

8/4/2020

Edcgov.us Mail - 8/4/20 BOS Open Forum Public Comments

OPEN FORUM 201049
BOS 8/4/2020
EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>



8/4/20 BOS Open Forum Public Comments

1 message

Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Tue, Aug 4, 2020 at 10:40 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, bosfive@edcgov.us, bosfour <bosfour@edcgov.us>, bosone@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us

Please ensure the entirety of this correspondence is entered into the 8/4/20 BOS Open Forum Public Comments. *NOTE: I DID NOT APPRECIATE THE MESSAGE THAT FLASHED ON THE SCREEN WHILE MAKING MY PUBLIC COMMENTS: [YOUR COMMENTS ARE INAPPROPRIATE]. IT IS **GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP** THAT IS INAPPROPRIATE AS IT VIOLATES THE PUBLIC'S FIRST AMMENDMENT RIGHTS.

###

It is my duty as a Citizen, a Christian woman, and founder of **Compass2Truth** to expose the works of evil and darkness to the light of truth according to biblical precepts in Ephesians 5:11. With that being said, two of the EDC Core Values are Integrity and Accountability, and that is my purpose in addressing an incident that took place during last week's BOS proclamation honoring **Sr. Services attorney Al Hamilton**.

It was deeply disturbing to hear representatives of the Taxpayers Association **Andy Nevis, Todd White and Kris Payne** join the BOS in an apparent orchestrated debacle praising Al Hamilton for his "honesty" and service to the county. Isaiah 5:20 says, "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil." You are aware it is a matter of public record that Al brazenly threatened me and at least five other EDC women who've participated in Taxpayer meetings. The facts are backed up by multiple witnesses and with an un rebutted affidavit that includes the sworn testimony of Lori Parlin.

Although he's never even met Al Hamilton, **Ken Greenwood** had to put in his two cents worth. Then **Sheriff D'Agostini** attempted to comment, but he couldn't unmute his audio. As you know, Sheriff D'Agostini has also threatened me in retaliation for holding him accountable to his Constitutional oath of office. For the record, Sheriff D'Agostini shared during a Taxpayers meeting an incident involving Ken Greenwood and a woman who found it necessary to use her CCW-permitted gun to force Ken out of her car. But when Ken threatened to sue the county, the Sheriff dropped the charges because it was the most "cost effective" thing to do. Ken was off the hook and tax payers wouldn't have to foot the bill for another lawsuit.

Most disturbing of all was Al Hamilton's arrogant mockery directed at me. It spoke volumes about his lack of integrity and accountability. Al then lavished praise upon **Andy, Todd and Kris** for following in his corrupt footsteps as former leader of the Taxpayers Association, aka the **Good Old Boys Club**. Meanwhile the Sheriff just laughed his ass off and gave Al a thumbs up.

There's nothing funny about bully tactics and abuse of power. All the aforementioned individuals have demonstrated their lack of respect for God, for women, and for the Constitution. That is precisely what

destroys the fabric of society and our nation.

In closing, John Hancock said “*Resistance to tyranny becomes the Christian and social duty of each individual... Continue steadfast and, with a proper sense of your dependence on God, nobly defend those rights which heaven gave, and no man ought to take from us.*”

If you have any questions or comments, please make them at this time.

Melody Lane

Founder – Compass2Truth

All authority belongs to the people...in questions of power, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution. ~ Thomas Jefferson ~

From: Melody Lane [mailto:melody.lane@reagan.com]

Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 7:50 PM

To: Ken Greenwood

Subject: Public comments made during 7/28/20 BOS agenda item #18 - Al Hamilton proclamation

Mr. Greenwood,

I wasn't the only person who was offended by the audacity you demonstrated during last week's BOS meeting agenda item #18 – proclamation honoring retired Senior Services attorney Al Hamilton. You even publicly admitted that you've never met Al Hamilton, yet you joined the Board of Supervisors--***along with Taxpayer Association directors Andy Nevis, Todd White, and Kris Payne***--in praising a despotic miscreant for his unlawful conduct. You did this despite my own factual public testimony, as well as that of Supervisor Lori Parlin, concerning Al Hamilton's threats and unlawful conduct which were entered into the BOS public record. (See attachment) As you heard, I also filed two formal complaints against Hamilton with the State BAR.

By aligning yourself with a corrupt bunch of “good old boys” who have a penchant for targeting women--***particularly conservative Christian women***—you've aided and abetted Al Hamilton's bully tactics and unconstitutional actions. Whatever your motive, it was just plain wrong and unethical. My duty as a Christian and founder of ***Compass2Truth*** is to expose evil and darkness according to biblical precepts in Ephesians 5:11.

