

TENANTS OF THE INTERSTATE BUILDING
1314 SOUTH KING ST.
HONOLULU, HI 96814

June 8, 2007

Aloha Tenants of the Interstate Building:

This morning, members of the Hawaiian community are gathering outside your workplaces for a single purpose: to shine a light on an organization housed here that is working to undermine and erode Native Hawaiian rights. That organization is the Grassroot Institute, located in Suite 1163. The Grassroot Institute, both corporately and via its members and affiliates, is part of a reactionary movement to expropriate the collective inheritance of the indigneous peoples of Hawaii. In so doing, they have misused the grand language of the U.S. civil rights movement to facilitate their goals, while continuing the deplorable tradition of the jingoists, the yellow journalists, and the annexationists of the 19th century.

On May 15, 2007, attorney David Rosen sent an e-mail entitled "Request for Plaintiffs" to two individuals, Richard Rowland of the Grassroot Institute, and attorney William Burgess. Mr. Rosen explained in the e-mail that he intended to file a new lawsuit challenging Kamehameha Schools' admission policy, only days after a settlement in Doe v. Kamehameha Schools was announced to the public. Mr. Rowland accepted Mr. Rosen's request for assistance and forwarded the e-mail to an unknown number of recipients.

Mr. Rosen is a mere attorney – but it is the Grassroot Institute that serves as cheerleader, organizer, and think tank for the dissolution of indigneous rights.

And the Grassroot Institute does not operate alone: it is a local node in an ultraconservative sweep throughout the United States which aims to dismantle women's rights, minority rights, LGBT rights, ecological sustainability, international cooperation, and supports for working families.

It's our sincere hope that our presence here today does not hinder your daily business. Our intent is to educate the general public, and to defend our heritage. Thank you for your patience.

ALOHA AINA

The People On the Sidewalk