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Edcgov.us Mail - Letter to the board



Public Comment #38
County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

BOSREVTD 4/6/2021

Letter to the board

Caroline Malley <caroline.malley@istudyhq.com>

Sat, Apr 3, 2021 at 11:29 AM

To: bosfive@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us,
edc.cob@edcgov.us

Board members,

You have been elected to represent the interest of all constituents in El Dorado County, for many small business owners you are falling short.

Please find enclosed a letter to the board, I will be following up with FOIA requests as needed should you not provide an adequate response,

Caroline Malley
3098 Camerosa Circle,
Cameron Park
95682



Letter to EDC Supervisors.pdf

156K

District I-John Hidahl
District II-George Turnboo
District III-Wendy Thomas
District IV-Lori Parlin
District V-Sue Novasel

In writing this letter I am asking the County Board of Supervisors to clearly articulate measures, policies, and actions the board has taken to support our small business community through the COVID-19 lockdowns.

Most of the board has run on a pro-rural and pro-community platform. Yet your actions do not support this viewpoint. Rural communities rely on their small businesses for economic vitality. Local small businesses provide employment for our high school graduates and anchor the health of the rural community. Our local big-box stores, like Home Depot and Walmart, have done extremely well through a series of unprecedented government actions that disproportionately shut down small businesses.

What actions has the board taken? Fines, causing more and more destruction of our small business community.

- April 3 2020 - board authorized fines for people traveling to Tahoe
- July 30 2020 - board implemented fines for business from \$100 to \$500 per day for operating during state lockdowns.

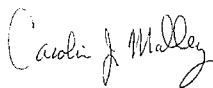
Further, does the board know how many small businesses in our county are being sued by commercial landlords, who have deep pockets to fund any lawfare they choose? Small businesses are being attacked by those very landlords that pay the County so very much in property taxes.

I own such a small business, a small tutoring company that was decimated by blanket school closures and lock down orders. A big, San Diego-based landlord, ROIC, is suing my business despite a clear force majeure clause that invalidates the agreement due to government actions, which any rational human being can see, includes the unprecedented government actions that shut our doors. The response of ROIC's legal team: they can pay personally, therefore they will pay.

The COVID virus certainly harmed many people. The COVID virus did not harm small businesses in El Dorado County. What destroyed our businesses was unprecedented government shut downs, government fines (both state and local), and now more lawsuits by big businesses that pay the county a lot of revenue.

Following this letter will be a Freedom of Information Request for a list of all fines imposed and collected by the county against local businesses, as well as how much revenue the county has received in property taxes from big landlords like ROIC and big COVID winners like Home Depot. As a certified teacher and a retired state worker that served my community for years, it was my dream to spend my remaining time on this earth helping students succeed in school. I opened a business that allows schools to pay on behalf of students so that I might be able to teach the least fortunate in our community. My business will not survive this lawsuit, and so it will be my sole purpose in life to make sure our community never forgets the damage big developers with deep pockets can cause our local businesses. And to remind our community of inaction by our county supervisors through these difficult times.

Perhaps it is time we put a stop to building more and more commercial properties and more and more luxury houses for out-of-town buyers with no regard for our children.



Caroline J. Malley
Owner of Independent Study HQ