What makes your conduct so egregious is the fact that you have a sordid history of targeting and intimidating women. Case in point: Approximately three years ago Sheriff D'Agostini was the guest speaker during the Taxpayers Association meeting. The conversation that day was centered on CCW permits. As usual, I audio recorded the entire meeting. Without mentioning your name, I asked the Sheriff why the name of a "certain CCW instructor" was still listed on the front page of the 6-page EDSO list of CCW Certified Instructors. I proceeded to describe an incident that took place when an Olympic Class Markswoman charitably offered to safely provide that instructor a ride home from an event because he was too inebriated to lawfully drive his own car. The woman happens to be a Christian actively involved in ministry. Once inside her car the instructor assaulted the woman, so she produced her permitted handgun to force the assailant out of her car. The instructor then tattled to Sheriff D'Agostini who subsequently rescinded the woman's CCW permit. That's when I inquired why the assailant wasn't prosecuted.

Sheriff D'Agostini responded, "*Melody, why don't you just say his name? You're talking about Ken Greenwood.*" The Sheriff explained that if he had prosecuted you for assault, then your CCW Instructors license would have been pulled *as required by law*. He further elaborated that would have resulted in you filing a counter-lawsuit against the county for depriving you the means to make a living. The Sheriff felt it was much more "cost efficient" to drop the charges against you and avoid a prolonged and expensive lawsuit at the expense of tax payers. As a result you got off the hook for criminal assault, but the Sheriff unjustly denied the woman due process and forfeited her CCW permit.

You also know Sheriff D'Agostini sent a certified letter rescinding my own *previously approved* CCW just three days before my appointment to pick up my permit from EDSO Records. Adding insult to injury, the Sheriff's letter arrived on my birthday. His apparent motive was in retaliation against me for filing Citizen Complaints of Officer Misconduct. Additionally you've expressed your frustration with the system and the proclivity of corruption in this county. We talked about this before on several occasions, yet you go along to get along with the GOBs. In so doing you've lost all credibility and thus become part of the problem rather than the solution.

My ending advice to you is to grow a pair and start acting like a responsible, respectable adult.

Melody Lane

Founder – Compass2Truth

Ephesians 5:11 – "Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead expose them."

*Melody Lane
P.O. Box 598
Coloma, CA 95613*

January 13, 2017

Alfred Laurence Hamilton
El Dorado County Sr. Services Attorney
937 Spring Street
Placerville, CA 95667

AFFIDAVIT/DECLARATION OF TRUTH

Dear Mr. Hamilton,

I, **Melody Lane**, the undersigned, hereinafter: Affiant/Declarant, make this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth of my own free will, and I hereby affirm, declare and solemnly swear, under oath, that I am of legal age and of sound mind and hereby attest that all the information contained in this Affidavit/Declaration is true, correct and admissible as evidence.

This Affidavit/Declaration of Truth is lawful notification to you, and is hereby made and sent to you pursuant to the Federal Constitution, specifically, the Bill of Rights, in particular, Amendments I, IV, V, VI, VII, IX and X, and The Declaration of Rights of the California Constitution, in particular, Article 1, Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 21, 23, and Article 3 Section 1, and requires your written rebuttal to me, specific to each and every point of the subject matter stated herein, within 30 days, via your own sworn and notarized affidavit, using fact, valid law and evidence to support your rebuttal.

You are hereby noticed that your failure to respond, as stipulated, and rebut, with particularity and specificity, anything with which you disagree in this Affidavit/Declaration, is your lawful, legal and binding tacit agreement with and admission to the fact that everything in this Affidavit/Declaration is true, correct, legal, lawful, and fully binding upon you in any court in America, without your protest or objection or that of those who represent you.

Affiant/Declarant hereby affirms that the following actions and events took place:

On December 12, 2016, Al Hamilton received via USPS certified mail, a letter dated December 6, 2016 which recounted your public threat directed against me, Melody Lane, a senior citizen and member of the Taxpayers Association since 2008, as witnessed by members of the Association on November 7, 2016. It recounted additional events taking place at Taxpayers Association meetings where public officials are frequently in attendance. That letter was sent to inform you of these events and statements made by you, and also as an inquiry to ascertain

whether Al Hamilton, EDC Senior Services Attorney and President of the Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County, support and uphold them or would rebut them.

Pursuant to the lawful notification contained in that letter, as originally stated in my December 6, 2016 letter, and cited and included by reference, you were required to respond to and rebut anything contained in the attached December 6th letter with which you disagreed, within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.

You failed to respond to that letter and thereby failed to rebut anything stated therein. Therefore, pursuant to the referenced lawful notification, you tacitly admit to all of the statements, charges and claims contained therein, fully binding upon you in any court, without protest, objection or that of those who represent you.

