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From: Dave ***** [mailto:Dave@bighammer.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 01:43 PM
To: em@vcdl.org
Subject: DOI digs in it's heels

I just got a call from Jerry Case, the NPS guy that DOI sends Petitions to 'meet their untimely demise'. Here is his official response, coming "straight from the top".

Him: "The petition is being reviewed by the solicitors and it is NOT a high priority"

Me: Violence in the parks notwithstanding.

Him: It's not a high priority.

Me: Ok, thanks for calling Jerry, have a great day.

So, there you have it. National Parks visitor safety is not a high priority. After all, it's not like any of them will be late getting home if you get killed in a park.

Unfortunately, we're probably going to lose some traction. Many of the responses from Congress has been "we'll send them a letter and figure out what's going on". While that's certainly more help than we had before, sadly, DOI may now legitimately claim (to Congress) "we're reviewing it", giving them still more time to stall, wiggle out, cajole, etc...

I suggest we re-contact and let the congressional supporters know that "No, a letter to DOI isn't going to do it, while they're stalling, people are still being victimized in National Parks and Park Service properties and they need to tell us WHEN, not if, WHEN the petition will be approved and the unconstitutional regulation 2.4 revised."