

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Farmer Relief & Freedom Relay in Memphis Nationwide Call to Action!**

Memphis, TN (November 9, 2009) On Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> the Mid-South Tea Party will host a rally for the California Farmers' Relief. The brown bag lunchtime rally will be held at Draper's Catering at Sycamore View and Macon Roads from noon until 1:30 p.m.

In 2009, the protection of a shiny bait fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta has cost California's Central Valley farm economy more than 35,285 jobs; \$1.6 billion in revenue and a 40-percent unemployment rate in towns surrounded by parched fields.

Only an act of Congress before the end of 2009 can suspend the Endangered Species Act in the Delta and open up water supplies for the 2010 growing season. "The insanity must end," says attorney Mark Meckler of Sacramento, a national coordinator of the Tea Party Patriots™. "It is devastating California's economy. We are being crushed by burdensome regulations and taxes imposed by politicians who care more for causes and political gamesmanship than people."

On Nov. 8, supporters of the Tea Party Patriots™ launched the "Farmer Relief & Freedom Relay" to focus national attention on how environmental policies and court rulings have devastated California's Central Valley farms and surrounding communities. Along the relay, these "Tea-Niners" will also accept monetary donations to restock food pantries in the Golden State's San Joaquin Valley, the nation's now "crusty bread basket." "Government is choosing the environment over human life," says Ben Bergquam, media and public outreach coordinator for the Central Valley Tea Party, a branch of the Tea Party Patriots™. "We need to take the message nationally. We need to get people to stand up on one issue. We need laws that stop favoring radical environmentalists and support the productive people in this country."

The TPP™ Farmer Relief & Freedom Relay will also highlight the broader issue of eco-regulation and its growing stranglehold on American freedoms and prosperity. Cap & Trade, the Copenhagen Treaty, and localized issues for communities along the Relay will relate the Central Valley crisis to the nationwide struggle to balance human needs with out of control government regulation. For information on the "Farmer Relief & Freedom Relay", including the stops and schedule of events, go to [www.teapartypatriots.org](http://www.teapartypatriots.org). To obtain additional information about Thursday's rally in Memphis email [events@midsouthteaparty.org](mailto:events@midsouthteaparty.org).

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