Some of the things to which you admit include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. At the November 16, 2016 meeting of the Taxpayers Association you approached and made a public threat to “destroy” me and my “political influence in this county.” Members of the Association who witnessed the threatening confrontation have expressed their willingness to provide if necessary public testimony and/or a notarized factual affidavit of your threatening confrontation. **(See Exhibit A)**
2. The established pattern of behavior demonstrated since you became President of the Association confirms that the Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County has no genuine interest whatsoever in growing the organization, and even less interest in abiding by the Association policies, Bylaws, mission statement, reasonable standards of conduct or applicable state laws. On numerous occasions I’ve requested in writing from you and Secretary Bernard Carlson copies of particular policies, specifically: Non-Discrimination, Whistleblower, Records Retention & Destruction, Mid-term Director Replacement and Conflict of Interest. All my requests have been either flatly denied or ignored, further betraying the Association’s alleged mission statement.
3. On several occasions my annual membership checks have been held and/or rejected thereby denying me the right to vote or be eligible as a Director of the Association. Aware of the situation, supportive members have encouraged me to provide proof of cancelled checks and other documentation, all of which have been flatly rejected either by you, Al Hamilton, or Secretary Bernard Carlson. **(See Exhibit B)**
4. It is a matter of public record that I’ve predicated statements made during Taxpayers Association meetings and during Board of Supervisors meetings that the federal and state Constitutions are the Supreme Law of the Land which clearly supersede any lesser “laws”, statutes, rules, codes, regulations and policies, including the ones upon which the Taxpayers Association alleges to rely. A statute either supports and upholds the Constitutions, or opposes and violates them, and the due process of law and rights guaranteed therein. As a member of the California BAR and as an employee of El Dorado County you have affirmed your oaths to support the federal and state Constitutions, must abide by those oaths in the performance of your official duties, and have no constitutional authority to oppose the very documents to which you swore or affirmed those oaths.

5. It is glaringly apparent that you do not take your Constitutional Oaths of Office seriously as required of the California BAR, or as a lawyer for the Senior Services Department of EDC. **El Dorado County Personnel Rules, Part 1 – Code of Ethics & Commitment to County Public Service** states in part that pursuant to your oaths, you are to be “*ever conscious that public office is a public trust.*” Your unethical conduct while either on or off the county clock is also clearly delineated in **Section 102 - Code of Ethics:**
 - (e) “Outside activities should be compatible with the objective performance of your duties or delivery of government service.
 - (f) Treat all individuals encountered in the performance of your duties in a respectful, courteous and professional manner.
 - i) Faithfully comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the County and impartially apply them to everyone.
 - (k) Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness and honesty in all public activities.”

Section 106 – Nondiscrimination in Delivery of Services – In the course of their employment, no County officer or employee shall grant any special consideration, treatment, or advantage to any person beyond what is *available to every other person in similar circumstances.*”

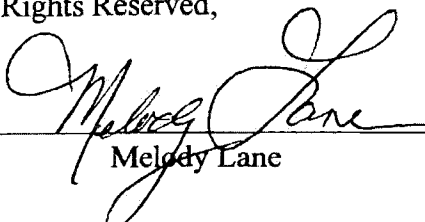
6. My own conduct has never been inappropriate or disruptive in any manner, yet my good name and reputation have been maliciously maligned via your libelous and slanderous distribution of emails to Association members and County staff. Furthermore, it has been reported by members of the Association as well that I’ve been the targeted topic of discussion of various Taxpayers Association meetings. The Association Bylaws states that all meetings require the recording of minutes for purposes of documentation to be made available for public inspection. Despite on numerous occasions putting my requests in writing, I have been denied the right to examine any of those records. The question remains as to whether those records even exist.
7. Under your direction four other women besides me have also been discriminated against, bullied and intimidated into leaving the Taxpayers Association. Although you’ve personally received written notification to cease and desist, you’ve perpetuated the “Good Old Boys” mentality and “business as usual” in El Dorado County. You have no authority or justification whatsoever to deny any citizen the right to all membership privileges of the Association or ability to dialog with public officials in matters concerning local government. As previously stated, you’ve failed to respond to several Affidavits thereby confirming the validity & accuracy of the factual contents and allegations described therein.
8. On numerous occasions while addressing a speaker you’ve either belittled, intimidated or cut me off with derogatory comments such as, “That’s irrelevant,” “Save your comments for Open Forum,” or “Shall we take a vote that Melody is creating a disturbance?” Your refusal to allow me to engage in open, meaningful dialogue with the guest speakers, many of whom are public officials, is a blatant disgrace and demonstrates additional fraud upon the citizens of El Dorado County. A rational, reasonable observer could factually conclude that you have no authority whatsoever to deny First Amendment rights of citizens to appropriately address and/or record any public official.

9. The Board of Supervisors, Taxpayer Association Directors and other public officers have either witnessed or been apprised of your threats, intimidation, discrimination, bully tactics, harassment and misconduct particularly against me, Melody Lane, a retired senior citizen, community activist, and long-time member of the Taxpayers Association. When any public officer is notified yet fails to take remedial action, it condones and perpetuates the misconduct thereby aiding and abetting your illicit actions for which they can be held liable. They are either part of the problem, or part of the solution in accordance with their Oaths of Office.

