STATE OF OREGON Marion County Circuit Court

JUL 05 2019

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Verified Correct Copy of Original 7/5/2019. 4

BRIAN J. BOQUIST,

V.

Plaintiff,

STATE SENATOR PETER

COURTNEY, the President of the Oregon State Senate, and appointing authority of employees of Office of the President, Legislative Counsel, Legislative

Administration (HR Employee Services and Information Services, and subcontracted legislative services

Defendants.

Case No. 19CV29374

RIGHT TO INSPECT PUBLIC RECORDS (ORS 192.427)

**IMMEDIATE** INJUNCTIVE RELIEF COMPELLING RELEASE OF REQUESTED RECORDS BASED ON PUBLIC SAFTEY AND THREATS OF VIOLENCE

FILING FEE: \$105

NATURE OF ACTION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE COUNTY OF MARION

1.





Plaintiff Brian Boquist brings this petition under ORS 182.427 and ORS 192.411 to compel the Defendant Peter Courtney, elected official, President of the Oregon State Senate, appointing authority to all non-member staff in the Legislative Branch, including but not limited to Dexter Johnson, Legislative Counsel, Jessica Knieling, Employee Services, and all employees in the Office of the President, Legislative Counsel, Legislative Administration including Information Services, and legal supervisor to outside contracted personnel services being performed by Brenda Baumgart of Stoel Rives LLP, to release public records involving the Plaintiff duly requested, denied,

hidden and blocked from release by Legislative Counsel, and the named aforementioned individuals operating under the direct appointing authority and daily supervision of the Defendant.

**PARTIES** 

2.

Plaintiff is a citizen of Polk County residing at 17080 Butler Hill Road, Dallas, Oregon 97338, considered in this matter as an employee of the legislative branch of the State of Oregon. Plaintiff is additionally an elected Oregon State Senator. Plaintiff is married with children whose lives have been directly threated by the actions and inactions of the Defendant documented in Polk County Sheriff's Case No. 19-1490.

3.

Defendant Peter Courtney is an elected State Senator serving as the President of the Oregon State Senate located at 900 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301, and is paid a double legislative salary to be the fulltime administrator of the Oregon State Senate. Defendant is the appointing authority under the law of all non-member non-caucus employees of the Legislative Branch a political subdivision of the State of Oregon.

22 4.

Defendant Peter Courtney is the direct elected senior supervisor and appointing authority for all non-member non-caucus employees and contractors including but not limited to the following individuals named in the original sixteen (16) item public records request submitted under the law to Legislative Counsel on July 1, 2019; Jessica Knieling

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of Employee Services, Brenda Baumgart personnel services contactor, Dexter Johnson the Legislative Counsel, and Betsy Imholt of the Office of the Senate President.

#### **RELEVANT OREGON REVISED STATUTES**

5.

ORS 192.427. Procedure to review denial by elected official of right to inspect public records. In any case in which a person is denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of a public record in the custody of an elected official, or in the custody of any other person but as to which an elected official claims the right to withhold disclosure, no petition to require disclosure may be filed with the Attorney General or district attorney, or if a petition is filed it shall not be considered by the Attorney General or district attorney after a claim of right to withhold disclosure by an elected official. In such case a person denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of a public record may institute proceedings for injunctive or declaratory relief in the appropriate circuit court, as specified in ORS 192.401 (Records of health professional regulatory boards, Health Licensing Office), 192.411 (Petition to review denial of right to inspect state public record) or 192.415 (Procedure to review denial of right to inspect other public records), and the Attorney General or district attorney may upon request serve or decline to serve, in the discretion of the Attorney General or district attorney, as counsel in such suit for an elected official for which the Attorney General or district attorney ordinarily serves as counsel. Nothing in this section shall preclude an elected official from requesting advice

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from the Attorney General or a district attorney as to whether a public record should be disclosed.

6.

ORS192.401 (Records of health professional regulatory boards, Health Licensing Office) (1) and 192.427 (Procedure to review denial by elected official of right to inspect public records), any person denied the right to inspect or to receive a copy of any public record of a state agency may petition the Attorney General to review the public record to determine if it may be withheld from public inspection. Except as provided in ORS 192.401 (Records of health professional regulatory boards, Health Licensing Office) (2), the burden is on the agency to sustain its action. Except as provided in ORS 192.401 (Records of health professional regulatory boards, Health Licensing Office) (2), the Attorney General shall issue an order denying or granting the petition, or denying it in part and granting it in part, within seven days from the day the Attorney General receives the petition. (2) If the Attorney General grants the petition and orders the state agency to disclose the public record, or if the Attorney General grants the petition in part and orders the state agency to disclose a portion of the public record, the state agency shall comply with the order in full within seven days after issuance of the order, unless within the seven-day period it issues a notice of its intention to institute proceedings for injunctive or declaratory relief in the Circuit Court for Marion County or, as provided in ORS 192.401 (Records of health professional regulatory boards, Health Licensing Office) (3), in the circuit court of the county where the public record is held. Copies of the notice shall be sent to the Attorney General and by certified mail to the petitioner at the address

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RIGHT TO INSPECT PUBLIC RECORDS (ORS 192.427)

shown on the petition. The state agency shall institute the proceedings within seven days after it issues its notice of intention to do so. If the Attorney General denies the petition in whole or in part, or if the state agency continues to withhold the public record or a part of it notwithstanding an order to disclose by the Attorney General, the person seeking disclosure may institute such proceedings. (3) The Attorney General shall serve as counsel for the state agency in a suit filed under subsection (2) of this section if the suit arises out of a determination by the Attorney General that the public record should not be disclosed, or that a part of the public record should not be disclosed if the state agency has fully complied with the order of the Attorney General requiring disclosure of another part or parts of the public record, and in no other case. In any case in which the Attorney General is prohibited from serving as counsel for the state agency, the agency may retain special counsel.

## ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO THE PETITION FOR PUBLIC RECORDS

7.

On Sunday, June 30, 2019, Oregon State Senator Floyd Prozanski came to my State Senator office on the last day of legislative session in the late afternoon. He informed me that a Senate Conduct Committee would meet on July 8, 2019 to consider a Legislative Rule 27 complaint to potentially censure and bar me from the Oregon State Capitol reference threating activities that allegedly occurred on June 19, 2019 per Brenda Baumgart of Stoel Rives LLP, contractor. Ms. Baumgart allegedly issued a then onepage letter titled 'Senator Brian Boquist/Interim Finding & Recommendations' on page

scheduled public hearing on Monday, July 8, 2019, which is page 10 of Exhibit 1. Senator Prozanski provided a third page titled 'Legislative Administration, Interim Findings and Recommendations' which is page 11 of Exhibit 1. The Senator informed me he knew nothing else other than the three pages but would get back to me with details. I pointed out to Senator Prozanski that I had heard news reports and rumors, but, I had 8 received absolutely nothing officially on this complaint or investigation, despite the requirement under state and federal due process, and the stated Personnel Rule 27, there 10 were over a dozen legal steps required before he received the report from the interim 11 Human Resources Director and contract attorney. See pages 7-8 of Exhibit 1. Clearly, 12

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petition request.

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none had transpired. He stated he would attempt to find out himself, as he only knew

about what was in the file he handed me containing three one-sided pages. Senator

Prozanski was very polite and professional but simply knew virtually nothing at that time

possession of any more documents than myself to my knowledge, and not subject to my

Senator Prozanski is not in

11 of Exhibit 1. Senator Prozanski provided a second page, a draft agenda for the

On July 1, 2019, the next day, I filed a sixteen (16) point public records request to Jessica Knieling of Employee Services under the Legislative Administration, and her contract investigator, Brenda Baumgart of Stoel Rives LLP, and Cameron Miles the

public records lawyer in Legislative Counsel. See pages 5-6 of Exhibit 1.

as the Chairman of the Senate Conduct Committee.

Between July 1, and July 2, 2019, it became apparent there had been zero due process, and if any real legal due process existed, it had been taken by legally conflicted staff, and Oregon State Senators, conflicted under both state and federal laws. I did learn the so-called report had been generated or issued to someone, on June 25, 2019, before or after, it was intentionally leaked to the media. Despite having received nothing official, the media coverage of was quite spectacular based on the leaked letter authored by Stoel Rives LLP on the alleged complaints and threats fanned by legislators and the media. My family received multiple death threats, formal cases were opened with law enforcement. Neighbors reported late night prowlers. And the death threats continue as do the harassing telephone messages. Both myself, and my staff, have been threatened based on the complete failure of due process and blockage of public records even as of today.

On July 2, 2019, at 10:53 am, Senator Prozanski sent me an update of his understating of the situation. Again, quite polite and professional. See pages 4 of Exhibit 1. His new, or clarified, understanding was there was not a complaint at all. Neither informal or formal. It was a report generated, again without due process, theoretically based on edited news media reports and videos, and input of some sort from a news reporter who had interviewed me in public with more than a dozen witnesses. This was unconfirmed, and the Plaintiff believes incorrect. After receiving the update, it was clear that zero due process had existed, and that very clearly a large stack of public records existed someplace, as the news media had records on the 25th, contacts had been let, phony investigations conducted, hearing scheduled, committee members consulted, creating the whole endangering situation. I resubmitted the same public records request to

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Senator Prozanski, Cameron Miles of Legislative Counsel, Lorey Freeman the Deputy Chief Legislative Counsel, as Dexter Johnson the formal Legislative Counsel has a stack of legal conflicts of interest with me, and copied Ginger McCall the State of Oregon public records ombudsman, and Paige Clarkson the Marion County District Attorney as at the time I thought the District Attorneys could legally assist in getting public records.

10.

Sen Prozanski later confirmed a modified version of paragraph 9 above, but yet again had no details. He did clarify his understanding was there was no informal or formal complaint, and the term 'reporter' was a news reporter. I clearly stated this looks like political retribution coupled with a complete failure of due process that was endangering the lives of my family. Senator Prozanki would later inform me it was an Oregonian newspaper reporter, but it was and is unclear if the said reporter was really involved, and I consider this heresy, but reference was made to a threatening email thus documents exist or rumor to exist. I did have email correspondence with the said reporter who authored a story Senator Prozanski officially posted, and the Marion County District Attorney was copied on the email. I suggested the said reporter contact the District Attorney reference the legalities of false arrest especially using illegal force as the Governor, Senate President, Senate Majority Leader convey to Senate Republicans. The same reporter is in possession of a stack of legal documents regarding the criminal implications of illegal arrests outside the state courts, and false imprisonment on the federal side. Given the now cross boarder nature of the situation, federal criminal

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charges would influence an illegal arrest attempt now, which, is confirmed with federal authorities.

11.

On July 3, 2019 at 1:43 pm, Miles Cameron of Legisalticve Counsel provided the public records response, LC 8000, from Jessica Knieling of Employee Services. Zero public records were provided based on the sixteen (16) point request of July 1, 2019. Instead, a three-page Word document was provided with mumble jumble and excuses and back peddling allegedly authored by Jessica Knieling. There is no author or identity on the document. See pages 3-6 in Exhibit 2.

12. 12

The Plaintiff sees the actions of those involved outside the Senate Conduct Committee, as intentional outright political and employer retribution that continues to endanger the lives of my wife, a state employee, my children, and neighbors. The whole issue was raised as Governor Brown, President Courtney, and others were negotiating votes, payoffs to districts, and the 'end-game' at the Oregon Legislature. personally present. They again attempted to illegally weaponize the Oregon State Police, as they attempted in November 2018 in the State Capitol, for which formal police reports exist. The legal conflicts of interest run very deep.

