

Kim Dawson

From: melody.lane@reagan.com
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 8:44 AM
To: Kim Dawson; BOS-Clerk of the Board; David A Livingston; Sue Phillips
Cc: Brooke Laine; George Turnboo; Lori Parlin; Greg P. Ferrero; Brian K. Veerkamp; James Clinchard; vern.
Subject: 1/27/26 BOS Public Comments Items #9 and #21

Importance: High

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Apparently this email didn't go thorough on Tuesday...

Although I unmuted during Consent this morning, apparently you still couldn't hear me and I was cut off before the issue could be resolved. Therefore, please ensure the entirety of my below comments are entered into the public record under Items #9 and #21.

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I am addressing items #9 and #21 concerning David Livingston's reappointment as County Counsel for another 4 years, and his failure to abide by his oaths of office or respond to PRAs, particularly that involving former CAO Don Ashton's consulting services pertaining to agenda item #9, CAO Employment. The PRA #8105-071725 is referenced below.

When public officers take oaths, yet are ignorant of the constitutional positions and mandates to which they are bound by those oaths, then fail to abide by those positions and mandates in the performance of their official duties, as you all have failed, this suggests that the public officers may have had no intention of ever honoring their oaths, and their signatures upon the oath documents constitute fraud. Fraud vitiates any action. Any deceptive, obstructive enterprise undertaken by any public official, such as you, that tends to weaken public confidence and undermines the sense of security for individual rights, is against public policy and against the Supreme Law of the land and any other laws which comply with the national Constitution.

By not responding to my correspondence or public inquiries, the oath taker denies the Citizen remedy, thus, denies the Citizen constitutional due process of law, as stated within the Bill of Rights. There is no legitimate argument to support the claim that oath takers, such as you, are not required to respond to correspondence or other public inquiries, which, in this case, act as petitions for redress of grievances, stating complaints, charges and claims made against them by Citizens injured by their actions. All American Citizens can expect, and have the Right and duty to demand, that you and other government officers uphold their oaths to the Constitution(s) and abide by all constitutionally imposed mandates of their oaths.

By conspiring with David Livingston, such as the BOS has done, to deprive me of public services and the ability to petition government for redress of grievances, further demonstrates a flagrant violation of your Oaths.

You egregiously deprived me of honest public services and my rights to due process secured in the First Amendment to seek redress of grievances.

In so doing, you stepped outside of your *limited delegated authority* and acted as renegades, thus, you cannot be lawfully protected by the jurisdiction for which you work. Should that jurisdiction do so, **then that jurisdiction acts in direct violation and opposition to the state and national Constitutions, by unlawfully ignoring and/or condoning and exonerating unconstitutional, unlawful actions committed by its staff members**, as the ordinary, usual, routine unlawful custom, practice and unwritten policy of that jurisdiction. If the jurisdiction so acts and protects you, **then the jurisdiction admits that it is a criminal, treasonous body, acting in sedition and insurrection to the Constitutions and to the people. Refer to USGC Title 18, Sections 241 and 242.**

#

Melody Lane – Founder Compass2Truth
noncompliant

11/18/25 OF Ashton PRA

On July 17th I submitted a PRA requesting signed copies of all contracts or consulting service agreements between EDC and former CAO Don Ashton. On July 24th I received an anonymous response, **presumably from County Counsel**, stating that no responsive documents exist.

However, he stated that Don Ashton is an affiliated consultant for MRG, LLC, which the County has a contract for other work. The El Dorado Hills CSD also has a contract with MRG where Mr. Ashton has provided consulting services. Although a copy of the MRG contract was offered to me, the subsequent email failed to attach the contract. Additionally, the county considered the matter closed.

I responded, **"There was no attachment to this email. As previously requested, please email the document directly to my email address...An explanation is in order as to why the original content of this PRA thread is missing, and why does the County consider the PRA "matter closed"? Typically, that is a pretty good indicator that the County has something to hide. In fact, about two weeks ago I spotted Don Ashton at a local eatery with Supervisors George Turnboo and Lori Parlin. It didn't appear they were discussing the weather for 2.5 hours."**

There is still no county response to my PRA. In fact, it is evident counsel is continuing the trend in **lawfare** to avoid transparency and accountability.

You'll recall in 2022 Joe Harn was ordered by the Superior court to cut a check for \$115,000 for attorney fees, **at the expense of taxpayers**, following the lawsuit Dean Getz filed seeking emails between the county and Parker Development. The Mountain Democrat reported, "*David Livingston insisted that Getz' request is a rare exception. In fact, of the thousands of Public Records Act requests the county received over the past 10 years, this is the only request that has led to litigation.*"

Dean Getz concluded, "*It's unbelievable that the county has continued to play this game...It seems like they're more interested in delaying the production of whatever those emails uncover, and it doesn't really matter what it costs because it's not their money.*"

In another example of Bureaucratic Shenanigans, District Attorney James Clinchard had the audacity to email me, "*We have responded to your PRA and no further response is forthcoming. Feel free to exercise your "right to prosecute for violation of PRA laws.*"

The point is, the county is not above the law, nor should it be necessary for constituents to resort to lawsuits just to obtain documents that government is required to produce. Mr. Livingston, your public response, please. (NO RESPONSE FROM LIVINGSTON.)

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7/17/25:

Pursuant to my rights under the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.), I ask to obtain **via email** the following documents:

1. Signed copies of any/all contracts or consulting service agreements that exist between former CAO Don Ashton and El Dorado County from January 1, 2023 to the present date of this PRA.

To avoid unnecessary delays or costs of duplication, electronic copies are acceptable and may be emailed directly to melody.lane@reagan.com in **pdf format**.

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7/24/25:

Good morning, Melody,

No responsive documents exist. Please note that Mr. Ashton is an 'affiliated consultant' for MRG, LLC, with which the County has a contract for other work. However, Mr. Ashton has not performed any work

for the County through MRG, LLC to date. Please let me know if you would like to receive a copy of the contract between the County and MRG, LLC.

We are aware that Mr. Ashton has consulted with El Dorado Hills Community Services District which is a separate entity from the County of El Dorado. In the event you would like to contact them, we have provided their contact information below.

www.edhcsd.org

El Dorado Hills Community Services District

1021 Harvard Way, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

(916) 933-6624

The County considers this matter closed.

Thank you.

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7/24/25 Melody responded:

Thank you for your response.

Yes, please do send me a digital copy of the MRG, LLC contract with the County by emailing it directly to melody.lane@reagan.com.

However, an explanation is in order as to why the original content of this PRA thread submitted on 7/17/25 is missing, and why does the County consider the PRA “matter closed”? **Typically, that is a pretty good indicator that the County has something to hide. In fact, about two weeks ago I spotted Don Ashton at a local eatery with Supervisors George Turnboo and Lori Parlin. It didn’t appear they were discussing the weather for 2.5 hours.**

Compliance with FOIA laws and Good Governance equates to total government transparency with the public.

Lastly, I would also appreciate it if the sender of this response would appropriately identify themselves by **name and title**.

Melody Lane
Founder - Compass2Truth

"You must remember that some things legally right are not morally right." ~ Abraham Lincoln ~