Lawful notification has been provided to you stating that if you do not rebut the statements, charges and averments made in this Affidavit/Declaration, then, you agree with and admit to them. Pursuant to that lawful notification, if you disagree with anything stated under oath in this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth, then rebut that with which you disagree, with particularity, within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof, by means of your own written, sworn, notarized affidavit of truth, based on specific, relevant fact and valid law to support your disagreement, attesting to your rebuttal and supportive positions, as valid and lawful, under the pains and penalties of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and this state of California. An un-rebutted affidavit stands as truth before any court.

Your failure to respond, as stipulated, is your agreement with and irrevocable admission to the fact that everything in this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth is true, correct, legal, lawful, fully binding upon Al Hamilton and each of the Board of Supervisors in any court of law in America, without your protest, objection or that of those who represent you.

All Rights Reserved,

By: 
Melody Lane

Date: 1/13/17

- CC: Dist. #1 Supervisor John Hidahl
Dist. # 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen
Dist. # 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp
Dist. #4 Supervisor Michael Ranalli
Dist. # 5 Supervisor Sue Novasel
District Attorney Vern Pierson
CA BAR Association
CA Franchise Tax Board

Attachments: Exhibit A – Notarized Affidavit of Witness
Exhibit B – Returned check & B. Carlson rejection letter

(See attached CA Notarization)

JAN 13 2017
SK

CALIFORNIA JURAT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document, to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF El Dorado)

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 13th day of January, 2017
Date Month Year

by Melody Lane

Name of Signers

proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

Signature: _____

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature of Notary Public



Seal

Place Notary Seal Above

OPTIONAL

Though this section is optional, completing this information can deter alteration of the document or fraudulent attachment of this form to an unintended document.

Description of Attached Document

Title or Type of Document: Affidavit/Declaration of truth

Document Date: 1/13/2017

Number of Pages: 4

Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: _____

**BELOW IS THE SWORN AFFADAVIT OF FACT BY LORI PARLIN,
THE WRITTEN RECORD OF EVENTS CONCERNING THE
TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION OF EL DORADO COUNTY MEETINGS
ON NOVEMBER 7 AND 14, 2016**

I, Lori Parlin, the undersigned, do solemnly swear, declare and depose:

- 1) That I am over the age of 18 years and competent to state to the matters set forth herein;
- 2) That I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein
- 3) That all the facts stated herein are true, correct, and certain, admissible as evidence, and if called upon as witness, I will testify to their veracity.

On Monday, November 7, 2016, at the conclusion of the weekly Taxpayers meeting held at Denny's in Placerville, California, I was talking to Melody Lane while seated across the table from her. Out of the corner of my eye I noticed that Al Hamilton, the President of the Taxpayers Association, was approaching us from behind Ms. Lane. My first thought was that Mr. Hamilton was coming over to talk to me about the Association's refusal to give me an application for membership. Instead, Mr. Hamilton leaned forward, over Ms. Lane's shoulder, and gestured with his hand toward her purse. He then asked if her audio recorder was on, inside her purse. She replied no, it was off because the meeting was over and it was inside her purse. Mr. Hamilton proceeded to tell Ms. Lane that she could not record the meetings without announcing to the entire room that she was recording the meeting. Ms. Lane replied that the law was very clear that no such announcement is necessary when public officials are speaking. Ms. Lane then got up out of her chair to address Mr. Hamilton face to face. There was arguing between them about the audio recordings. At some point during the arguing Mr. Hamilton said that he would call the Sheriff and have Ms. Lane removed from the building for causing a disturbance. Finally, Mr. Hamilton threatened Ms. Lane by saying that he would see to it that her reputation was destroyed in the county. I was shocked to hear him make such a threat, especially his use of "I" and "destroy" in his language. Ms. Lane then asked if Mr. Hamilton was threatening her. He said, no, that was not a threat. I then asked what exactly he meant by those words because it also sounded like a threat to me. Mr. Hamilton then backpedaled from his original statement and said that Ms. Lane's own actions would ruin her reputation in the county. I don't remember exactly how the conversation ended because I was shaken up by Mr. Hamilton's threatening words and tone.

At the beginning of the weekly Taxpayers meeting on Monday, November 14, 2016, Mr. Hamilton made an announcement that Ms. Lane was audio recording the meeting. He went on to say that at the prior meeting he had simply stated that he would call the Sheriff if Ms. Lane causes a disturbance during meetings. At some point during the meeting, Mr. Hamilton jokingly asked the group if he should take a vote to decide whether Ms. Lane was causing a disturbance. Given his threats the week prior, Mr. Hamilton's suggestion to call the Sheriff to remove Ms. Lane from the room appeared to be an intimidation tactic.

