



M. Lane Open Forum  
**Compass2Truth**

BO's 6/25/2019

*Citizens for Constitutional Liberty*

P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613

June 24, 2019

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Districts #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5  
EDC Clerk to the Board  
CAO Don Ashton

## CA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST

On August 17, 2018 Don Ashton distributed an email that unlawfully restricted my email access to unidentified EDC staff. His email and my subsequent August 21, 2018 response are attached to this CPRA.

On at least two occasions in March and April of this year I verbally requested that Lori Parlin's admin, Shelley Wiley, provide me specific information in writing identifying ALL county staff that Don Ashton has prohibited me from communicating with electronically. When she failed to respond it became necessary on June 24<sup>th</sup> at approximately 4:10 PM to again verbally ask Shelly to provide me with the information previously requested in writing which is now being formalized as a CPRA.

Pursuant to my rights under the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.), I ask to obtain copies of all correspondence to/from CAO Don Ashton identifying **all EDC personnel and county committee or commission members** with whom he has unlawfully denied me the ability to **directly** communicate with electronically since January 2018 to the present.

**The agency must justify the withholding of any record** by demonstrating that the record is exempt or that the public interest in confidentiality outweighs the public interest in disclosure. (§6255) **If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, I ask that you provide a signed notification citing the specific legal authorities on whom you rely.**

To avoid unnecessary delays or costs of duplication, electronic responses and/or pdf copies of documents are acceptable and may be emailed to [melody.lane@reagan.com](mailto:melody.lane@reagan.com). **Access is always free.** Fees for "inspection" or "processing" are prohibited. (§ 6253)

It is requested that your determination be made within **10 days--or sooner--**as stipulated within the California Public Records Act, **Government Code 6253(c)**.

Thank you for your compliance and timely response.

Sincerely,

*Melody Lane*

**Founder – Compass2Truth**

## Melody Lane

---

**From:** Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 7:44 AM  
**To:** 'Donald Ashton'  
**Cc:** edc.cob@edcgov.us; Jim Mitrisin; Michael Ranalli; sue.novasel@edcgov.us; brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us; john.hidahl@edcgov.us; shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us; Vern R. Pierson; kris.payne@edcgov.us; steve.yonker@edcgov.us; josh.morgan@edcgov.us; charles.callahan@edcgov.us; john.arenz@edcgov.us; jvegna@edcgov.us; gary.miller@edcgov.us; jeff.hansen@edcgov.us; James Williams; brian.shinault@edcgov.us; Roger Trout; William (Bill) Schultz; Al Hamilton; bosfive@edcgov.us; bosfour@edcgov.us; bosone@edcgov.us; bosthree@edcgov.us; bostwo@edcgov.us  
**Subject:** Restricted email access  
**Attachments:** BOS CAO restricted email 8-21-18.doc

Mr. Ashton et al,

The First Amendment says what it means and means what it says. For you to even attempt to threaten to restrict, limit or forbid my rights of free speech and expression clearly indicates that you oppose the Constitutions, act in perjury of your oaths, and fear what I write. Your false attempt to chastise me for having the temerity to air out the dirty laundry, fraud and cronyism typifies the corrupt operations of EDC government.

Ensure the entirety of this correspondence is forwarded to Sheriff D'Agostini and all associated personnel who have proven they are domestic enemy traitors operating the unconstitutional machinery of EDC to the detriment of the people you all theoretically serve.

*"You need a new Board [of Supervisors.] All of them. Hold their feet to the fire. Mine too; I work for you."*  
~ Sheriff John D'Agostini, August 2011 ~

*Melody Lane*

**Founder – Compass2Truth**

As history teaches us, if the people have little or no knowledge of the basics of government and their rights, those who wield governmental power inevitably wield it excessively. After all, a citizenry can only hold its government accountable if it knows when the government oversteps its bounds.



# Compass2Truth

*Citizens for Constitutional Liberty*

P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613

August 21, 2018

To: CAO Don Ashton

CC: EDC Board of Supervisors Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5  
Sheriff John D'Agostini  
District Attorney Vern Pierson

On August 17, 2018 at 3:45 PM Don Ashton sent an email indicating that effective immediately, my email has been restricted by the county. (See attached)

The solution is as follows:

- (1) Respond in kind to the claims and charges made in my previously sent letters and affidavits;
- (2) Rebut all of my claims and charges with which you disagree and support your rebuttal in truth, fact, valid law, evidence and constitutional positions;
- (3) Your failure to do so, pursuant to your oath, and your obligation thereunder to uphold the constitutional mandates imposed upon you, including all aspects of due process of law, indicates that you operate an unlawful, unconstitutional machinery of government in which enormous crimes and unconstitutional acts are committed as an unwritten custom, practice and policy of the EDC government.

I have spent a great deal of time in considering your language in response to my communications to EDC government, but you have failed to address in kind any of my concerns. This indicates open fraud deliberately committed by EDC government.

Some observations on Mr. Ashton's alleged wording:

There is nothing "effective and efficient" regarding communications from EDC to me, because EDC does not directly respond in kind to my claims and charges made in my communications to public officers in EDC. If there was anything effective and efficient in communications from EDC to me, then EDC would try to resolve the issue by responding in kind, which would be effective and efficient. Therefore, you have deliberately lied regarding this matter.