23 13.

The court should know, as a member of leadership at the time of the Senate sexual harassment scandal in August 2018, I attended a meeting in offices in Portland, on August 17, 2018, in which a cover up plan to block the release of documents to the Bureau of Labor & Industries was outline by other individuals. I am in possession of certain records, despite a Multnomah County Court order, that relate to female employee abuse that were in fact not turned over to BOLI per the court order. The Defendant, and Dexter Johnson, and other unnamed individuals involved in this petition for public records were, and are, involved in standing complaints. In regard to that meeting, and other conflicts, the plaintiff has a formal Oregon State Bar complaint in process against Dexter Johnson named in the petition. OSB CAO Intake LDD 1900351.

14.

The court should know, the Plaintiff filed numerous public records requests and complaints in regard to the failed legislative pay equity analysis on behalf of over 100 employees. Those public records requests continue to be stalled, or blocked by the Defendant, Dexter Johnson of Legislative Counsel, and Jessica Knieling, the interim HR Director in Employee Services. These commenced in September 2018 continuing until today.

18 15.

The court should know, that the Defendant, Dexter Johnson, and other non-named individuals in this petition are named with prejudice in the BOLI report STEMSH180801-11138 dated January 3, 2019. The settlement cost the public \$1.3 million-dollars, for which, it came out of the legislative budget. It was ineligible for payment by the risk fund. The legality of the non-appropriated expenditure remains in question as the check was issued on instructions of the Defendant without a legal appropriation per lawyers. The Plaintiff has formal ongoing requests with BOLI to

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acquire the list of aiders and abeters, if not perpetrators, that were protected, and remain in the Oregon State Capitol.

16.

The court should know, the Plaintiff filed a formal complaint and censor motion that is in the Senate records against the Defendant, State Senator Peter Courtney. By law the complaint should have been processed, investigated, and acted upon, either way. The same as is presently before the Senate Conduct Committee, for which the Plaintiff is requesting the court order the release of public records. Senate Resolution 1 was filed on March 3, 2019, which by law should have gone to the Senate Conduct Committee, was instead sent by the Defendant to the Senate Rules Committee to block any investigation of himself.

17.

The court should know, the Plaintiff was subpoenaed and deposed as a hostile witness against the Defendant, and actions of Legislative Counsel, and Employee Services, in a current pending case before the courts. The Defendant and Legislative Counsel remain named in multiple other pending cases before the court.

The court should know, in the past five days, the Superintendent of the Oregon State Police, the Marion County Sheriff, and the Marion County District Attorney have confirmed in writing to my State Senator office that they are completely unaware of any threats, reports, or concerns of safety or security at the Oregon State Capitol except for their own observations in the media, and a copy of the records request, and Ms.

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Page 12 - RIGHT TO INSPECT PUBLIC RECORDS (ORS 192.427)

Baumgart's report I provide to them. For the record, the Oregon State Police are the contracted law enforcement and security of the Oregon State Capitol with offices on the first Floor of the building. No reports.

19.

The facts of the present situation, and continued endangerment of my family and staff, merit an immediate court order directing the release of withheld public records, to establish the facts of the matter. The records are required for further state and federal court filings, and state and federal civil complaints already in progress. Further, in early December 2018, I was advised by anonymous staff there was a 'leadership' policy to delete public records after a request was made if the request did not ask specifically ask for deleted records. This was documented in writing, and shared with select members of the media. An immediate injunctive order is required to prevent the destruction of public records.

#### **CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Petition to Compel Defendant and Et Al to Produce Copies of the Requested Public Records ORS 192.427 and 192.411)

20.

Plaintiff may be entitled to an award of its costs and disbursements herein as the Defendant wrongfully denied the Plaintiff the public records causing irreputable harm to the Plaintiff and his family.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for an immediate order and general judgment as follows:

#### Sen Boquist

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Evam.	
From:	

Paige Clarkson < PClarkson@co.marion.or.us>

Sent:

Wednesday, July 03, 2019 3:34 PM

**T**o:

Sen Boquist; KRON Michael C

Ec:

Joe Kast; Brecht Justin; thampto@osp.oregon.gov

**S**ubject:

Re: FW: Public Records Request LC 8000 (2021)

Follow Up Flag:

Flag for follow up

Ħag Status:

Flagged

ed Conference Separator:

I am in receipt of several emails sent by you today regarding a public records request that you have made to officials at the Legislature.

If I am understanding your correspondence correctly, it appears that you are asserting that you have been denied public records in full or in part from a state agency and you wish to file a petition to review the denial.

Pursuant to ORS 192.411, this petition must be filed with the Attorney General. Pursuant to ORS 192.415, I handle all petitions to review related to denials by non-state agencies within Marion County. Should it be determined that the public records at issue have been denied by an elected official, pursuant to ORS 192.427 a petition would need to be filed directly in Marion County Circuit Court.

For the sake of further clarity in this matter, as we have previously discussed, the Marion County District Attorney is not in possession of any reports or documentation regarding this recent issue. We have not been consulted or asked to review any criminal reports or potential charges, nor were we made aware of any review by Stoel Rives in advance of its publication by the media.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Please advise if I have misunderstood your request here.

Sincerely, Paige Clarkson

Paige E. Clarkson | District Attorney Marion County 503.588.5222

>>> Sen Boquist <Sen.BrianBoquist@oregonlegislature.gov> 7/3/2019 2:33 PM >>> Ms. Clarkson & Mr. Kron:

The request is to which every is first under the law. Ms. McCall really has no authority.

So who is first since it is legislative staff; AG or DA? Believe one of you must act before I can go into court.

