

For Immediate Release

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U.S. Air Force and Bureau of Land Management Sued Over Tragic Deaths

Lawsuit Alleges Military Bunker Should Have Been Destroyed

LOS ANGELES – In a closely watched case in the Inland Empire, Kabateck Brown Kellner filed suit in U.S. District Court in the Central District of California charging the U.S. Air Force and the Bureau of Land Management with negligence in the tragic deaths of a teen couple in an abandoned High Desert military bunker in 2008. The case was brought on behalf of the teenagers' parents. It was filed on September 17, 2010. *Sherzer v. U.S. Air Force*.

The wrongful death suit seeks unspecified damages stemming from the unsafe, unsecure and unguarded military bunker in the Mojave Desert that led to the brutal torture and murder of Bodhi Sherzer-Potter, 16, and Cody Thompson, 18, in January 2008. The site is owned by the BLM and leased to the U.S. Air Force. While much of the radio facility was demolished in 1986, this dangerous bunker remained and was a safe house for criminal and other illicit activities. The Air Force was put on notice of these dangerous conditions prior to the "thrill kill" murders and repeatedly ignored the dangers.

The murders were covered widely in the local and national media and the San Bernardino County bunker was finally destroyed in April 2008.

"It was a violent crime waiting to happen," said Brian Kabateck, founding partner of Kabateck Brown Kellner. This was an invitation, and all the government had to do was destroy it, which they did too late."

For more information about this case or other consumer rights matters, please contact Erik Cummins at (415) 217-9341 or Cheryl Bame at (310) 312-8800.

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