Melody Lane – Founder Compass2Truth

Lanc Open torun 1-5-16 - OF - FSC/EDSO Oaths of Office CPRA/Ethics

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While working for City of Sacramento I was responsible for tracking the Conflicts of Interest for the City Managers which involved extensive training and interface with the legal department. Those who make decisions on the public's behalf are stewards of the public's trust in their governing institutions based upon public service values: Trustworthiness, Fairness, Responsibility, Respect, Compassion and Loyalty.

The law is aimed at the perception, as well as the reality, that a public official's personal interests may influence a decision. Even the temptation to act in one's own interest could lead to disgualification, or worse. When a disgualified official participates in a decision, it can also void the decision.

Under the Political Reform Act, the official must not attempt to influence the decision in any way. This includes:

- Talking with colleagues or staff about the matter. (We witness this all the time)
- Refrain from discussing or voting on the matter. Ask for the item to be considered separately if it is on the Consent calendar. (This Board has a penchant for denying this basic right to address the people's business as required by the Brown Act)
- CA law also says public officials cannot retaliate against those who whistle-blow. (Sadly retaliation and retribution is the EDC modus operandi)
- In addition to state law, federal anticorruption law broadly guarantees the public "honest services" from public officials. Depriving the public of honest services is a federal crime.

Because of the breadth of federal anticorruption law, avoid any temptation to walk closely to the line that divides legal from illegal conduct. Even though a course of action may be lawful under state law, it may not be lawful under federal law. Ethics laws constitute minimum standards for officials' conduct. Ethics laws are a floor for conduct, not a ceiling.

Therefore the BOS has a responsibility to quickly, decisively, and proactively address potential ethics scandals. In other words, it requires "moral courage" to do the right thing and "walk the talk"... even if it is contrary to Counsel's practice of questionable legal advice.

Case in point are two CL News dialogs initiated by former RMAC Chairman Martin Harris to "Good Supervisor Ranalli" referencing the movie "Rainmaker" based on John

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Grisham's novel starring Matt Damon and Danny Divito. Anyone familiar with the terminology "rainmaker" will understand Martin Harris' implied application described in Larry Weitzman's *Balancing Act: Extortions Under Color of Law* published in the 10/15/15 edition of the Mtn. Democrat.

The reason the Weitzman article and CLNews email dialog is being submitted as evidence into the public record is Martin Harris and the person nicknamed "Big Bird" have been under investigation by the Sheriff's Department and CA State Parks relevant to case files EG15-5698 and EG15-5793. Supervisor Ranalli is complicit in both these investigations involving River Mafia Politics. Sheriff D'Agostini, County Counsel and District Attorney Vern Pierson also have failed to respond appropriately to related matters as required by law and their Constitutional Oaths of Office.

Time does not permit me to provide details. Therefore I'm reminding Supervisor Ranalli one last time of his duty to schedule an appointment for us to openly address these issues before they become another public scandal at taxpayer expense. Mike, your response, please.

<u>Madam Clerk</u>: Please enter these documents into the public record and note you have 10 days to respond to the CPRA requesting 20 Oaths of Office for EDSO personnel:

- 1. This transcript
- 2. 10/5/15 Rainmaker Ranalli CLNews dialog
- 3. 10/5/15 Weitzman Balancing Act: Extortion Under the Color of Law
- 4. 10/1/15 CLNews Good Mr. Ranalli dialog
- 5. CPRA EDSO Oaths of Office (20)

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From: clnews@googlegroups.com [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com] On Behalf Of Melody Lane
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 7:35 PM
To: ggilmores@yahoo.com; harrishouse5609@gmail.com
Cc: clnews@googlegroups.com
Subject: RE: [CLNews] Excellent job by Supervisor Rain Maker Ranalli on pirate trash!

Hello Bird, feathered friends, and supporters of our rural life-style,

I didn't miss a thing, including the sarcasm and hypocrisy in your reply. The truth is all these legal rain dances are costing taxpayers big \$\$\$...

Anyone following this thread is cognizant of other definitions of Rainmaker you mentioned. I purposely focused on its application as described in *Extortions Under Color of Law* published in today's Mtn. Democrat. (attached) This was also the topic of today's speaker during the EDC Taxpayers Association meeting.

Another "rainmaker" definition you alluded to will be addressed during tomorrow's BOS meeting, Item #14 @ 2 PM, Tribal Gas Station project: <u>https://eldorado.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx</u>

Early Birds won't want to miss the opportunity to learn more about the Miwok Rainmakers during the October 26th EDC Taxpayers Association meeting held at Denny's Restaurant on Fair Lane @ 7:30 AM, topic: "*Concerns about Red Hawk Casino operation*."

