

Organizational Sign on Letter in Support of the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy

We the undersigned signatories are disturbed by the recent attack against the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE), one of the country's leading advocates for good jobs and a healthy environment.

Since May, LAANE has been the target of a large scale research operation. To date at least 70 elected and appointed officials have received letters from MB Public Affairs – a well-known conservative opposition research firm with ties to Karl Rove and Sarah Palin – requiring that they produce all communications related to LAANE going back several years. Based on the pattern of conservative activities elsewhere, the point is obviously to use the information to discredit LAANE in some way.

It is outrageous that this firm is using public disclosure laws to try and damage LAANE while concealing the identity of their clients.

The stealth attack against LAANE is consistent with the broader effort by the far right to cripple progressive causes and leaders. And as the recent assaults on other progressive organizations remind us, they are willing to do almost anything to achieve their aim.

Secret attacks against legitimate organizations undermine the very fabric of American democracy. These attacks are designed not only to hurt the organization, but chill speech on the part of the constituencies the organization represents and stifle the values we care about. We therefore demand that MB Public Affairs reveal the party or parties behind this effort, and that those interests explain why they are targeting LAANE.

Signatories,

Alliance for Justice

American Family Voices

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

American Rights at Work

Center on Policy Initiatives

Center for Community Change

Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice

Common Cause California

Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamerica (COFEM)

Courage Campaign

Democracy for America-Marin

Demos

East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy

FRESC: Good Jobs, Strong Communities

In the Public Interest

Labor/Community Strategy Center

Midwest Academy

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy

National Employment Law Project

National People's Action

Oakland Rising

Partnership for Working Families

People for the American Way

Public Campaign

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 5

UNITE HERE

Violence Prevention Coalition