Please advise,

Exhibit 1. Page 1 of 12.

Brian J. Boquist Oregon State Senator

**₹rom:** Sen Boquist

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 3, 2019 2:30 PM

**To:** MCCALL Ginger \* PRC < Ginger. MCCALL@state.or.us>; Paige Clarkson < pclarkson@co.marion.or.us>; KRON Michael C

∰Michael.C.KRON@state.or.us>

**£c:** ALBERT Todd \* PRC < Todd. ALBERT@state.or.us> **\$ubject:** FW: Public Records Request LC 8000 (2021)

Ms. McCall, Mr. Albert & Ms. Clarkson:

This is a formal request under the law for public records acquisition in possession of state employees.

Tegislative Counsel and HR Employee Services staff in the Legislative Branch are refusing to release public records to me. These are employees of the State of Oregon not elected members. You can see the response attached and request below.

Ms. McCall may or may not have a sway but since I believer some of this may be criminal in nature I doubt they will provide them without a District Attorney or court order. Please note I have an OSB complaint against Dexter Johnson plus am a hostile witness in a legal case against him and HR Employee Services in the building. There are further formal complaints too. All pre-dating this issue.

Request the assistance of the District Attorney or Attorney General in acquiring these public records.

Sincerely requested,

Brian J. Boquist

**Oregon State Senator** 

From: Sen Boquist

Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2019 2:17 PM

To: Miles Cameron < Cameron. Miles@oregonlegislature.gov >

Cc: MCCALL Ginger \* PRC < Ginger.MCCALL@state.or.us >; Paige Clarkson < pclarkson@co.marion.or.us >; KRON Michael C

<Michael.C.KRON@state.or.us>

Subject: FW: Public Records Request LC 8000 (2021)

#### Counsel:

You are unresponsive for the following reasons; You have provided a three page piece of paper attributed to nobody. It is utterly worthless in a courtroom or hearing on Monday. Whomever wrote it obviously did not coordinate it with Chair of the Senate Conduct Committee as his responses do not match. None-the-less, where are the documents? Where are 100% of the correspondence on this complaint between Ms. Knieling, Ms. Baumgart, Mr. Johnson, and 100% of everyone else involved? Ms. Baumgart did not do this on her own, and Senator Prozanski got this somehow? It is in the news so something must exist.

Think we agree, under the law, while I will ask Ms. McCall to try to mediate, the Marion County District Attorney is the first appeal level correct?

Sincerely,

Brian J. Boquist

Exhibit 1. Page a of 12.

#### **Oregon State Senator**

**₹rom:** Miles Cameron

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 3, 2019 1:43 PM

**To:** Sen Boquist <Sen.BrianBoquist@oregonlegislature.gov>

Subject: Public Records Request LC 8000 (2021)

ੁੱ Şen. Boquist-

Ö Ö

Attached is a letter regarding your July 1, 2019 public records request related to complaints filed against you and Eesponses provided to you by Jessica Knieling regarding your requests for specific records.

Paga Thanks,

Cameron D. Miles
Staff Attorney
Office of Legislative Counsel
<a href="mailto:cameron.miles@oregonlegislature.gov">cameron.miles@oregonlegislature.gov</a>
(503) 986-1243

\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*

This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this e-mail in error, please advise me immediately by reply e-mail, keep the contents confidential, and immediately delete the message and any attachments from your system.

From: Sen Boquist

Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2019 12:26 PM

To: Sen Prozanski < Sen. Floyd Prozanski@oregonlegislature.gov>

Cc: Miles Cameron < Cameron. Miles@oregonlegislature.gov >; Freeman Lorey < Lorey. Freeman@oregonlegislature.gov >;

MCCALL Ginger \* PRC < Ginger.MCCALL@state.or.us>; Paige Clarkson < PClarkson@co.marion.or.us>

Subject: RE: Formal Complaint Records Request - 48 Hours

Senator Prozanski:

Have reviewed

Hopefully, you will find time to call before this is in a courtroom this week.

The below public records request stands. Further, I want 100% of the correspondence and materials in possession of Ms. Baumgart and Ms. Kneiling in regard to the fulfillment of Stoel Rives LLC contract that involves me in any manner what-so-ever. 100%. LC needs to issue the appropriate documentation as required under the Oregon Revised Statute. And answer the below. If they have a problem with this then lets see it in writing so Ms. McCall and the Marion County District Attorney may get engaged per the records laws.

Please be reminded, any investigation, is in fact covered under Senate Rules, Legislative Rule 27 and Oregon law. Ms. Knieling, Ms. Baumgart, and Mr. Johnson are obligated to follow the law. It is obvious they have not. And apparently you are unaware of the facts in this regard that will come out shortly.

Again, strongly recommend we talk through the legal process on the telephone. Just you and I.

Sorry again you are caught up in this challenge.

Exhibit 1. Page **3** of 12.

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Brian
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503-623-7663 \$03-559-3436 \(\frac{1}{2}\) leuisiro

From: Sen Prozanski < Sen. Floyd Prozanski@oregonlegislature.gov >

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2019 10:53 AM

**To:** Sen Boquist <<u>Sen.BrianBoquist@oregonlegislature.gov</u>> **Set:** Knieling Jessica <<u>Jessica.Knieling@oregonlegislature.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: Formal Complaint Records Request - 48 Hours

Good morning Brian --

After reading your "Formal Complaint Records Request" dated July 1, I feel I need to try to clarify a statement I made to you in your office on Sunday, June 30.

I used the term "complaint" when I should of used the term "report." I believe this has raised a level of confusion that needs to be clarified.

As I mentioned to you on Sunday, I'm a novice in the area of employment law. As you know, as a prosecutor, my law practice is exclusively limited to the area of criminal law. Accordingly, I'm not as familiar with the terms used in the employment law arena. I'm truly sorry for any confusion this has caused you.

