



# CATHOLIC LEAGUE

*For Religious  
and  
Civil Rights*

October 29, 2020

The Honorable Lori E. Frugoli  
District Attorney of Marin County  
3501 Civic Center Drive  
Suite 145  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Madam District Attorney:

As president of the largest Catholic civil rights organization in the United States, I am writing in full support of Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone's letter asking you to apply the full measure of the law to hold accountable the six vandals that toppled the statue of St. Serra in San Rafael on October 12th.

It is outrageous that St. Serra, who long championed the rights of Native Americans and defended them from atrocities from the colonial government, would be targeted by mobs filled with hate.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing a comprehensive historical analysis of St. Serra's work to give you greater insight into this beloved saint's legacy and to help dispel rumors that have been conjured up by militant anti-Catholic forces. I hope that upon reading it, you will come to the conclusion, as every other historian has, that St. Serra was truly a noble man. Further, attacks on his likeness are not from oppressed peoples seeking justice, but rather violent hordes that wish to intimidate Catholics and diminish the standing of Catholicism in our society.

Therefore, I echo Archbishop Cordileone's position that "this attack on a cherished religious symbol on our own church property is not a minor property crime, but an attack on Catholics as a people."

Failure to charge these six individuals with vandalism in a house of worship, which is a hate crime, would grant a green-light for other radicals to trample on the religious rights of Catholics and, ultimately, contribute to the decline of the rule of law in this great nation. I look forward to swift action on this matter.

Sincerely,

William A. Donohue, Ph.D.  
President

CC: Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone

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