

Bundy seeks ‘idiot’ protection in court

Declares himself sovereign citizen of ‘bundy society’

By RYAN HAAS
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupier Ryan Bundy filed a series of court motions late Thursday, declaring himself a sovereign citizen who isn’t subject to federal laws.

Bundy, who is representing himself in the conspiracy case against the refuge occupiers, declares himself an “idiot of the ‘Legal Society’” and not subject to federal law, according to the documents.

“I, ryan c, man, am an idiot of the ‘Legal Society’; and; am an idiot (layman, outsider) of the ‘Bar Association’; and; i am incompetent; and; am not required by any law to be competent,” Bundy wrote in a motion filed to U.S. District Court Judge Anna Brown.

The filings are the latest in increasingly defiant and strange behavior from Bundy, including an alleged escape attempt from the Multnomah County Detention Center.

As justification for the filings separating himself from U.S. laws, Bundy filed



Bundy

a motion declaring himself a sovereign citizen of the “bundy society.” Within that filing, he declared himself a creation of God rather than a “person” as defined by legal dictionaries, and therefore is not subject to laws.

Bundy also wrote that his wife and children are members of the Bundy society, Brown is guilty of perjury, and that he believes his home state of Nevada and the state of Oregon are not within the United States. Instead, Bundy said both states are “sovereign union states” that are not within the jurisdiction of the U.S., which he said is limited to the District of Columbia.

Bundy’s declaration of sovereign citizenry is signed by his brother and fellow occupier, Ammon Bundy, as a witness. Both Bundys were leaders of the 41-day

occupation of the wildlife refuge near Burns, Oregon.

Self-declared “sovereign citizens” have a long, if unsuccessful, history of declaring themselves not subject to federal laws.

Bundy also told the court in the filings that any past signatures by him are now invalid and that U.S. marshals and other law enforcement are illegally holding him in jail. He wrote that he should be paid \$1 million to fill the “role” of defendant in the case.

Bundy muses in the filing that he is “willing to consider” playing the role of judge or bailiff in the case if the court pays him a similar sum.

“I, ryan c, man, will charge \$100,000,000.00 if any man or woman or PERSON places another order for [me] to come before the court again regarding this matter,” Bundy wrote.

Bundy additionally said the federal government tried to kill him when he was arrested Jan. 26 during a traffic stop, and he should be paid \$800 million “to restore i to the wholeness i enjoyed prior to begin taken and carried away.”

Bundy is scheduled to return to court next Wednesday for a status hearing.

Security around Gov. Brown tightened in wake of threats

PORTLAND (AP) — After a series of hostile threats this year, state officials have increased Gov. Kate Brown’s security detail.

Security has been tightened in the wake of the armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and threats the governor has received since calling for tighter gun laws, *The Oregonian* reported.

While not all security measures have been shared, some are visible, such as the additional member of the Dignitary Protection Unit. Brown’s office has also increased its unwillingness to release her public calendars in advance.

Kristen Grainger, Brown’s communications director, said threats to the

governor are not new, but this year, comments have been more threatening than usual.

“Instead of voicing passionate opinions or dissent as part of exercising free speech, they express intent to cause her harm, ugly threats of physical violence and death,” Grainger said. “Potentially dangerous individuals have attempted to breach security perimeters on more than one occasion.”

Brown’s office has been in regular contact with the FBI, which is investigating threats, Grainger said.

Former governors and their aides said they recall serious threats, though nothing came of them. Former Gov. Barbara Roberts, the first woman elected to the

state’s top office, said she had one man threaten to kill her. He sent five dates on which he was going to assassinate her, though Roberts said she didn’t know what he was mad about.

“Of course, nothing ever happened, but it’s not unusual for a governor to be threatened simply because their views on almost everything are so public,” she said.

Grainger said policies to protect Brown are constantly being reviewed for changes and that threats are not going to slow the administration down.

“She has had cause to feel apprehensive on occasion,” Grainger said of Brown. “But it’s clear she’s not going to let anything stop her from doing her job.”

BRIEFLY

Small medical plane goes missing in California

ARCATA, Calif. (AP) — A small medical transport plane with four people aboard went missing early Friday after the pilot reported smoke filling the cockpit, setting off a search across a densely forested mountain range in Northern California.