#

I, Lori Parlin, the Undersigned Affiant, depose and certify being first duly sworn on oath according to law, deposes and says that I have written the forgoing with intent and understanding of purpose the 2 page Affidavit above and that the matters stated herein are true, correct, complete and just to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

Lori Parlin

Lori Parlin

11-28-16

Date

Notary Public for California

Notary Public for California

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California

County of El Dorado

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 28th
day of November, 2016, by LOLI A. PARDIN

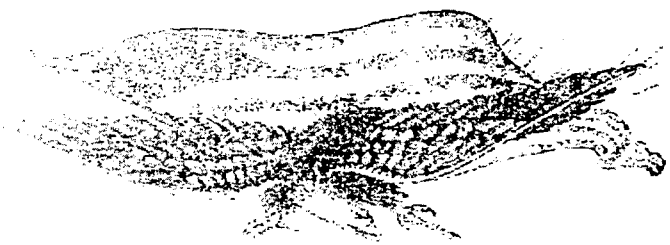
proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.



(Seal)

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mikaila Whitaker", written over a horizontal line.



TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION OF EL DORADO COUNTY
 Post Office Box 18 *TA* Placerville, California 95667
 Founded in 1958

11/17/2016

Dear Melody,

Taxpayer membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Your last payment was made in January 2014 for 2014, with no payment in 2015 or 2016.

Why did you claim membership last Monday when you are not a member?

You waste the time and disrespect the rights of others who are members and attendees with your attacks and demands harm rather than support the mission of the Taxpayers Association.

Thus your application for reinstatement of membership is REJECTED!

Sincerely *Bernard Carlson*
 Bernard Carlson, Secretary

Bernard - NO 11/11
 Please forward me a copy of the following policies & procedures:
 1) Whistle blower
 2) Conflict of Interest
 3) Mid-term Director Replacement
 4) Non-discrimination
 5) Records retention

MELODY L. LANE
 PO BOX 598
 COLOMA, CA 95613-0598

Wrong November 14, 2016
 Date

Pay to the Order of *El Dorado County Taxpayers Assn* \$ *75.00*

I think wife and 00/100 rejected
 Dollars



Wells Fargo Bank
 California
 wells.fargo.com

Member since 2008
 For *2017 Membership Fees*
Melody Lane

Thanks!

Melody Lane
 Member since 2008

Receipt

Thirty five dollars voting membership
received by _____ DATE _____

11/28/16 -

Refused \$35 cash by Ray Kringle, Treasurer, under direction
of Al Hamilton

TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION OF EL DORADO COUNTY	
P. O. Box 13, Placerville, California a 501 (c) 4 non-profit California Corporation, Incorporated in 1965	
I support common-sense government without luxuries, and want the Taxpayers voice to be clearly heard. Enroll me as a member for the current year. (Check membership category)	Associate (non-voting) \$10 ()
Enclosed: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash I own property in El Dorado County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	General Member \$35 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SIGNED <u>Melody Lane</u>	General Members have voting right provided they own property in El Dorado County. Please do not release my name address and phone number with the association membership list.
ADDRESS <u>PO Box 598</u>	
CITY <u>Coloma</u> STATE <u>CA</u> ZIP <u>95013</u>	
PHONE <u>642-1670</u> FAX _____ E-MAIL <u>MelodyLane@CtA5.com</u>	
Recommended by: <u>Leonard Stroud</u> Date: <u>2008</u>	

Member since 2008

*Melody Lane
P.O. Box 598
Coloma, CA 95613*

December 6, 2016

To: Alfred Laurence Hamilton,
El Dorado County Sr. Services Attorney
937 Spring Street
Placerville, CA 95667

Mr. Hamilton,

This letter is lawful notification to you, and is hereby made and sent to you pursuant to the national Constitution, specifically the Bill of Rights, in particular Amendments I, IV, V, VI, VII, IX and X, and the California Constitution, in particular Article 1, Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 21, 23, and Article 3 Section 1.

What I say in this letter is based in the supreme, superseding authority of the Constitution for the United States of America, circa 1787, as amended in 1791, with the Bill of Rights, and the California Constitution, to which all public officers have sworn or affirmed oaths, under which they are bound by Law. It is impossible for an oath taker to lawfully defy and oppose the authority of the documents to which he or she swore or affirmed his or her oath.

