

= Guardians of the Free Republics =

Guardians of the Free Republics , active around 2010 , was a group based in the U.S. state of Texas regarded as being part of the sovereign citizen movement . The group was associated with Sam Kennedy ( whose real name is Glenn Richard Unger ) , a talk @-@ show host , and with Clive Boustred , a British @-@ born conspiracy theorist living in California . The group was described as having an anti @-@ government ideology . The Guardians of the Free Republics called for a " Restore America Plan " that included a " bold achievable strategy for behind @-@ the @-@ scenes peaceful reconstruction of the de jure institutions of government without controversy , violence or civil war . "

= = Ideology = =

The group was described as an anti @-@ government group and as associated with the sovereign citizen movement . Federal Bureau of Investigation ( FBI ) Special Agent J.J. Klaver said , " These are individuals who reject all forms of government and they believe they are emancipated from all the responsibilities associated with being U.S. citizens , such as paying taxes and obeying laws . " Hal Epperson , coordinator of the group 's unit in Phoenix , Arizona , stated that the group was " a nonviolent group that has a lawful remedy for the corporate government . "

Some members of the group stated that they were influenced by Martin Luther King , Jr. and Mohandas Gandhi . On their website , the Guardians of the Free Republics called for a " Restore America Plan " that included a " bold achievable strategy for behind @-@ the @-@ scenes peaceful reconstruction of the de jure institutions of government without controversy , violence or civil war . " The group advocated the end of " tax prosecutions for resisting the transfer of private wealth to foreign banking cartels " and issuing " orders to the military and police powers to enforce the Peoples ? divine rights of birth . " The Guardian of the Free Republics stated that they wanted to accomplish their goals " Behind the scenes , lawfully , peacefully , without violence and without risking civil war . " A section of their website titled " Rationale " laid out the ideas behind the group ? s goal to " restore Biblical law to a devoutly secular population . " The group believed its plan could act as a " vehicle for relieving corporate tyranny . In due time , the higher goal of salvaging the souls of mankind can be addressed . "

= = Governor letters = =

During the week of March 31 , 2010 , all 50 U.S. state governors received letters from the group , warning them to leave office within three days or be removed . Governor Mike Beebe of Arkansas said , " It basically said , resign , ask for forgiveness and then we 'll reinstate you , and if you sign this we 'll consider you re @-@ elected . "

The FBI and the Department of Homeland Security stated that they did not believe the group was violent . Some investigators believed , however , that the letters could cause others to commit violent acts . John Stadtmiller , who runs Republic Broadcasting Network in Round Rock , Texas , which broadcast Sam Kennedy 's weekly show , said that Kennedy was behind the idea of sending out the letters . The FBI interviewed Kennedy for two hours on April 2 , 2010 , but did not arrest him . The interview concentrated on two shows Kennedy did about the " Restore America " project , in which Kennedy set a March 31 , 2010 deadline as the day to " begin to reclaim the continent . "

= = Aftermath = =

In March 2011 , an " elder " of the Guardians of the Free Republics organization named Samuel Lynn Davis pleaded guilty to 31 counts of money laundering in Federal district court in Nevada . Davis was snared in a sting operation after he agreed to launder more than \$ 1 @.@ 29 million in what he believed to be illicit funds . Davis accepted \$ 73 @,@ 782 in fees to launder the money , not realizing he was dealing with Federal law enforcement agents . In October 2011 , Davis was

sentenced to four years and nine months in Federal prison , and was ordered to pay over \$ 95 @, @ 000 in restitution . As of late July 2012 , Davis had been classified as a fugitive , having failed to surrender to authorities to begin his prison sentence in June 2012 . On August 7 , 2012 , Davis was arrested by sheriff 's deputies in White Earth , North Dakota . Davis is incarcerated at the Federal Correctional Institution - La Tuna in Anthony , Texas , near El Paso , and is scheduled for release on April 24 , 2017 .

On September 18 , 2012 , James Timothy ( " Tim " ) Turner , one of the individuals involved in sending the letters to the state governors , was arrested after having been indicted by a federal grand jury in Alabama on one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States under 18 U.S.C. § 371 by , among other things , filing a false 300 million dollar bond in an attempt to pay taxes , one count of passing a false 300 million dollar bond , five additional counts of violations of section 514 ( a ) ( 2 ) of title 18 of the U.S. Code ( relating to fictitious documents ) , one count of filing false Form 1096 reports with the Internal Revenue Service , one count of willful failure to file a federal income tax return , and one count of giving false testimony in a federal bankruptcy proceeding . On March 22 , 2013 , Turner was found guilty on all charges . On July 31 , 2013 , he was sentenced to 18 years in Federal prison .

On December 29 , 2012 , " Dr. Sam Kennedy , " whose real name is Glenn Richard Unger , was arrested after having been indicted on one count of attempting to interfere with the administration of the internal revenue laws under Internal Revenue Code section 7212 ( a ) , four counts of filing false claims for tax refunds under 18 USC section 287 , one count of tax evasion under Internal Revenue Code section 7201 , and one count of uttering a fictitious obligation under 18 USC section 514 ( a ) ( 2 ) . He was charged with filing more than \$ 36 million in fraudulent federal income tax refund claims . On January 2 , 2013 , a federal prosecutor asserted in a court hearing for Unger that Unger was a danger to the community and that Unger had stated that he would rather die than become subject to the government . The indictment alleged , among other things , that in June 2011 Unger submitted false documents with the Clerk 's Office of Saratoga County , New York , in an attempt to release a \$ 116 @, @ 410 @. @ 43 federal tax lien against him , for taxes and penalties for years 2004 , 2005 , and 2006 . The Federal Bureau of Investigation began looking at Unger ( alias " Sam Kennedy " ) in the spring of 2010 , after the incident involving the letters sent to the state governors . Prosecutors also charged that Unger filed no valid federal income tax returns between 1999 and 2005 . On May 23 , 2013 , the court ordered a mental competency hearing for Unger after he referred to himself as being " deceased . " On August 7 , 2013 , the Court ruled that Unger was competent to stand trial . After a four @-@ day trial Unger was found guilty of all charges by a jury in Federal court in Albany , New York , on October 21 , 2013 . On April 21 , 2014 , Unger was sentenced to eight years in Federal prison .

As of March 2011 , the web site for Guardians of the Free Republics had been taken down .