

STATEMENT OF DALE HARAPAT

At around 10:30 a.m. on February 15, 2007 in Las Vegas, New Mexico, I carried a sign that read: "DA Richard Flores practices selective prosecution." I marched in front of the DA's office with Gilbert Bustos. We were standing there or moving down the sidewalk for around 30 minutes without any interference. Then around 11.a.m another friend joined us named Lee Kittell. Soon after Lee joined the protest, someone from inside the DA's office came to check us out, then another man approached us wearing a black leather coat, sunglasses and carrying a video camera.

The man with the leather coat then went to the middle of the sidewalk to confront and block the pathway of Gilbert Bustos. He stood in the middle of the sidewalk and would not let Bustos proceed. I heard Bustos say: "Could you please excuse me, so I could pass? The man said a few verbal insults to Bustos. I said, to him, that I was going to take a photo of him. Soon the sheriff came out. He said you are going to have to move across the street. Lee, said "We were just exercising our constitutional right of freedom of speech. We remained quiet and calm, but perplexed.

I told the sheriff, I had been there many other times protesting. At that point, the sheriff put handcuffs on me. Lee said, "Are you going to arrest us for exercising out constitutional rights? The leather coat man kept video taping the entire thing. The sheriff slapped handcuffs on me as tight as he could and put me in back of his sheriff's truck. The sheriff also put handcuffs on Gilbert. Bustos then became dizzy and fell to the ground.

I could not breathe in the sheriff's truck because my sinuses were plugged and acting up, so I pounded on the window. Lee came over and let me out. At that point, the leather police officer or the sheriff, grabbed me and threw me against the truck. My upper leg hit the side of the truck hard and hurt. I looked again and Lee bent over and collapsed. I yelled out the window for them to get an ambulance for Lee and Gilbert.

Instead of getting the ambulance, we were taken to the San Miguel Detention Center. I was given an orange detention center outfit. Nearly an hour later, we were taken to the Alta Vista Hospital. I was left in a room, a doctor came in briefly. I was then taken back to the Detention Center. I asked where was Gilbert and Lee. They told me that I said I wanted to stay in jail. I was taken to a cell with blood on the floor, dirt and urine. At one point I asked if I was going to get a hearing, and at that point two men started pushing me against the wall.

On saturday February 16, 2007, after posting a cash only \$1500.00 bond, I was

released.

**This is an a statment and account to the best of my knowledge,
of the events of February 15 and 16th, 2007.**

**Dale Harapat 505-425-7438
713 Kane Drive
Las Vegas, New Mexico. 87701**