

March 20, 2009

Dear Editor:

Your editorial, "No Holy War," (3-20-09), was right that vital issues - public safety, sound fiscal management and providing quality municipal services – must remain our County's highest priorities.

However, as you acknowledge, the decision to remove the cross from the County seal was wrong — based upon poor legal advice, goose-stepping ACLU reprisals, and wrong-headed political correctness.

Supporters of the effort to restore the cross are not interested in a "Holy War"; they only seek to preserve a symbol that accurately reflects our County's cultural history. Los Angeles County was founded in 1771 when the San Gabriel Mission was established by Spanish missionaries. Its cross was missing when a likeness of the mission was placed on the new County seal in 2004. Now that the cross has been restored to the mission, it should be restored to the County seal as well. This could be done at little or no cost by replacing it only where it has worn out.

Since when is it not right to fight for what is right?

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Los Angeles County Supervisor