



LATINO ISSUES FORUM A PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

*Advancing California's Social, Economic
and Environmental Future*

February 6, 2009

On behalf of Latino Issues Forum, I would like to express my deepest concern regarding Lloyd Carter's disparaging remarks in the recent discussion regarding Fresno County community members.

Lloyd Carter, president of California's Save our Streams Council, said, "... Do you think we should employ illegal aliens? These kids are the least educated people in America or the southwest corner of this Valley. They turn to lives of crime. ...They get into drug trafficking and they join gangs."

Words cannot begin to express the profound frustration in his comments. They are truly offensive, inaccurate and ignorant. It is a shame that we still have this type of mindset in our community. His ideology proves his ignorance in not recognizing the value that the farm workers play in sustaining our daily lives. They risk their lives daily so that we can provide for our families by putting food on our tables.

We should bring our Farmworker community to the table when deciding on issues that impact them and their families. Issues such as safe drinking water are also important to the Latino community and thus their voice needs to be heard on all spectrums.

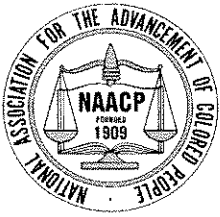
I am the product of an immigrant family and I am proud to say I am educated with a Masters degree. This came to pass because of the sacrifices and support of my hardworking immigrant parents.

His comments reflect the kind of leadership this community can do without.

Yammilette Rodriguez
Latino Issues Forum
Central Valley Regional Director

Latino Issues Forum
160 Pine Street, Suite 700
San Francisco, CA 94111

415-284-7220 (mon)
415-284-7222 (tsk)
www.lif.org



SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY BRANCH OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

304 North Sixth Street, San Jose, CA 95112
Phone (408) 295-3394

P.O. BOX 1345 San Jose, California 95109
Fax (408) 295-4355

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Vice President

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Vice President
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February 6, 2009

Media Contact:
Rev. Jethroe Moore III
408-555- 1114

Statement Calling for Resignation of Mr. Lloyd Carter

On behalf of the San Jose/Silicon Valley NAACP we call for Mr. Lloyd Carter's immediate resignation from his positions of leadership on the California Streams Council, the Forrestiere Underground Gardens, and the California Water Impact Network.

We sincerely hope that the environmental community also join us, arm in arm, in demonstrating that they understand that the environment belongs to all people, including people of color, and demand his resignation.

Mr. Carters comments should not be described as being "just insensitive", they are very disturbing and show a state of mind that clearly is divisive and smacks of the days Jim Crow. Mr. Carter seems to suggest that the water and environmental industry should exclude those who do not share his skin color or have the same level of education. This is intolerable.

Further, we call on State Attorney General Jerry Brown to take a serious look at the employ of a criminal prosecutor who has a clearly demonstrated bias against people of color and their educational status. We have to question if during the course of his prosecution of people of color, how often did this prejudicial attitude impact his decision to obtain justice for the people of California.

We will not stand idly by and allow public servants who have this kind of view of people of color to hold the scales of justice.

Rev. Jethroe Moore III
President

Background Information:

Mr. Carters statements to the media:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVXTTHB-iV8&feature=related>

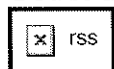
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98y2LAbOjCE>

Mr. Carter's Blog on his statements

<http://www.lloydcarter.com/blog>

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Environmental activist Carter willing to resign another post

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009

By Paula Lloyd / The Fresno Bee

Lloyd Carter, a deputy attorney general and environmental activist under fire for controversial comments he made about farmworkers, has offered to resign from another environmental group on which he serves.

Chris Acree, executive director of Revive the San Joaquin, said the group's board has not decided whether to accept Carter's resignation.

Carter already has resigned from the California Water Impact Network. He has not offered to resign from the California Save Our Streams Council, on which he also serves, but said he would leave if asked to by its board.

"We don't want them to be tainted by this ridiculous situation," Carter said, referring to the uproar from farmworkers' organizations, farmers, politicians and water groups over his comments. "Hopefully they'll stand up for me."

The criticism stems from comments Carter made to a KMPH (Channel 26) reporter before a debate on water policy at California State University, Fresno, on Feb. 4.

Carter said farmworkers are "not even American citizens for starters. Do you think we should employ illegal aliens?"

He said farmworkers' children are among the least-educated people who "turn to lives of crime. They go on welfare. They get into drug trafficking and they join gangs."

Carter apologized on his Web site and on Channel 26, but he said some groups want him to lose his job in the state Attorney General's Office in Fresno.