When I use the term "public officer(s)", this term includes you, Alfred Hamilton, lawyer for the Senior Services Department of El Dorado County. My claims, statements and averments also pertain to your actions taken regarding violations of the **El Dorado County Personnel Rules, Part 1 - Code of Ethics & Commitment to County Public Service 101 through 110**, pursuant to your oaths:

*County officers and employees serve for the benefit of the public. They shall uphold and adhere to the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of California, and the Charter of the County of El Dorado as well as County rules, regulations and policies, and shall carry out **impartially the laws of the nation, state, and County**. In their official acts, they shall discharge faithfully their duties, recognizing that the public interest is paramount. All County officers and employees must demonstrate the highest standards of morality and ethics consistent with the requirements of their positions and consistent with the law. You are expected to uphold these principles being **ever conscious that public office is a public trust**.*

Additionally EDC Policy #E-5 states in part, "*Each employee of the County of El Dorado must refrain from conduct constituting unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.*"

Since America and California are both Constitutional Republics, not democracies, they are required to operate under the Rule of Law, and not the rule of man. The Supreme Law and superseding authority in this nation is the national Constitution, as declared in Article VI of that document. In Article IV, Section 4 of that Constitution, every state is guaranteed a republican form of government. Any "laws", rules, regulations, codes and policies which conflict with, contradict, oppose and violate the national and state Constitutions are null and void, *ab initio*. It is a fact that your oaths require you to support the national and state Constitutions and the rights of the people secured therein.

All lawyers and public employees are required to abide by their oaths in the performance of their official duties. No public officer, including you, has the constitutional authority to oppose, deny, defy, violate and disparage the very documents to which he or she swore or affirmed his or her oath. All actions by public officers conducted in the performance of their official duties either support the national and state Constitutions, or deny them.

In order for America to survive as a Constitutional Republic, it is imperative that all aspects of government, including you, all members of the Board of Supervisors and other El Dorado County public officers, abide by all Constitutional requirements while conducting your official duties. When you and other public officers violate the Constitutions, at will, as an apparent custom, practice and policy of office, you and they subvert the authority, mandates and protection of the Constitutions, thereby act as domestic enemies to these Republics and their people. When large numbers of public officers so act, this reduces America, California and the County of El Dorado to the status of frauds operating for the benefit of governments and their corporate allies, and not for the people they theoretically serve.

You swore an oath to uphold and support the Constitution of the United States of America, and pursuant to your oath, you are required to abide by that oath in the performance of your official duties. You have no Constitutional or other valid authority to defy the Constitution, to which you owe your LIMITED authority, delegated to you by and through the People, and to which you swore your oath.

I am a retired senior citizen, active in local government, and a member of the Taxpayers Association since 2008. It is significant that the Association has a sordid history of either rejecting or holding my timely membership checks for several months thus depriving me of voting privileges. Note there are only two requirements to become a General member of the Association and which I fully qualify:

- 1) Any person shall be eligible for membership who is interested in the objectives of the Taxpayers Association, and
- 2) A General Member is one who is listed on the assessment rolls of El Dorado County as an owner of real property and such member shall have one vote at the annual board membership elections meeting.

The EDC Taxpayers Association sets forth a mission statement with some lofty sounding values and visions, many of which have been and are being contradicted and violated by the actions of the Association itself. In statements attributed to you personally, Al Hamilton, you have espoused your support for this mission. I could go into many of these contradictions, but in the interest of brevity, a few will suffice, for now.

The association's name, itself, is misleading: *Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County*, which connotes an organization that actually protects the taxpayers and prevents harm or destruction of the taxpayers. It is a well-known fact that I have been lawfully audio recording all meetings for many years. Yet, by your actions committed repeatedly on several occasions since you took office in 2013 as President and self-proclaimed "dictator" of the Association (January 7 & 13, 2013), you have verbally attacked, slandered, libeled, harassed and discriminated against me and other women attending Taxpayers meetings.

Most recently on November 7, 2016 when Tax Assessor Karl Weiland was speaker, you approached me, and in the presence of three witnesses verbally threaten to "destroy" my "political influence in El Dorado County." Additionally you threatened to call the Sheriff and have me "removed from the building" for lawfully audio recording speakers, many of whom are public officials and/or members of the Taxpayers Association. When I reached into my purse to retrieve my audio recorder you abruptly backed away, turned and left the room. Witnesses have expressed their willingness, if necessary, to provide testimony of your public threats and intimidation tactics against a law abiding senior citizen and member of the Taxpayers Association.

On November 14, 2016 you again made a point to create a scene in the presence of speaker District Attorney Vern Pierson, Auditor Joe Harn, Supervisor Ranalli and Supervisor Frentzen concerning my audio recording of meetings.

Your derogatory comments were repeated once again on November 28th as I entered the room when Congressman Tom McClintock was the guest speaker.

It is a First Amendment right of every citizen to audio record public officials regardless of whether or not they consent to be recorded:

- The Ninth Circuit U.S. Courts of Appeals have recognized the First Amendment right to record the police and/or other public officials. The First Amendment protects the right to record audio and video regardless of whether the police/officials consent. This constitutional right would override any state or federal laws that would otherwise prohibit such recording. The rationale is public officials need to be held accountable for their actions."
- "[A] citizen's right to film government officials, including law enforcement officers, in the discharge of their duties in a public space is a basic, vital, and well-established liberty safeguarded by the First Amendment."
- "Gathering information about government officials in a form that can readily be disseminated to others serves a cardinal First Amendment interest in protecting and promoting the free discussion of governmental affairs."