Here's what I learned in my telephone conversation with Ms. Baumgart.

Currently, there are no formal or informal complaints before the conduct committee for consideration. Ms. Baumgart is reviewing the reports that she has received to determine if they will move forward as complaints and if so, as formal or informal complaints.

In the meantime, she issued "Interim Finding & Recommendations (IFR)" dated June 25, 2019. It is my understanding that she did so because some of the reports she is reviewing allege that the reporters have raised concerns of personal safety in the workplace, the state capitol, based on your statements of threatened violence.

As stated in her IFR, Ms. Baumgart issued her IFR after reviewing the videos involving your floor statement of threatened violence directed to President Courtney and the subsequent statement to the media of threatened violence directed at the Oregon State Police that occurred on June 19.

Accordingly, this coming Monday's hearing is exclusively limited to what, if any, steps need to be taken at this time to ensure that the State Capitol is a safe and free of threatened violence to individuals working or visiting the building during the ongoing investigation of the reports made to HR or other responsible personnel. The committee will not be considering any formal complaints since none have been filed at this time. The committee would only consider those following the process outlined in LBPR 27 including a final investigative report.

As chair of the Senate Conduct Committee, I hope this e-mail clarifies the state of the ongoing investigation and the purpose of Monday's hearing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you, Floyd

Exhibit 1. Page 4 of 12.

From: Knieling Jessica

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2019 1:30 PM

To: Sen Prozanski

**Subject:** FW: Formal Complaint Records Request - 48 Hours

gina**H**/5/20

Bessica N. Knieling
Interim HR Director
Besk: 503.986.1370
Mobile: 503.480.9504

orre

**Erom:** Sen Boquist

**Sent:** Monday, July 1, 2019 9:19 AM

Fo: Baumgart, Brenda K. < <a href="mailto:brenda.baumgart@stoel.com">brenda.baumgart@stoel.com</a>; Knieling Jessica < <a href="mailto:Jessica.Knieling@oregonlegislature.gov">Jessica.Knieling@oregonlegislature.gov</a> Cc: Hampton, Travis L < <a href="mailto:thampto@osp.oregon.gov">thampto@osp.oregon.gov</a>; Paige Clarkson < <a href="mailto:PClarkson@co.marion.or.us">PClarkson@co.marion.or.us</a>; SHEPARD Duke < <a href="mailto:duke.shepard@state.or.us">duke.shepard@state.or.us</a>; Linn Davis < <a href="mailto:LDavis@osbar.org">LDavis@osbar.org</a>; Brocker Lori L < <a href="mailto:Lori.L.Brocker@oregonlegislature.gov">Lori.L.Brocker@oregonlegislature.gov</a>; >;

Miles Cameron < <u>Cameron\_Miles@oregonlegislature.gov</u>> **Subject:** Formal Complaint Records Request - 48 Hours

Ms. Kneiling & Ms. Baumgartner:

This is a formal legal request for 100% of the correspondences, emails, documents, notes, electronic communications, and telephone records related to the attached alleged complaints.

This State Senator learned of the alleged complaint from media reports. The official documentation this State Senator possess is attached, kindly provided by the Senate Conduct Committee Chairman, yesterday, Sunday, June 20, 2019.

This whole alleged complaint process to date is either a display of massive total incompetence on the part of Employee Services, Legislative Administration, and Legislative Counsel, prior to presentation to the Senate Conduct Committee Chairman, or outright political retribution.

For the record, this is a 'committee' action which means 100% of the above are fully accessible to members immediately upon request. There is no in-session exemption now. There is no law enforcement hold per the appropriate state officials yesterday afternoon. There is no court action filing on record as of this time.

You will note at the end of this email the extract of Legislative Rule 27 you should have legally followed but did not.

Attached is the total documents received on this matter from the Chairman of the Senate Conduct Committee. It is two pages with your names on them plus a Committee agenda for July 8, 2019. The Chair of the Senate Conduct Committee informed me that was the total knowledge he possessed as of late Sunday afternoon. He clearly stated he did not know the origination of the alleged formal complaint other than what is attached.

Given the massive failure on your part to follow the Senate Rules, Legislative Rules, Oregon Revised Statutes, the Oregon Constitution, and U.S. Constitution, do not forget to provide the following items:

- 1. Copy of the formal complaint including name, persons involved in harassment, parties & witnesses, conduct or discrimination or harassment, date or time period, and potential remedy requested per Rule 27(6)(b).
- 2. Provide your best documentation clearing the Human Resource Director from any conflicts of interest since this State Senator over a month ago served notice to the HR Director of pending pay equity complaints against her with BOLI, and a two pre-existing Rule 27 complaint is still standing involving her failures. Reference Rule 27(6)(a).
- Frovide documentation of what immediate action was taken to protect the alleged complainant per Rule  $\sqrt{27}$ (6)(d).
- Frovide the compete and entire list of members and employees who allegedly cooperated with the alleged investigation per Rule 27(6)(f).
- Frovide your notice you allegedly gave to this State Senator that you had received a formal complaint and were initiating an investigation against me per Rule 27(6)(g).
- 6. Provide a copy of the draft findings you allegedly provided to this State Senator per Rule 27(6)(i).
- 7. Provide a copy of the notice you allegedly gave to this State Senator outlining my right to review the draft investigation and request modifications prior to the final report per Rule 27(6)(j).
- 8. Provide a copy of the final findings you allegedly gave this State Senator, the so far unnamed complainant, and the appointing authority per Rule 27(6)(k).
- 9. Provide a copy of the notice provided to the highest-ranking caucus member per Rule 27(6)(c)(A) and Rule 27(6)(c)(A).
- 10. Provide a copy of the presiding officers notification to this State Senator per Rule 27(6)(c)(F).
- 11. Provide a copy of the suspension of Senate Rule 6.40 related to the Ms. Baumgartner's one page narrative provide to me attached. Reference Senate Rule 6.40. Reference Senate Rule 1.01(12).
- 12. Ms. Baumgartner's one page attached alleges criminal threats, therefore, provide 100% of the communications in regard to this matter with the Oregon State Police and the Marion County District Attorney. Please note there is no such record of any complaint with the Oregon Judicial Department per their records as this time. Additionally, as of Sunday afternoon there was no known action to the Oregon State Police. Further, the Marion County District Attorney has raised none of these alleged criminal issued with this State Senator at this time. All are copied.
- 13. Two Oregon State Senators allege either you two, or those involved in the process in the Legislature, attempted, clearly for political reasons, to get a temporary restraining order against this State Senator, therefore, provide 100% of this documentation or deny in writing such documents exist or such action was attempted.
- 14. Provide the name of the individual who provided this to the media while you failed to notify this State Senator of anything.
- 15. Provide 100% of the documentation and communications with Dexter Johnson and Betsy Imholt related to this alleged complaint.

