

Dam blind businesses targeted

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CARSON CITY - Attorney General Frankie Sue Del Papa is accusing the Bureau of Reclamation of illegally trying to close three blind-operated businesses at Hoover Dam.

"This entity (Reclamation) should not act as though it is above the law," Del Papa said.

Three businesses are run at the dam by blind proprietors who do not pay rent to the federal government but who do pay fees

to the state to help create new business opportunities for the blind.

The Bureau of Reclamation, she said, "is demanding 10 percent of the gross revenues and attempting to close these businesses to circumvent the provisions made for blind proprietors."

Federal law, she said, requires blind people receive priority to operate business on federal property and does not permit the collection of rent.