Hope to see ya'll there!

Melody Lane Founder – Compass2Truth

When the defense of liberty becomes a crime, tyranny is already in force. At that point, failure to defend liberty makes slavery a certainty.

From: clnews@googlegroups.com [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 5:59 AM
To: melody.lane@reagan.com; harrishouse5609@gmail.com
Cc: clnews@googlegroups.com
Subject: Re: [CLNews] Excellent job by Supervisor Rain Maker Ranalli on pirate trash!

Good Morning Melody,

I saw your post. Your quote about speaking the truth rang true to me, yet you most likely forgot the rest of the definitions.

"The further society drifts from truth, the more they will hate those who speak it." ~ George Orwell ~

I know you will not hate me for speaking the whole truth as i would not want to be labeled a hypocrite. To be fair and balanced there are 32 just at onelook.com alone.

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Least we forget : **noun:** American indian medicine man who attempt to make it rain

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Rainmaker (1956 film)

film tells the story of a middle-aged woman, suffering from unrequited love for the local town sheriff; however, she falls for a con man who comes to town with the promise that he can make it rain.

In this particular instance I would be acting as a rainmaker, in pointing out all other definitions below, with out this one of me from urban dictionary, sorry. http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=rainmaker&defid=6806767

I like words and old Movies. Happy Monday y'all - bird

Definitions of RainMaker - OneLook Dictionary Search

Definitions of RainMaker - OneLook Dictionary Search Quick definitions from WordNet (rainmaker) > noun: American indian

whether the strength of the s

We found 32 dictionaries with English definitions that include the word rainmaker: Click on the first link on a line below to go directly to a page where "rainmaker" is defined.

General (20 matching dictionaries)

- 1. rainmaker: Oxford Dictionaries [home, info]
- 2. rainmaker: American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language [home, info]
- 3. rainmaker: Collins English Dictionary [home, info]
- 4. rainmaker: Vocabulary.com [home, info]
- 5. rainmaker: Macmillan Dictionary [home, info]
- 6. rainmaker: Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary, 11th Edition [home, info]
- 7. Rainmaker, rainmaker: Wordnik [home, info]
- 8. rainmaker: Wiktionary [home, info]
- 9. rainmaker: Webster's New World College Dictionary, 4th Ed. [home, info]
- 10. <u>rainmaker</u>: The Wordsmyth English Dictionary-Thesaurus [home, info]
- 11. <u>rainmaker</u>: Infoplease Dictionary [home, info]
- 12. rainmaker: Dictionary.com [home, info]
- <u>Rainmaker (Album), Rainmaker (Keb' Mo'), Rainmaker (Wildstorm), Rainmaker</u> (album), Rainmaker (business), Rainmaker (song), Rainmaker, The Rainmaker (album), The Rainmaker (film), The Rainmaker (novel), The Rainmaker (play), The Rainmaker: Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia [home, info]

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- 14. <u>rainmaker</u>: Rhymezone [home, info]
- 15. rainmaker: Free Dictionary [home, info]
- 16. rainmaker: Mnemonic Dictionary [home, info]
- 17. rainmaker: LookWAYup Translating Dictionary/Thesaurus [home, info]
- 18. <u>rainmaker</u>: Dictionary/thesaurus [home, info]

- 19. <u>Rainmaker</u>: MoneyGlossary.com [home, info]
- 20. rainmaker: Everybody's Legal Dictionary [home, info]
- 21. rainmaker: INVESTORWORDS [home, info]
- 22. <u>rainmaker</u>: Glossary of Legal Terms [home, info]
- 23. <u>Rainmaker</u>: Bloomberg Financial Glossary [home, info]
- 24. <u>Rainmaker</u>: Investopedia [home, info]
- 25. <u>Rainmaker (disambiguation)</u>, <u>The Rainmaker</u>, <u>rainmaker</u>: Legal dictionary [home, info]
- 26. <u>Rainmaker (disambiguation)</u>, <u>The Rainmaker</u>, <u>rainmaker</u>: Financial dictionary [home, info]

Miscellaneous (1 matching dictionary)

27. rainmaker: A Word A Day [home, info]

Slang (1 matching dictionary)

28. <u>The Rainmaker</u>, rainmaker: Urban Dictionary [home, info]

