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I would like to ask that if you, the County, decides to lease or give the building to a non-profit organization, please give it to a 501c3 or other non-political group.

The Chamber is a 501c6 with a Political Action Committee. Over the last several years the Chamber has become a divisive force in the county, and there is no longer a differentiation between the Chamber and its Political Action Committee.

Remember when the Chamber featured No-No-No logos on its website in 2014?



Or when the public came before the Board several times to stop the Chamber from using 542 Main Street, Placerville as the return address on the Political Action Committee mailers?

How about when the Chamber sponsored a Town Hall Phone Meeting and had Board Member Mike Kobus spread misinformation about Measures M, N, and O?





Here is a photo of No-No-No campaign materials featured on the counter at 542 Main Street, Placerville. DUO 0-9-17 ILEITI #09, 042 IVIAITI OLTEEL, MAGELVIILE

Here's the Chamber featured more recently on signs campaigning against Measures E and G.



Additionally, since this agenda item has the potential to benefit the Chamber of Commerce, rather than forcing the public to dig through piles of Form 460s, it would serve the public well for each of you to disclose here and now you received in campaign contributions from the Chamber.

The County's Code of Ethics states:

In the performance of your governmental duties, be sensitive to circumstances that could be misconstrued as a special favor, something to be gained personally, acceptance of a favor or as an influence in the outcome of your duties.

For each of you who have received donations from the Chamber, it would appear to be a special favor for you to vote to approve this item. To avoid the appearance of special favors, it would be in the public's best interest for you to recuse yourself from voting to give or lease the building to the Chamber.

To summarize, for all of the reasons mentioned before, I ask:

1. that you only consider donating or leasing the building to a 501c3 or other nonpolitical organization that does not have a Political Action Committee, and

2. that each of you who have received campaign contributions from the Chamber to recuse yourself from voting to give or lease the building to the Chamber so that you avoid the appearance of special favors.

PART 1

CODE OF ETHICS AND COMMITMENT TO COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE

- 101. <u>GENERAL</u>. This Part recites the Code of Ethics adopted for the County and establishes the standards of conduct required of all County officers and employees for the proper operation of County government. These standards are intended to strengthen public service and to maintain and promote faith and confidence of the people in their government.
- 102. <u>CODE OF ETHICS.</u> The County has adopted a Code of Ethics to guide County officers and employees in the performance of their duties. The Code of Ethics in effect as of the date of adoption of these Rules reads as follows:
 - (a) In the performance of your governmental duties, be sensitive to circumstances that could be misconstrued as a special favor, something to be gained personally, acceptance of a favor or as an influence in the outcome of your duties.
 - (b) Be cognizant that private promises of any kind may conflict with one's public duty and responsibilities.
 - (c) Always perform your governmental duties conscientiously.
 - (d) Always act responsibly with confidential information received in the performance of your governmental duties.
 - (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.
 - (g) Promote only decisions that benefit the public interest.
 - (h) Conduct and perform job duties diligently and promptly.
 - (i) Faithfully comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the County and impartially apply them to everyone.
 - (j) Promote the public interest through a responsive application of public duties.
 - (k) Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness and honesty in all public activities.
 - (I) Uphold these principles being ever conscious that public office is a public trust.
- 103. <u>RESPONSIBILITIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE.</u> 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.
- 104. <u>DEDICATED SERVICE</u>. County officers and employees shall adhere to work rules and performance standards established for their positions. The County requires all County officers and employees to be courteous and considerate, to be accurate and truthful in statement, and to exercise sound judgment in the performance of their work. During the hours covered by active County employment, no County officer or employee shall work for any other employer or agency, nor shall they conduct or pursue any unauthorized activity

for remuneration. County officers and employees shall neither exceed their authority nor breach the law, nor shall they ask others to do so. They shall work in full cooperation with other County officers and employees unless prohibited from so doing by law or by officially recognized confidentiality of the work.

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105. <u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST.</u> During their assigned work hours, County officers and employees shall devote all their time and efforts to their assigned duties. No County officer or employee shall engage in any business or transaction or have a financial or other personal interest or association that is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with or adverse to the proper discharge of official duties, or would tend to impair their independence of judgment or the performance of their official duties. "Personal" (as distinguished from "financial") interest includes an interest arising from blood or marriage relationships or close business, personal, or political association.