16. Again, this is a formal legal request for 100% of the correspondences, emails, documents, notes, electronic communications, and telephone records related to the attached alleged complaints.

For the record, be reminded Dexter Johnson and myself are in legal conflict before the Oregon State Bar at this time. As to why he has not recused himself from any matter involving me is a serious legal question. This will be added to the bar complaint against Mr. Johnson today.

Additionally, please provide a copy of the Labor Commissioner's exemption from the BOLI settlement that allows Dexter Johnson who has a stack of conflicts of interest to participate in the process in direct violation of the settlement signed by Tina Kotek and Peter Courtney.

Lastly, the hearing on this matter is formally scheduled per that attached for July 8, 2019 which is seven plays. I expect to receive 100% of the requested documentation with in forty-eight (48) hours.

Sincerely demanded,

Brian J. Boquist Oregon State Senator

Reference:

Legislative Branch Personnel Rule 27: Harassment-Free Workplace (Extract)

- (6) Formal complaint process.
- (a) A member of the Legislative Assembly or employee of the Legislative Branch may, within one year of the date of the harassment, initiate a formal complaint process by submitting a complaint with the Human Resources Director. In the event of a conflict with the Human 4 Resources Director, the member or employee may initiate a formal complaint process with a representative from Employee Services or the Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel.
- (b) A formal complaint shall be in writing and include: (A) The name of the complainant; (B) The name of the person or persons alleged to be involved in the harassment; (C) The names of all parties involved, including witnesses; (D) A description of the conduct that the member or employee believes is discriminatory or harassing; (E) The date or time period in which the alleged conduct occurred; and (F) A description of the potential remedy the member or employee desires.
- (c) The office or person that receives the complaint may require that an incomplete complaint be supplemented by the complainant to correct deficiencies.
- (d) When a formal complaint is submitted, Employee Services or the Office of Legislative Counsel shall immediately take appropriate action to ensure that the complainant has a safe and nonhostile work environment.
- (e) The persons who receive a formal complaint shall, within 10 days after receipt of the complaint, appoint an investigator. In all instances in which the person alleged to be involved in the harassment is a member of the Legislative Assembly, the investigator may not be an employee of the Legislative Branch and shall have experience conducting investigations of harassment. With respect to any other complaint, the persons who receive the complaint shall appoint an investigator who is an employee of Employee Services, an employee of the Office of Legislative Counsel or an investigator unaffiliated with the Legislative Branch with experience conducting investigations of harassment.
- (f) All members and employees involved in the investigation shall cooperate with the investigation and keep information regarding the investigation confidential. However, certain Legislative Branch records are subject to public records requests under ORS 192.410 to 192.505. (g) The person alleged to be involved in the harassment shall be notified that a formal complaint has been received and an investigation has been initiated.

Exhibit 1. Page 7 of 12.

- (h) The investigator shall conduct an investigation and present a draft findings of fact and recommendations within 60 days of appointment under paragraph (e) of this subsection. The investigator may be granted an extension of time by the Human Resources Director or the Office of Legislative Counsel to complete the investigation.
- Notification and copies of the draft findings of fact and recommendations will be given to the Human Resources Director, the Office of the Legislative Counsel, the complainant and the person alleged to be involved in the harassment.
- (1) Within five days after notification under paragraph
- (i) of this subsection, recipients may request modifications to the findings of fact. Any requests to modify the findings of fact must be made in writing and must explain the reason for the modification. Requests for modification may be granted at the discretion of Employee Services and the Office of the Legislative Counsel.
- (k) Within 10 days after receipt of the final report, the Human Resources Director or the Office of the Eegislative Counsel shall submit the investigator's final findings and recommendations report to the complainant, the person alleged to be involved in the harassment and the appointing authority of the person alleged to be involved in the harassment.
- (L) The appointing authority shall act on recommendations received as soon as practicable after receipt. 5 (m) Even if no formal complaint process is initiated, Employee Services, in consultation with the Office of the Legislative Counsel, shall investigate instances of severe or pervasive harassment or discrimination based on a protected class, which may result in corrective action against a member or employee who engages in harassment as described in this rule.
- (8) Formal complaints against members.
- (a) If the person alleged to be involved in the harassment is a member of the Legislative Assembly, the final report shall be given to the respective special committee on conduct of the chamber in which the member serves. Special committees on conduct are established as prescribed in subsection (12) of this rule.
- (b) When a special committee on conduct receives an investigator's final findings and recommendations report, the committee shall schedule a public hearing and give notice to the complainant and alleged harasser of the date and location of the hearing. The hearing may not be set for a date that is less than 14 days nor more than 45 days after the committee receives the investigator's final report.
- (c) At the hearing, the complainant and the alleged harasser, or their attorneys, may present documents or other evidence and may suggest witnesses. Only committee members may question or otherwise address witnesses. Committee members shall limit the scope of their questions to topics that a court in this state would deem relevant in a civil action involving the same conduct.
- (d) The committee shall deliberate on the investigator's final report, testimony and other evidence presented at the hearing and report a recommendation. The committee may recommend: (A) Reprimand; (B) Censure; (C) Expulsion; or (D) That the committee take no further action.
- (e) The committee shall report its recommendation to the complainant and the person alleged to be involved in the harassment. The complainant and the person shall each have 10 days to request that the committee review the recommendations. A request for review shall be in writing and shall state the requester's objections to the recommendation. A copy of the request for review shall be given to the other party, who shall have five days to respond in writing to the request for review. The committee shall consider the request for review and response and report its 7 recommendation within 10 days after the date for the filing of the response to a request for review.
- (f) At the end of any review period under paragraph (e) of this subsection, the committee's recommendation shall be made to the chamber for which the committee serves. The chamber shall take action on the recommendation on the next day that it convenes. Any sanction considered by a chamber shall be adopted by the chamber only upon receiving at least a two-thirds majority vote in favor of adoption of the sanction.