Sports (1 matching dictionary)

29. Rainmaker: 2060 Shadow-Slang [home, info]

Tech (1 matching dictionary)

30. RAINMAKER: Lake and Water Word Glossary [home, info]

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415-497-2660

510 - B1G - B1RD (510) 214-2173

https://www.google.com/voice

On Sunday, October 4, 2015 7:58 PM, Melody Lane <<u>melody.lane@reagan.com</u>> wrote:

Rainmaker: 1995 novel by John Grisham depicting the legal system and its ability to be manipulated for personal gain; rainmaker - noun

A powerful and successful representative or agent, esp for a law firm : to a six-figure "rainmaker" generating fees for one of the most politically connected law firms in the state (1968+)

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Melody Lane Founder – Compass2Truth

"The further society drifts from truth, the more they will hate those who speak it." ~ George Orwell ~

From: <u>clnews@googlegroups.com</u> [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com] On Behalf Of Martin Harris Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 6:37 PM To: <u>clnews@googlegroups.com</u> Subject: [CLNews] Excellent job by Supervisor Rain Maker Ranalli on pirate trash!

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The Balancing Act: Extortion under the color of law 10-5-15 **Mountain Democrat**

by Larry Weitzman

In February of this year I wrote a column entitled "More County Mischief" wherein I explained the failure of the county to follow the The Mitigation Fee Act, which was codified in the California Government Code as sections 66000-66008. It had two purposes: one of which was to restrain local agencies from imposing development fees that were unrelated to a development project and a second purpose was to give government a way around Proposition 13.

The act allows agencies to attach a fee to each parcel developed that could help fund public needs of the new development like fire stations, parks and other infrastructure.

"For all unexpended development fees, the agency must make findings every fifth year that identify how the fee will be used, demonstrate a reasonable relationship between the fee and the purpose for which it is charged, identify all sources and amounts of funding anticipated to complete financing for incomplete improvements that were identified when the fee was established and designate the approximate dates for that funding to be deposited into a dedicated account. (§ 66001, subd. (d)(1). The public agency must make these findings 'in connection with' the annual report the act requires the agency to provide. (§ 66001, subd. (d)(2). If these findings are not made, 'the local agency shall refund the moneys in the account or fund' to the then current owners of the affected properties on a prorated basis plus accrued interest. (§ 66001, subds. (d)(2) & (e); see Home Builders, supra, 185 Cal.App.4th at pp. 565-566.)." That language isn't mine; it was copied from an opinion of the California Fourth District Court of Appeals in the case of Walker vs. the City of San Clemente filed on Aug. 8.

It is a case directly about the Mitigation Fee Act. San Clemente collected about \$10 million for additional beach parking from developers. The need for parking didn't materialize but the city kept the money instead of refunding it and was sued. The court found that the city didn't file a sufficient five-year nexus study as the city failed to make all the required findings and it had other defects. The court went on to say that according to the language of Section 66001(d)(2) such a refund is required. The court continued, "A statute's clear and unambiguous language controls, and therefore we need not resort to extrinsic sources or rule of statutory interpretation." The court decision also bars the continuation of any non-compliant district to collect fees into the future.

This decision creates serious problems for our county.

El Dorado County collects money for about a dozen districts from developers, home builders and families under the Mitigation Fee Act and most are out of compliance because necessary paperwork (a nexus study) has not been filed every five years with the Board of Supervisors. About 20 years ago the board adopted its own annual Nexus study ordinance (13.020.20) modeled after the aforementioned state statute, but it doesn't say that if there is a failure to comply the unexpended fund balance must be returned ... and these balances are in the millions of dollars. If the county is required to refund that money, it goes to the current homeowner of record.

About two-and-a-half years the El Dorado County Auditor-Controller notified the then chief administrative officer that the county was out of compliance with County Ordinance 13.020.20 and the Mitigation Fee Act, the collection of developers' fees needed to stop. Every supervisor and the staff member in the CAO's Office whose responsibility it was to review the nexus studies was put on notice.

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The issue rose up earlier this year when the El Dorado Hills County Water (Fire) District wanted about \$95,000 from the fees collected. Until district staff filed the proper paperwork pursuant to Section 66001(d)(2), they didn't get the money.

