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**NEVADA FAMILY FIGHTS U.S. GOVERNMENT'S INTENT TO CONDEMN PRIVATE  
PROPERTY NEAR AREA 51**

*Family rejects \$5.2 million offer from Federal Government to purchase land*

**Las Vegas, Nev. – (Sept. 1, 2015)** For nearly 130 years, the Sheahan family has maintained ownership of the Groom Mine, a mining and residential property located approximately 6 miles north of Area 51. The family holds deeds to 15 unpatented and six patented mining claims; some of which are authorized by Congress and personally signed by President Ulysses S. Grant, allotting them the “exclusive right to enjoyment of all the lands within the boundaries, forever.” On August 14, 2015, the Sheahan family received correspondence from the United States Air Force stating their intent to seize the property by means of condemnation if the family did not agree to sell it for their offered price, \$5.2 million, a small fraction of what it’s worth.

“We are both outraged and grief-stricken by the decision and actions of mindless bureaucrats acting in the name of the United States Government,” said Patrick Sheahan, co-owner of the Groom Mine and residence and retired Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army. “Our family is patriotic and we love our country, yet some zealots in the government treat us like the enemy and perpetrate horrendous injustices against against their own people.”

Geologists who have visited the area have stated that the land itself is priceless, before considering the sentimental and historical value it possesses. The Groom Mine spans 400 acres throughout southern Nevada and is as rich in minerals as it is in history. Such history includes many chapters of unfavorable and possibly criminal actions taken by the U.S. Government and its agents to drive the Sheahan family off of their privately owned land.

One of the largest of those acts includes the bombing of the Groom Mine’s mill on June 23, 1954. The attack was financially devastating to the family, forcing them to cease all mining operations and business transactions and restart their lives elsewhere. Through the wreckage, the Sheahans maintained ownership of the property, paying taxes and working diligently to compromise with the U.S. Government. The Sheahans were allowed limited access to their property, which they have visited under constant duress for over the last 70 years.

Currently, the federal government owns or controls 81 percent of the State of Nevada and the President just withdrew another large sector from the public under the

Antiquities Act. The Sheahan family has entertained discussions related to the sale of the Groom Mine based on the stated needs of the U.S. Government and the Air Force, in particular. Based on such needs, the land owners have stated that they would be willing to accept an appropriate offer for the property; however, this offer should include just compensation for the loss of the family's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which are afforded to them by the Constitution of the United States.

"We are a patriotic family with combat veterans among our number," said Barbara Sheahan-Manning, co-owner of the Groom Mine and residence. "We believe in the mission of the United States Government. We also believe in their mission to uphold and protect the rights granted to U.S. Citizens in the Constitution."

The owners of the Groom Mine and residence are united in their decision to respectfully decline the Federal Government's offer. Accordingly, the Sheahan family has asked the United States Air Force to withdraw their threat of condemnation and allow them to keep their property; or, purchase the land for "just compensation," a right granted to citizens of this nation under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

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#### **About The Groom Mine and Residence**

The Historic Groom Mine and residence has been owned and operated by the Sheahan family since 1889. Rich in several precious metals including lead, silver and gold, the land is also wealthy in history, as the government established a Nevada Test and Training Range within its boundaries. For 70 years, the Sheahan family has worked tirelessly to cooperate with government officials to ensure a mutually beneficial relationship. However, leaders within the government have consistently disregarded the family's Constitutional Rights, forcing them to visit their property under constant duress.