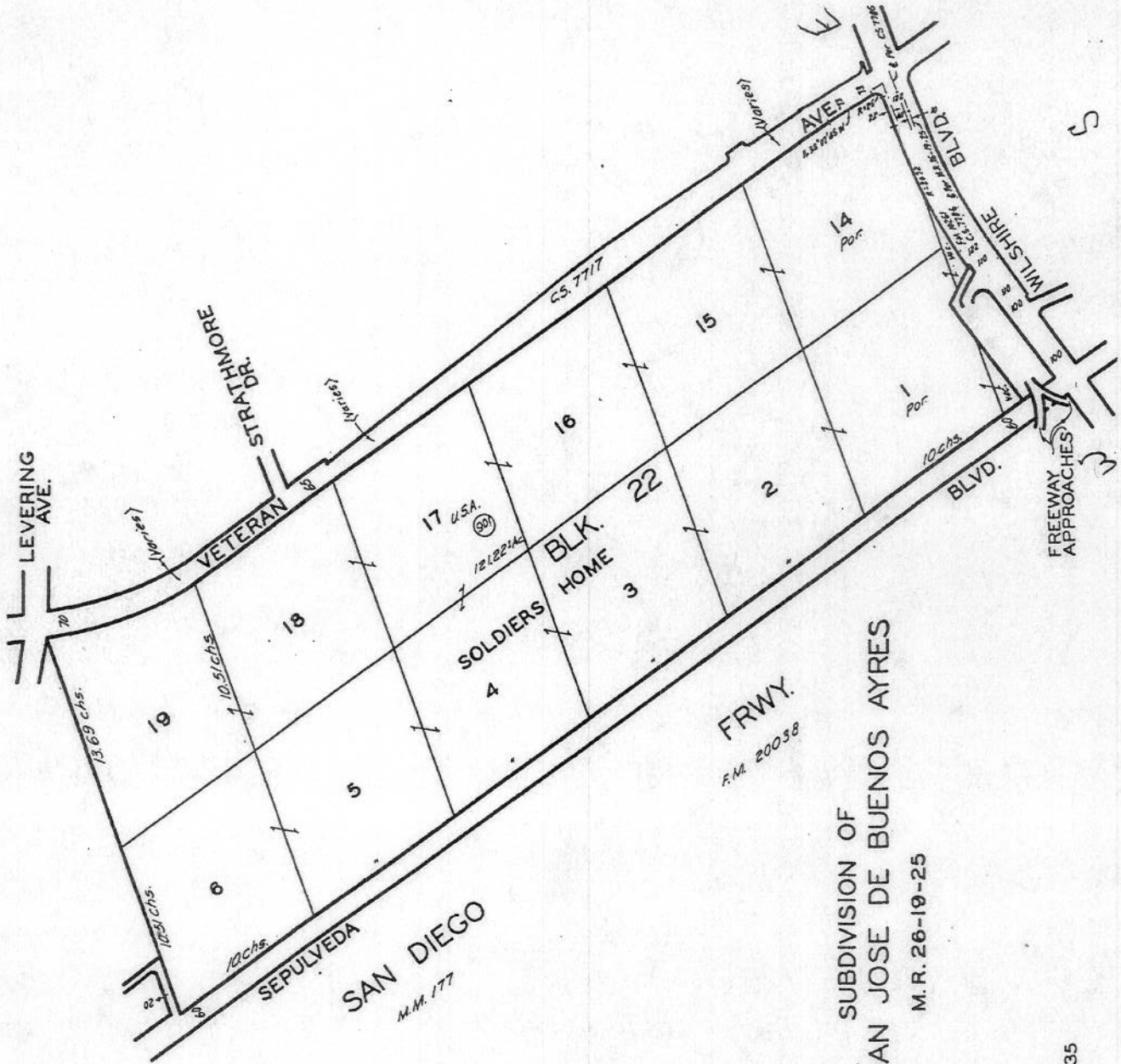
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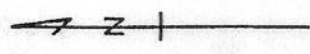
SUBDIVISION OF  
RANCHO SAN JOSE DE BUENOS AYRES  
M.R. 26-19-25

ASSESSOR'S MAP  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Assessor's ID NO.  
4363-027-901



4363	27
SCALE 1" = 400'	



SUBDIVISION OF  
RANCHO SAN JOSE DE BUENOS AYRES  
M.R. 26-19-25

CODE  
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FOR PREV. ASSMT. SEE: 929-35