



CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE TO PROTECT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

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### **Yolo County Abandons Conaway Ranch Eminent Domain Proceedings** Property Rights Group calls \$2.4 million buyout extortion!

Sacramento, CA – In response to Yolo County's announcement that they have reached an agreement with the owners of the Conaway Ranch to abandon their eminent domain proceedings, the California Alliance to Protect Private Property Rights (the Alliance) released a statement.

"Over the past two years, Yolo County failed to make a convincing case that using gambling profits to seize a ranch was an appropriate use of eminent domain," said Dudley Holman, former Woodland Mayor and Alliance board member. "Now the county demands \$2.4 million from ranch owners in exchange for abandoning its eminent domain proceedings. This is not a settlement, it is extortion."

"California needs to reform eminent domain laws so that family farmers, business owners and home owners have greater private property right protections," said Holman.

Yolo County's efforts to use gambling profits from a neighboring tribe to finance their eminent domain proceedings became a national symbol of eminent domain abuse and a rallying call for the farming community and lawmakers seeking legislative reforms.

Despite numerous public opinion polls that revealed that more than 70% of Yolo voters opposed the county's actions, the county ignored public opposition and even denied offers a year ago by ranch owners to sign agreements to keep their land in agriculture and potential water sales local.

The California Alliance to Protect Private Property Rights is a statewide organization dedicated to exposing the abuses of eminent domain in California.

The organization was founded by Yolo County farmers and taxpayer advocates fighting Yolo County's use of gambling profits to seize the 17,000 acre Conaway Ranch through eminent domain.

To learn more about the Alliance and Conaway Ranch visit [www.calpropertyrights.com](http://www.calpropertyrights.com).

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