Senate Rules.

6.40 Discipline. If a member is called to order for words spoken in debate, the member objecting shall	
immediately repeat the words to which objection is taken and they shall be recorded in the journal. However,	if
any other member has spoken or other business has intervened after the words were spoken and before the	
bjection was made, the member shall not be held answerable or subject to censure.	

Los Definitions. (12) "Remonstrance" may be considered as a "protest" under section 26, Article IV of the Dregon Constitution.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

This message has been scanned for virus content by Symantec Anti-Virus, and is believed to be clean. Viruses are often contained in attachments - Email with specific attachment types are automatically deleted. If you need to receive one of these attachments contact Marion County IT for assistance.

Exhibit 1. Page 9 of 12.

Patsy Wood, Committee Assistant





Members

Sen Floyd Prozanski, Chair Sen Tim Knopp Sen James Manning Jr Sen. Kim Thatcher

# SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CONDUCT

**Oregon State Capitol** 900 Court Street NE, Room 453, Salem, Oregon 97301 Phone: 503-986-1515 Email: scon.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

**AGENDA** 

#### **MONDAY**

Date:

July 8, 2019

Time:

9:00 A.M.

Room:

HR B

#### **Organizational Meeting**

Adoption of Committee Rules

### Public Hearing and Possible Work Session

Invited testimony only

Consideration of Interim Finding and Recommendation from Outside Counsel Related to Sen. Boquist

Send materials or presentations to the email at the top of the agenda 24 hours in advance of the meeting date. All submissions will be posted and made public on the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS).

**Employee Services** 

June 25, 2019

TO: Senate President Courtney Senator Baertschiger, Senate Republican Leader Senator Prozanski, Chair Senate Conduct Committee Senator Knopp, Senate Conduct Committee Senator Manning Jr., Senate Conduct Committee Senator Thatcher, Senate Conduct Committee

FROM: Jessica Knieling, Interim HR Director

RE: Interim Finding and Recommendation

Senators,

Today, Legislative Counsel, Dexter Johnson and I received a memo from an outside counsel with an interim finding and recommendation in response to numerous Rule 27 reports and complaints related to Senator Boquist.

The independent investigator issued a finding of a Rule 27 violation by Senator Boquist. The independent investigator further recommended Senator Boquist be removed from the workplace to mitigate risk during the pendency of the remainder of the investigation and advised that applicable law and Rule 27 prohibit him from engaging in retaliation.

Today I spoke with Senator Baertschiger as the highest ranking member of the caucus and advised him of the report and the recommendation. I inquired as to whether there was an opportunity for voluntary compliance. He did not see an opportunity to request voluntary compliance. I advised him I would be forwarding to the Presiding Officer as well as the Senate Conduct Committee.

The independent investigator, Legislative Counsel and Legislative Administration have no authority to implement the independent investigator's recommendations to ensure employees are safe and the threats will not be carried out or incite others to violence. My understanding is that only the full senate can undertake any such action. As such I am providing the interim finding and recommendation to you for your consideration and action.

Exhibit 1.



#### CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

June 25, 2019

TO:

JESSICA KNIELING, INTERIM HR DIRECTOR

DEXTER JOHNSON, LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FROM:

BRENDA K. BAUMGART

RE:

Senator Brian Boquist/Interim Finding & Recommendations

As you know, I have been assigned to handle numerous Rule 27 matters related to Senator Brian Boquist. One of the categories of reports pertains to both Members and staff raising concerns about Senator Boquist's comments on the Senate floor on Wednesday, June 19, 2019, and subsequent media comments. I have reviewed (and watched) these public statements made by Senator Boquist, which include in relevant part:

- A statement on the Senate floor directed to President Courtney: "If you send the State Police to get me, hell is coming to visit you personally."
- A statement to the media directed to the Oregon State Police, "I am quotable, so here
  is the quote... Send bachelors and come heavily armed. I am not going to be a
  political prisoner in the State of Oregon, it's just that simple."
  <a href="https://twitter.com/PatDooris/status/1141464157574684673">https://twitter.com/PatDooris/status/1141464157574684673</a>

Senator Boquist's statements are public and irrefutable. On their face, they constitute credible threats of violence directed at the Senate President and the Oregon State Police. These threats of violence directly have caused Members and Branch employees to report concerns, including for the safety and well-being of themselves and others and that they have been subjected to an intimidating and/or hostile work environment. Reports are that people are fearful and scared to come to work. These reports are credible.