This Rule shall not serve to prohibit independent acts or other forms of paid or non-paid enterprise during those hours not covered by active County employment, provided such acts do not constitute a conflict of interest or impair the County officer or employee in the performance of official duties and functions. County employees must inform their appointing authorities of any outside employment, business activity or enterprise in which the employee is engaged. If the appointing authority determines that such employment, business activity or enterprise is inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with or inimical to the proper discharge of the employee's official duties, the employee shall be ordered to refrain from that employment, activity or enterprise. The employee may appeal an order to refrain from outside activity to the CAO. The decision of the CAO shall be final.

County officers and employees are also subject to applicable provisions of the California Government Code, including but not limited to Sections 1090 (prohibiting the making of contracts in which an officer or employee has a financial interest), 1126 (prohibiting outside employment that is incompatible with the official duties of an officer or employee), 87100 (prohibiting an officer or employee from using his or her official position to influence a governmental decision in which the officer or employee has a financial interest), or any other conflict of interest code, policy or rule applicable to County employment.

- 106. <u>NONDISCRIMINATION IN DELIVERY OF SERVICES.</u> 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.
- 107. <u>MERIT SYSTEM.</u> In accordance with Article V of the El Dorado County Charter, these Rules are adopted by the Board in order to implement the following principles:
 - (a) The County shall recruit, select and retain the best qualified officers and employees available.
 - (b) The County shall provide equal opportunity for all persons at all levels of county employment in accordance with provisions of the Charter and pursuant to state and federal law.
 - (c) The County shall appoint, evaluate, transfer, promote, compensate, discipline, and dismiss employees on the basis of job-related qualifications, performance, merit, and equal employment opportunity.

May 7, 2013



BOS SIG 117

Still Finding Gold In El Dorado County

June 11, 2015

Re: El Dorado County Chamber building lease

- Per Jack Sweeney, an agreement was made between the County and the Chamber that if the Chamber helped to raise the funds for the Veterans Memorial Building in turn the County would lease 542 Main St. to the Chamber for one (1) dollar per year. We did and they did.
- The Chamber has occupied the building at 542 Main Street at a lease rate of \$1.00 per year since 1972 as per the above stated agreement.
- The Chamber building houses the Visitors Authority, a public benefit
- The Visitors Center welcomes thousands of visitors, a public benefit
- The Film Commission, a public benefit.
- The Chamber building additionally houses the Economic Development Corporation of El Dorado County that has an existing MOU with the County WIOA as the Advisory Board, a public benefit.
- Additionally the Chamber building houses the Business Resource Center that is available free of charge to all El Dorado County residents and provides one- on- one professional business counseling, business workshops and a lending library, **a public benefit**.
- The Chamber building is not ADA compliant, nor is it up to current codes. The building has a zero lot line and does not include parking.
- The building is a dedicated historic building by the citizens of El Dorado County in 1923 and again by the Native Sons of the Golden West in 2004.

The value of the positive economic impact that the Chamber provides to the community far exceeds the in-kind support that a \$1.00 per year lease provides.



THE OLD VET'S BUILDING

DR. PLAT S200 IN 1856. SHE WAS STILL THE OWNER OF RECORD ON THE TOWN SITE MAP OF 1872 IN 1923, THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO PURCHASED THE PROPERTY FROM MARCUS P. SUM OF STIDO. THE PROPERTY WAS PURCHASED BY THE COUNTY TO ERECT A BUILDING BENNETT, A VERY NOTABLE AND HIGHLY RESPECTED SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE FOR THE TO SERVE AS THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL FOR POST NO. 119. THE EL DORADO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OCCUPIED THE BUILDING BEGINNING IN 1972 AFTER THE LEGION HAD MOVED TO THE VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL. JILDING FOR THE LODGING OF MINERS. HE NAMED HIS HOTEL THE KOSSUTH HOUSE. CDIED IN 1853. HIS WIDOW SOLD THE PROPERTY TO ANNA W. CLARK FOR P PLAT PREEMPTED A 1/2 OUARTER SECTION HERE. HE ERECT COUNTY ted a log

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO THE MEMORY OF THE PIONEER BUSINESSMEN OF THE NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST DEDICATE THIS BUILDING, WHICH HOUSES ACERVILLE IN THE 1850'S. SOME OF THE MOST NOTABLE ARE JOHN M. STUDEBAKER; LIP D. ARMOUR; AND ABRAHAM AND RUDOLPH SELIGMAN

DEDICATED MARCH 13, 2004 BY HE NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST RICHARD S. KIMBALL, GRAND PRESIDENT