It appeared to be yet another act of retaliation when you influenced Bernard Carlson to reject my check #5603 in payment of 2017 membership dues which had been accepted by Treasurer Ray Kringle on 11/14/16.

Once again I was discriminated against after the 11/28/16 meeting adjourned when Treasurer Ray Kringle refused to accept my cash payment of 2017 membership dues audibly stating, "I won't accept it. Go over and try giving it to Al Hamilton." Director Dave Smythe chimed in, "WE don't want you here."

The following are just a few examples of perpetual abuses of your authority and Constitutional Oath of Office:

BY-LAWS

I. NAME AND RECITALS...

3. The organization shall maintain a written Non-Discrimination Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, Records Retention and Destruction Policy and Whistle Blower Policy.

4. The organization shall strive to operate in a manner consistent with non-profit best practices and shall maintain all records required to be made available for public inspection.

You ignored written correspondence addressing your aberrant behavior on multiple occasions (1/28/13, 6/24/13, 8/26/13, 12/15/13, 1/20/14 and 2/3/14). I also requested copies of Taxpayer Association policies, procedures and records of minutes which were also ignored. It is equally disturbing to learn that you unethically collaborated with Secretary Bernard Carlson to deprive me of the same membership benefits afforded to all other Association members, thus violating the following By Laws, Policies and Procedures:

- Member Ethics
- Discrimination
- Retaliation
- Reporting Responsibility
- Whistleblowers
- Mid-term Director Replacement
- Retention of Important Documents

II. OBJECT A. The object of the Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County is the creation and maintenance of a forum within which to study the issues of government and the problems of those who are governed. This shall occur through an ongoing weekly discourse that will be open to members of the Association, the public, and those who govern. These discussions shall be directed by the Association in an effort to educate all taxpayers as to the current issues, how they may be affected, how to reveal and understand the true costs of government, and to encourage awareness of individual responsibility. The

Association shall monitor and be involved in the process of governance to help insure that the blessings of freedom shall be forever perpetuated.

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS... 2. ...Directors shall refrain from any self-dealing or the appearance of self-dealing. Directors shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the goals and objectives of the organization as set forth in the formation documents, operating policies and with all applicable law.

VI. MEETINGS...3. The Secretary shall cause to be created a contemporaneous record of the general meetings and of all Board business conducted and action taken.

VII. COMMITTEES A. From time to time committees may be formed by the Board to perform special assignments on behalf of the Association ...2. Committees shall be comprised of eligible persons and shall keep minutes of their meetings.

VIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY A. For all meetings at which the business of the organization is conducted or other relevant organizational applications, the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern in all cases to which they pertain provided they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

On January 23, 2013 @ 9:06 AM the following libelous email was broadly distributed by you, Al Hamilton, to Association members and county employees including Tax Assessor Karl Weiland:

"The outburst I caused by denying Melody Lane the opportunity to read her prerecorded expose of the County shortfalls with respect to the American River and her property in Coloma was my effort to draw a line in the sand beyond which our members and guests may not cross.

The Taxpayers is not a forum for every misguided person the castigate our speakers for problems the speaker has no control over or even an interested in. It is a forum to investigate and report to the taxpayers of our County issues that are of great importance to us. The Melody Lane's of this county cause road blocks to our goals and provide no service or value to our cause. Actually she has made so much noise that she is being ignored by all. This has been pointed out to her in writing in the past to no avail.

Her approach should be to hire a competent attorney and sue the people that she thinks are abusing her. And from what I understand she has tried this approach and lost at least in front of Pat Reiley, Judge. I look for advice on how to solve this time wasting problem. Thanks, al"

During the January 28, 2013 meeting of the Association, you publicly announced, "I threw Roberts Rules of Order into the bottom of my drawer. I'm running this meeting now."

My questions are usually prepared in writing ahead of time and geared specifically to the topics being addressed by the guest speakers. As you well know, I displayed no errant behavior and harmed no one by my actions; yet you made unwarranted, unlawful assumptions or presumptions, not based on any fact, law or evidence, that my orderly questions created a "disturbance."

On several occasions you've deprived me of my right to address public officials based upon your unwarranted presumptions. One such incident took place when I began to ask ACAO Kim Kerr a question and you interrupted me mid-sentence thus prohibiting me from addressing a public official. Multiple indignant protests erupted from the audience, "Let her speak! What's her question?" When I stood up from my chair to exercise my right to address Ms. Kerr you abruptly adjourned only 20 minutes into the meeting. Immediately afterwards you called an "emergency" meeting of Taxpayer Directors.

