

**Veterans for Peace**  
**Center for Theology and Social Analysis**  
**St. Louis Instead of War Coalition (IOW)**

[www.occupationstl.net](http://www.occupationstl.net)

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Attention: News Assignment Desks

For Immediate Release: February 8, 2007

**War Opponents Return to Rep. Carnahan's Office in Brentwood**

This morning nine local war opponents (names below) returned to Representative Russ Carnahan's office in Brentwood (corner of Manchester and Brentwood) to secure a public commitment from Rep. Carnahan to vote against all future funding for the war in Iraq, specifically the \$93 billion supplemental funding bill that President Bush submitted for Congressional approval on Monday (2/5/07).

Today's return to Rep. Carnahan's office follows a 14-hour presence in his office on Tuesday (2/6/7) when five local war opponents (names below) remained in the office seeking the same public commitment to vote against new funds for the war, until 10:30 PM when they were escorted out of the office by agents of a private security firm contracted by Rep. Carnahan's Office.

The presence in Rep. Carnahan's office is the initial action of local peace groups participating in the national Occupation Project, an eight-week project which is based on a simple message to Members of Congress, "Until you make a public commitment to vote against any further war funding, we will occupy your offices." Local war opponents plan to return to the local offices of area Members of Congress over and over again, seeking the only action by

Congress that can put a speedy end to the war, chaos, and death that have plagued Iraq since the U.S. invasion in 2003.

On Monday, local media were able to enter Rep. Carnahan's office to film and interview participants. Participants were also interviewed by cell phone. Today's participants can be reached at this number 314-409 -0349.

Supporters of those in the office will gather on the corner of Brentwood and Manchester for a public vigil at noon today.

### **Names of Monday's Participants**

Jean Abbott, torture survivor counselor

Angie O'Gorman, immigrant advocate

J'Ann Allen, community college instructor

Marty King, retire special-ed teacher

Dianne Lee, community college instructor

### **Names of Today's Participants**

Jonathan March, computer programmer

Carolyn Griffith, refugee worker

Teka Childress, homeless worker

Mary Harojodan, refugee worker

Sarah Sunseri, teacher

Leilani Castleman, health worker

Jorj Arteaga, refugee worker

Zuleyma Tang-Tang Martinez, professor

Myrna Fichtenbaum, retired health worker