

Citizens' Oversight Projects (COPs)

771 Jamacha Rd #148
El Cajon, CA 92019
CitizensOversight.org
619-820-5321

September 5, 2014



The Rock Church
2277 Rosecrans Street
San Diego, CA 92106
Email: info@sdrock.com

(SENT BY EMAIL)

Dear Rock Church:

You have proposed a long-term lease of the East County Performing Arts Center (ECPAC) in El Cajon. The media has quoted your legal advisor stating that you believe this is legal. We agree that there is no law that a church must respect our Constitution, but to enter into an agreement which you know is unconstitutional is unethical.

I am supplying the letter we sent to the City of El Cajon to you, so you are aware of the law in this matter (attached). It is clearly unconstitutional and will only result in a great deal of time and effort if we are forced to use legal remedies. Please discontinue your pursuit of this unethical proposal.

In fact, it is not only a violation of law, but also Biblical teaching. The separation of church and state is explicitly supported in Mark 12:17, where Jesus instructed that both government and the church should be respected, but separately. I hope you will take these teachings to heart and apply them here.

The Rock Church puts a lot of pressure on the community where it is located. The Pt. Loma area uniformly dislikes the gridlock that occurs in the traffic pattern around that location. Your current location in El Cajon is superior in this regard, such as proximity to the freeway and trolley. Downtown El Cajon has inadequate parking and the streets are narrow and already experiencing failing quality of service levels. Take my word for it, you will not be well liked in El Cajon if you make this move. Also, your current location in El Cajon actually desperately needs your patrons to not only respect the parking issues, but also to frequent the businesses in the area. Over time, I am sure it will be a big benefit to that area of El Cajon to have the Rock Church there.

Please do not continue to pursue this agreement with the City of El Cajon. If you would like to discuss this in person, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Raymond Lutz
National Coordinator, Citizens' Oversight Projects