Your email refers to "indiscriminate use by the general public", which falsely implies that my communications to EDC are random, lacking careful judgment, because this is what "indiscriminate" means. Your implication is false, insulting and absurd, since my communications are based in truth, fact, valid law, evidence and constitutional positions, all of which render my communications to EDC valid, constitutionally protected and worthy of due consideration from all those to whom they are sent.

Your assertion that the EDC email system is "non-public" is absurd, since anything that is of EDC is by its very nature of the public. EDC has no lawful authority to exclude the public from that which is public and anyone in EDC who does so acts in perjury of oath and in utter contempt of the Citizens of EDC for whom all of you

purportedly work and by whose tax dollars you are all paid.

Your assertion that EDC has the right to place restrictions on what is said even in a public forum is incorrect, pursuant to the First Amendment, which you cite. However, it is obvious that you have no real comprehension of the actual meaning of this Amendment, of the inherent, unalienable, unlimited rights of the Citizens it recognizes and upholds, nor of the mandates it imposes upon all forms of government, including EDC and all EDC officers and employees. **The First Amendment says what it means and means what it says. It guarantees the freedom of the people to say and express their thoughts and to bring their grievances to their government(s) for proper redress.** There can be no lawful limitation on the rights of the people and the First Amendment makes this very clear and demonstrates the error of your assumptions and assertions.

You said that I am now restricted from writing emails to certain EDC staff. However, you have not specified who these staff members are and, further, you have no lawful constitutional authority to restrict, limit or forbid my rights of free speech and expression, my communications to government for redress of grievances or for any other purpose, in any way whatsoever. For you to even attempt to do so clearly indicates that you oppose the Constitutions, act in perjury of your oath and fear what I write. Further, as stated, you are incorrect when you say that I send my viewpoints and opinions, because I write the truth and the facts and none of you have ever rebutted any of my claims and charges and lawfully supported a rebuttal. What you and the others in EDC are doing reminds me of something out of Shakespeare: "It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

Your reference to "unnecessary drains upon the public resources", implying that the emails I sent to EDC personnel is a cause of these "unnecessary drains..." because the personnel have to open and read them is ridiculous to the point of abject comedy! It is patently clear to anyone with a modicum of common sense and even limited powers of observation that your false implication is merely a **transparent attempt to chastise me for having the temerity to out the dirty laundry and the ongoing fraud and cronyism that typifies the operations of EDC government.**

As stated above, this can all be resolved very quickly by the public officers to whom I have written by responding in kind and rebutting my claims and charges, with rebuttals based in truth, fact, valid law, evidence and constitutional authority.

However, Don, both you and I know that this will never happen, because they **cannot** rebut and support the rebuttal under the lawful conditions that I have stated. Therefore, your condescending, nonsensical, absurd, distracting, idiotic communication to me is nothing but an attempt at cover up, a fraud, committed on the public record by you and the other domestic enemy traitors operating the unconstitutional machinery of governance in EDC to the detriment of the people you all theoretically serve.

***Why don't you and the rest of them stand up and grow a pair, or do you intend to hide behind distraction and nonsense forever?***

Sincerely,

*Melody Lane*

Melody Lane  
Founder – **Compass2Truth**

Attachment – Ashton email sent 8/17/18 @ 3:45 PM

**From:** Donald Ashton [mailto:don.ashton@edcgov.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 17, 2018 3:45 PM  
**To:** Melody Lane

**Cc:** AD-Department-Heads-m; The BOSONE; The BOSTWO; The BOSTHREE; The BOSFOUR; The BOSFIVE

**Subject:** Email Access

Good afternoon Ms. Lane,

Over the last few months, you have sent numerous emails, sometimes including lengthy email chains and/or attachments along with your communication. These emails have included in their distribution numerous staff members in addition to Department Heads, my office, the offices of the Board of Supervisors and their assistants.

The County's email system is designed to make County operations more effective and efficient. In furtherance of that objective the County has a practice of limiting certain types of email traffic. The County has never by policy or practice opened its email system for indiscriminate use by the general public.

The County takes seriously its obligation to provide the constituents of the County with access to their local government, however, the County's email system is not a traditional public forum nor has the County designated it as such. As a nonpublic forum, the County can impose reasonable regulations on the use of its email system. In fact, even where a public forum is involved, the law allows reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions upon the use of that public forum. As has been noted "Freedom of expression does not mean that everyone with opinions or beliefs to express may do so at any time and place..." It has also been recognized that the government and the taxpayers it serves have a substantial interest in avoiding unnecessary drains upon the public resources. By sending these lengthy emails with extensive attachments to numerous County employees and officials, public resources are diverted from other important tasks when those employees and officials must open and review the email and attachments.

This is to let you know that effective immediately the County is restricting your ability to email County staff. In order to ensure you continue to have access to your local government, you will still be permitted to email all Board of Supervisors members, their assistants, County Department Heads as well as [edc.cob@edcgov.us](mailto:edc.cob@edcgov.us) and [planning@edcgov.us](mailto:planning@edcgov.us). You remain free to express any opinions, requests, or other comments in your emails as the County has no interest in restricting your ability express your viewpoint on matters of County governance.

We appreciate your interest in the operation of your local government and trust you understand that we share your desire to ensure that the County operates effectively and efficiently for all of the citizens of the County.

**WARNING:** This email and any attachments may contain private, confidential, and privileged material for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any unauthorized review, copying, or distribution of this email (or any attachments) by other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender immediately and permanently delete the original and any copies of this email and any attachments.