In so doing your actions violated **IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 5.** "Special Board meetings may be called by the President or Secretary upon five (5) days receipt of individual written, electronic or verbal notice." You had no authority whatsoever to make assumptions or presumptions about me or any other person in attendance.

Anytime public officers, pursuant to their oaths, violate Rights guaranteed to Citizens in the Constitutions, they act outside their limited delegated authority, thus, perjure their oaths, and by their own actions, invoke the self-executing Sections 3 and 4 of the 14th Amendment; thereby vacate their offices and forfeit all benefits thereof, including salaries and pensions, as you did.

Pursuant to the referenced constitutional mandates imposed upon you and other public officers, due process of law and unenumerated rights guaranteed in the 9th Amendment to the national Constitution and in **Article I, Section 24 of the California Constitution**, any and all American and California Citizens can expect that you and other public officers will

- (1) uphold their oaths in the performance of their official duties and never violate them;
- (2) uphold all constitutional and due process mandates, and never violate them;
- (3) uphold all rights guaranteed to Citizens and never violate them.

Your discriminating, threatening, harassing and libelous actions pose harm to the people of El Dorado County, particularly women and senior citizens, clearly demonstrating that you have not abided by your oaths. This indicates that when you took your oath you may have committed fraud, because your actions have consistently violated your oath, which demonstrates that you have consistently defrauded the people of El Dorado County. As stated above, actions by a public officer (i.e. lawyer) either uphold the Constitutions and rights secured therein, or oppose them.

Increasing numbers of people in America and California are demanding that government employees specifically perform pursuant to the constitutional mandates contained within their oaths, thereby uphold and protect the rights of the people, as opposed to upholding and promoting the profits of a rapacious, destructive association that perniciously violates the rights of the people as its apparent routine custom, practice and policy.

Whenever constitutional violations are committed by public officers, there are constitutional remedies available to the people. Such remedies make those who violate their oaths, such as you, accountable and liable for their unconstitutional actions conducted in perjury of their oaths. When public officers take oaths, yet are ignorant of the constitutional positions to which they are bound by their oaths, and then fail to abide by them in the performance of their official duties, this suggests that they may have had no intention of ever honoring their oaths, and their signatures upon the oath documents constitute fraud. Fraud vitiates any action.

When the Constitutions are not rigorously obeyed by public officers, there is no lawful, legitimate government in place, and actions conducted by those operating the machinery of an illegitimate government are null and void, without lawful force or effect upon the people. No one is required to obey an unconstitutional order, statute, regulation, rule, code or policy, especially issued by unconstitutional domestic enemies.

By stepping outside of your delegated authority you lost any "perceived immunity" of your office and you can be sued for your wrongdoing against me, personally, privately, individually and in your professional capacity, including your supervisors, anyone having oversight responsibility for you, and including any judges or prosecuting attorneys and public officers for that jurisdiction, if, once they are notified of your wrongdoing, they fail to take lawful actions to correct it, pursuant to their oaths and their duties, thereto.

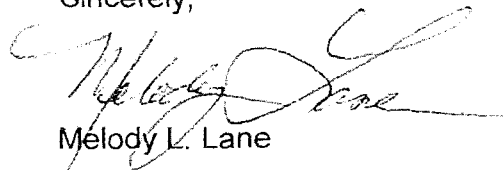
If they fail to act and correct the matter, then they condone, aid and abet your criminal actions, and further, collude and conspire to deprive me and other Citizens of their Rights guaranteed in the Constitutions, as a custom, practice and usual business operation of their office and the jurisdiction for which they work. This constitutes treason by the entire jurisdiction against me, and based upon the actions taken and what exists on the public record, it is impossible for any public officer to defend himself against treason committed. Be assured that I will claim and protect my Constitutionally guaranteed Rights which you have unlawfully, and without Constitutional authority, denied.

This letter requires your written rebuttal to me, specific to each claim, statement and averment made herein, within 30 days of the date of this letter, using fact, valid law and evidence to support your rebuttal.

You are hereby noticed that your failure to respond within 30 days as stipulated, and rebut with particularity everything in this letter with which you disagree is your lawful, legal and binding agreement with and admission to the fact that everything in this letter is true, correct, legal, lawful and binding upon you, in any court, anywhere in America, without your protest or objection or that of those who represent you. Your silence is your acquiescence. See:

Connally v. General Construction Co., 269 U.S. 385, 391. Notification of legal responsibility is "the first essential of due process of law." Also, see: *U.S. v. Tweel*, 550 F. 2d. 297. "Silence can only be equated with fraud where there is a legal or moral duty to speak or where an inquiry left unanswered would be intentionally misleading."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melody Lane", written over a horizontal line.

Melody L. Lane

CC: Board of Supervisors - Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
District Attorney Vern Pierson
California State Bar Association
CA Franchise Tax Board