



GRUPO DE OPERACIONES ESPECIALES EN RESCATE
BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires, September 26th, 2006

To whom it concerns:

My name is Facundo Garcia.

I am the team captain of the GOER (Special Operations in Rescue Team) from Buenos Aires, Argentina since 2001. I have been in the rescue community since the early 90's in different fields including Alpine Rescue Teams and SAR teams.

I have been a member of ARTI (American Rescue Team International); since 2002, as an active member of the team and I also signed a cooperation agreement between my Argentinean team (GOER) and ARTI for future operations in South America in cases of disasters of any kind; including, earthquakes or any kind of problem related with collapsed structures that requires the expertise and professionalism of the ARTI and it's director, Mr. Doug Copp.

In 2004 I became the Director of Operations for Argentina of ARTI. I participated in many projects of ARTI, around the world, putting myself and members of my team on stand by for any call out in cases where ARTI required our expertise in high Angle / Rope Rescue / SAR techniques.

With Doug Copp and all other ARTI members we are all unpaid volunteers who put 100% of our expertise in different fields within the rescue community to save lives.

With professionalism, training, ethics and humanity above all, we have participated in many rescue situations that put our lives in danger just so others may live.

The sense of service to do our task and relief the pain of those who suffer in disaster scenarios, make our work worthy and keep our minds and souls complete every time we can do something for the human being.

Doug has been always a professional, skilled and dedicated person who put his life in danger dozens of times around the globe to save people from many countries, where and when NO ONE ELSE WANTED TO TRAVEL to Help.

He is a kind person who inspires all of us and many rescue teams around the globe.

His braveness, technical skills learned, in all those decades, working in the field and his dedication to save lives, make his heart a precious inspiration for all the people who have the luck to know him and have him as a friend and colleague.

Today Mr. Copp is an official member of the GOER with the rank of "Technician / Instructor" due his knowledge, expertise and great teaching abilities as an instructor of collapsed structure rescue & survival.

As soon as the efforts to save lives on 911, Doug Copp contacted me to brief me on all the efforts at Ground Zero that he and some other members of ARTI did over there.

He sounded sick and he started to feel really bad since the first day I spoke with him by phone. He told me about all what he suffered below ground zero.

He informed me that he was very sick as a consequence of his efforts to recover victims remains and in his search to ensure that no victims remained buried alive. He told me that the poisoned gases, vapors and more affected him very hard on his health. I personally remember times when I gave him a call and while his wife answered the phone, I heard the noise of him with abdominal pain and vomiting in the background.

With all that pain, and effort to survive, Doug Copp made another example of a man, like no other, who also is a survivor of the 911 itself.

Doug Copp told me about Tom Lang and the Albuquerque Journal and his evil activities which devastated the public image of Copp, all over the country and also throw the voice around the globe that Doug Copp was a "fiasco".

I personally read the lies of the Albuquerque Journal and I believe they are bad intentioned, evil and also crazy, cos' the work that Mr. Copp did for decades it's UNDENIABLE.

There are tons of pictures, documents and videos of all the activities that ARTI and Mr. Copp have been making since the early 80's around the world.

During these incomprehensible acts from Mr. Lang, who owns the newspaper, I was called by an NBC journalist, Mr. Raynar Ramirez for a telephone interview.

During the 20 minute interview, he was constantly focused to gather information about Mr. Copp and his rescue activities, but I noted that he was constantly asking me 'with dirty journalist' skills, questions to take out of my mouth any word against Mr. Copp. He was pushing me hard to almost have a confession about the supposed ARTI activities that never existed.

I answered the whole truth about what I know the ARTI and Mr. Copp and because Mr. Ramirez did not fulfill his expectations, to manipulate words out of my mouth against Mr. Copp. He ended the conversation without saying any more. He was not interested in the truth. He only had the desire to tell lies about Mr. Copp.

Doug is a selfless man who became a victim of 911 not only for the injuries he suffered; he had the worse thing that a man can have: A country which denied the work of a real hero who risked his life to save the lives of other Americans even offering his own life if necessary. He has been mistreated, forgotten and punished with a death penalty for only doing two things: Being a hero and telling the truth.

Sincerely



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