



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Orange Coast District
3030 Avenida Del Presidente
San Clemente, CA 92672
(949) 492-0802

Ruth G. Coleman, Director

June 9, 2008

Ms. Marianna H. Handler
[REDACTED]
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Dear Ms. Handler,

Your letter dated May 25, 2008 to California Department of Parks and Recreation Director Ruth Coleman regarding public nudity enforcement at San Onofre State Beach has been referred to me for response. Thank you for sharing your comments. They are important to the Department.

Over the years, San Onofre State Beach has become the fifth most visited California state park, attracting approximately 2.5 million visitors annually to the pristine coastal area located close to urban communities. It is the responsibility of the Department to ensure that an appropriate environment exists for park visitors and employees alike. Public nudity at the state parks is, and has been, illegal pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4322. The Department has not designated any portion of the State Park System as "clothing optional." The Cahill Policy only proposed a practical approach to enforcement of Section 4322 in remote areas of the parks.

Effective June 1, 2008, the Cahill Policy has been rescinded as it applies to San Onofre State Beach. This change stems from the fact that the beach area can no longer be considered remote. This fact, combined with ongoing complaints and concerns regarding inappropriate and unlawful activity, such as nudity, lewd conduct and indecent exposure, requires the Department to enforce Section 4322.

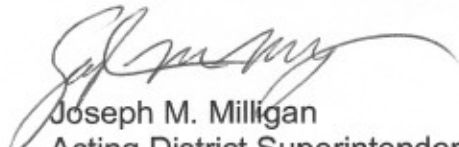
Further, the Department has a duty to ensure a safe and appropriate workplace for its employees, who have a right to perform their maintenance, revenue collection, public safety, resource protection and interpretation duties at San Onofre State Beach in a non-hostile work environment free from harassing and unlawful activities.

During this summer, DPR will enforce the regulation by first providing the public with notice that they are violating the law if they are nude at San Onofre State Beach. This educational period will be followed by more stringent action to ensure compliance with the law.

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Please feel free to contact me at (949) 492-0802 should you have additional comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. Milligan
Acting District Superintendent

Cc: Ruth Coleman, Director
Tony Perez, Southern Division Chief