



THE AMBASSADOR

Date
March 13, 2015

Dear Mayor Richardson,

It was great to meet you again at the ceremony in Copenhagen House on March 3, 2015.

It has come to my attention that some members of the City Council in Solvang have expressed dissatisfaction with part of my remarks on the occasion of the revealing of the statue of Holger Danske. I realize and regret that my remarks may have been misunderstood by some or may have been misconceived as more than an attempted humorous reference to the legend of Holger Danske.

Please convey to your City Council colleagues and to Chairman Armenta of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians that my remarks were in no way intended to interfere with local affairs in Solvang and that it was certainly not my intention to offend anybody.

After almost 5 years as the Ambassador of Denmark to the US, I truly appreciate the cultural diversity that makes the United States a remarkable country where different cultures, beliefs and ethnicities thrive together. And I see the well-functioning cooperation between the various actors in Solvang, including the Chumash Tribe, as a fine example of this strength.

Please accept my sincere apology for any inconvenience my remarks may have caused.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Taksøe-Jensen

Ambassador of Denmark to the United States

Mr. James Richardson
Mayor
Solvang
California