Bigger problems face the county now. El Dorado County has collected \$330,000 in developers' fees for the El Dorado Hills Public Safety Facility with no concrete plans to build it. Monies have been collected for more than eight years; no nexus studies have been filed. With this new Walker vs. San Clemente decision, if a homeowner files for a refund of the fees, the county will have to return the entire fund balance to the respective homeowners of record. But that is small potatoes. The El Dorado Hills Community Services District Rec Fee account has a cash balance of \$4.9 million. According to my research there has been no compliance with the Mitigation Fee Act. A five-year nexus study was last filed in 2007. Continuing to collect the fees would be a violation of the law.

The Cameron Park Community Services District Fire Fee account has a cash balance of \$1.2 million and, according to records, no nexus study has been filed since 2005.

Other districts appear to be out of compliance as well — all subject to refunds. Board of Supervisors meeting minutes appear to have determined that the nexus study for half a dozen fire protection districts' capital improvement plans were out of compliance in 2011. The minutes from Aug. 11, 2011, meeting reflected the following language "1) Deny the adoption of the resolution and maintain the fees at the current rates as previously approved by the board."

In addition the minutes state, "Direct staff to return in approximately 90 days with recommendations for changes in current policies and ordinances to incorporate consistent methodology among all districts."

The then-CAO didn't follow through and in June of this year the CAO and supervisors received another e-mail pointing out these clear violations of the Mitigation Fee Act. They have been well aware of this problem since then. By now they must have permanent body indentions from sitting on their hands.

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Larry Weitzman is a resident of Rescue.

Larry Weitzman | October 5, 2015 at 5:00 am | Tags: A4, printed |

From: clnews@googlegroups.com [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com] Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 9:01 AM To: Coloma-Lotus News Subject: [CLNews] Re: Good Mr. Ranalli

The photo remark was a joke. This trash problem is being dealt with. If you see someone dumping capture it please. Best regards, M

From: clnews@googlegroups.com [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com] On Behalf Of Catherine Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 7:23 AM To: Coloma-Lotus News Subject: [CLNews] Re: Good Mr. Ranalli

Maybe several in the community should send photos to DOT. What address is best?

From: clnews@googlegroups.com [mailto:clnews@googlegroups.com] Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 6:58 AM To: Coloma-Lotus News Subject: [CLNews] Re: Good Mr. Ranalli

Martin,

My office has been in contact with both the County Department of Transportation and the Environmental Management Department. The Environmental Management Department operates the Roadside Litter Abatement Program.

Due to the size of this roadside debris, abatement will require equipment larger than typically used by the Litter Abatement Program. Both departments are in communication on a joint effort to remove the debris and anticipate to have it removed in the near future.

Illegal dumping is not taken lightly, and is a district wide problem. My office spends considerable time coordinating with agencies such as DOT, EMD, Caltrans, CHP, BLM and other to counter those not respecting our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or see someone dumping.

Any 8"x10" color glossy pictures with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back explaining what each one was to be used as evidence, would be appreciated and further remind me of the song "Alice's Restaurant". Oh brother. Regards,

M

On Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 9:36:14 AM UTC-7, Martin Harris wrote:

I feed cows in the evening, but if anyone could ask our Supervisor about the Lotus Road pile of pirate rubble and a date with DOT.

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Please.

I thank you in advance.



P.O. Box 598 Coloma, CA 95613 melody.lane@reagan.com

January 5, 2016

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors EDC Clerk to the Board County Counsel

CA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST

Pursuant to my rights under the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.), I ask to obtain copies of the Oaths of Office for the following EDSO personnel:

- 1. Undersheriff Randy Peshon
- 2. Undersheriff Rich Williams (ret.)
- 3. Lt. Craig Therkildsen (ret.)
- 4. Lt. Tim Becker
- 5. Lt. Vissiere
- 6. Detective Netasha Gallagher
- 7. Detective J. Densmore
- 8. Sgt. Darin Lewis
- 9. Sgt. Kevin Pebley
- 10. Deputy Terri Cissna

- 11. Deputy T. Katz
- 12. Deputy Ford
- 13. Deputy Jencks
- 14. Deputy Engelbrektson
- 15. Deputy M. Elledge
- 16. Deputy N. Cortez
- 17. Deputy Barbot
- 18. Deputy Garret Gennai
- 19. Deputy Bernard Brown
- 20. Deputy Brian Schaub

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 legal authorities on whom you rely.

To avoid unnecessary costs of duplication, electronic copies are acceptable and may be emailed to <u>melody.lane@reagan.com</u>. It is requested that your determination be made within **10 days** as stipulated within the California Public Records Act, **Government Code 6253(c)**.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation and timely reply.

Melody Lane

Founder / Compass2Truth

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