The pilot of the Piper PA31 declared an emergency around 1 a.m. as he flew a flight nurse, a transport medic and a patient about 360 miles from Crescent City, near the Oregon border, to Oakland, officials said.

The plane lost contact early in the flight path, the Federal Aviation Administration said. The pilot planned to return to Crescent City before vanishing from radar 5 miles north of the Arcata-Eureka Airport on the far northern coast, FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said.

A crew on the ground is combing a remote area owned by a private timber company until thick fog lifts in the early afternoon. That’s when a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter

will assist in the search, said Lt. Wayne Hanson of the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office, which is leading the pursuit on the ground.

The plane is part of Cal-Ore Life Flight, a small company of about six planes that transports patients throughout Northern California and Oregon. Flights at night are common, said Don Wharton, a spokesman for parent company REACH Air Medical Services.

High lead content found at Springfield elementary school

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — A Springfield

elementary school will have its underground water system replaced after six classrooms were found to have higher-than-safe levels of lead in their sinks and drinking fountains.

Tests at Page Elementary showed sinks and fountains in the west wing with lead ranging from 27 to 180 parts per billion. The standard for acceptable amounts of lead in drinking water is 20 parts per billion.

The school district’s chief operations officer, Brett Yancey, tells *The Register-Guard* that the plumbing project will cost \$95,000.

The school was built in 1953.

Kitzhaber talk won’t veer from health care

By NICK BUDNICK
Capital Bureau

PORTLAND — Former Gov. John Kitzhaber will speak in Portland Monday, continuing his effort to reenter public life since resigning his elected office more than a year ago amid a federal influence-peddling probe.

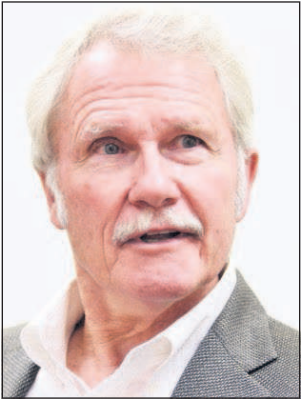
But if you go hear him speak at First Congregational Church in downtown Portland, don’t count on hearing a lot about Kitzhaber’s departure from Mahonia Hall. The public’s questions at the City Club forum called “Healthcare in the U.S. — Are we ready for more reform?” will be limited to the topic at hand, says Mike Marshall, the City Club’s executive director.

“It’s out of deference to all of the panelists and all of the people coming who want to talk about health care,” Marshall said.

Other speakers at the 3 p.m. event include Don Berwick, former administrator of the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; Alisha Moreland-Capua, executive director of the Avel Gordly Center for Healing at OHSU; and Dr. Paul Gorman, an OHSU professor and single-payer advocate who will serve as moderator.

Kitzhaber and his partner Sylvia Hayes continue to be the subject of a joint FBI-IRS investigation, though no charges have been filed. At issue: whether federal laws were broken in Kitzhaber making Hayes an influential energy adviser even as she accepted outside payments from advocacy groups seeking to influence state policy.

Kitzhaber, who was largely invisible during the year following his resignation, has become more public of late. In March he released a video on Facebook and, in an interview with Oregon Public Broadcasting, expressed confidence the probe would clear him. He told OPB reentering public life is part of his plan to become a consultant, saying, “If you’re going to do some consulting, people need to know you’re alive and well.” Given Kitzhaber’s reputation in health care circles, his appearance is “a real coup” for City Club, Marshall said. The former governor is known for his role fostering the creation and evolution of the Medicaid-funded Oregon Health Plan, which provides services to low-income Oregonians and relies on rationing, privatization and



Kitzhaber

the pursuit of alternative payment models to reduce waste.

Kitzhaber is “very excited” to speak about an issue he is passionate about, according to Marshall, who managed Kitzhaber’s reelection campaign.

In limiting speakers’ questions, the Monday event will

differ from the City Club’s regularly scheduled Friday Forums, where attendees have a great deal of freedom to ask questions of speakers.

Marshall says the limitation on questions at the forum is not a matter of giving his former boss special treatment. Rather, he says, it is standard practice for the issue forums the City Club holds, which are organized by volunteers and draw a more specialized audience.

Organizers of the event have already had to change locations twice to accommodate the expected crowd.

Typically, the City Club’s Friday forums draw no more than 450 attendees, Marshall said. The more specialized issue forums tend to be much smaller. For Monday’s event, he added “we have over 500 RSVPs.”

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