Accordingly, and given the gravity of the situation as it pertains to threats of violence in the workplace, I issue an Interim Finding that Senator Boquist's indisputable, public threats of violence violate Rule 27. I recommend immediate measures be taken to ensure that the Capitol is free from threats of (or actual) violence and intimidation. The customary and best practice is to not allow the person who has threatened violence to return to the workplace until the employer

## Sen Boquist

From: Miles Cameron

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2019 1:43 PM

**To:** Sen Boquist

**Subject:** Public Records Request LC 8000 (2021)

Attachments: Ic8000 acknowledgement.pdf; Ic8000 responses.pdf

Sen. Boquist-

Stached is a letter regarding your July 1, 2019 public records request related to complaints filed against you and Esponses provided to you by Jessica Knieling regarding your requests for specific records.

Thanks,

Cameron D. Miles
Staff Attorney
Office of Legislative Counsel
cameron.miles@oregonlegislature.gov
(503) 986-1243

\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*

This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this e-mail in error, please advise me immediately by reply e-mail, keep the contents confidential, and immediately delete the message and any attachments from your system.



900 COURT ST NE S101 SALEM, OREGON 97301-4065 (503) 986-1243 FAX (503) 373-1043 www oregonlegislature gov/lc

### STATE OF OREGON LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL COMMITTEE

July 3, 2019

Senator Brian Boquist 900 Court Street NE S311 Salem OR 97301

Re: Public Records Request LC 8000

Dear Senator Boquist:

In accordance with ORS 192.324 (2), this acknowledges our receipt of your public records request dated July 1, 2019. Your request tracking number is LC 8000. Please reference this number in future correspondence.

Legislative branch staff will search for the records and make an appropriate response as soon as practicable and without unreasonable delay. You will receive an estimate of any fees to be charged for responding to your request before your request is processed. See ORS 192.324.

Very truly yours,

DEXTER A. JOHNSON Legislative Counsel

By

Cameron D. Miles Staff Attorney 1. Copy of the formal complaint including name, persons involved in harassment, parties & witnesses, conduct or discrimination or harassment, date or time period, and potential remedy requested per Rule 27(6)(b).

I do not have a copy of a formal complaint related to the documents you attached.

2. Provide your best documentation clearing the Human Resource Director from any conflicts of interest since this State Senator over a month ago served notice to the HR Director of pending pay equity complaints against her with BOLI, and a two pre-existing Rule 27 complaint is still standing involving her failures. Reference Rule 27(6)(a).

The HR Director, consistent with prior communications and Rule 27 can receive reports and complaints, but then must forward any report, informal or formal complaint to outside counsel. I received and forwarded consistent with the BOLI agreement and Rule 27. You have never filed a Rule 27 complaint with me. You have stated you are aware of harassment and discrimination which I have treated as reports and requested outside counsel contact you for intake. My understanding is none of those reports have resulted in a Rule 27 complaint filed by you.

3. Provide documentation of what immediate action was taken to protect the alleged complainant per Rule 27(6)(d).

Please see memo from the Presiding Officers outlining options for employees who are concerned about safety and health in the Capitol sent on Thursday, June 20. There was a subsequent email sent out by me to the branch on Friday, June 28. Rule 27 (6) applies to formal complaints which was not the impetus for this memo. Nonetheless, these communications were to ensure employees had a safe and nonhostile work environment.



4. Provide the compete and entire list of members and employees who allegedly cooperated with the alleged investigation per Rule 27(6)(f).

Ms. Baumgart's June 25 memo clearly states her finding and recommendation are based upon public statements. My understanding is there was no need for members or employees to cooperate as the statements were public.

5. Provide your notice you allegedly gave to this State Senator that you had received a formal complaint and were initiating an investigation against me per Rule 27(6)(g).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint.

6. Provide a copy of the draft findings you allegedly provided to this State Senator per Rule 27(6)(i).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint.

7. Provide a copy of the notice you allegedly gave to this State Senator outlining my right to review the draft investigation and request modifications prior to the final report per Rule 27(6)(j).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint.

8. Provide a copy of the final findings you allegedly gave this State Senator, the so far unnamed complainant, and the appointing authority per Rule 27(6)(k).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint.

9. Provide a copy of the notice provided to the highest-ranking caucus member per Rule 27(6)(c)(A) and Rule 27(6)(c)(A).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint. However, I did contact the highest-ranking caucus member in an effort to explore options for voluntary compliance or other alternatives on June 25. Senator Baertschiger was also not at the Capitol. I reached out to his Chief of Staff and was provided with a number where I could reach him. Senator Baertschiger was not able to offer any options so I advised him I would be providing notice to the Presiding Officers and Conduct Committee as he didn't feel he could reach you or resolve the concern.

10. Provide a copy of the presiding officers notification to this State Senator per Rule 27(6)(c)(F).

No such notice exists. Again, this memo was not borne out of a formal complaint. You already attached what the Committee Chair provided to you in advance of his calling of the July 8 meeting.

11. Provide a copy of the suspension of Senate Rule 6.40 related to the Ms. Baumgartner's one page narrative provide to me attached. Reference Senate Rule 6.40. Reference Senate Rule 1.01(12).

Any Senate Rules questions would be best answered by the Secretary of the Senate.

12. Ms. Baumgartner's one page attached alleges criminal threats, therefore, provide 100% of the communications in regard to this matter with the Oregon State Police and the Marion County District Attorney. Please note there is no such record of any complaint with the Oregon Judicial Department per their records as this time. Additionally, as of Sunday afternoon there was no known action to the Oregon State Police. Further, the Marion County District Attorney has raised none of these alleged criminal issued with this State Senator at this time. All are copied.

I do not see where Ms. Baumgart's letter alleges criminal threats. Which records are you seeking?

13. Two Oregon State Senators allege either you two, or those involved in the process in the Legislature, attempted, clearly for political reasons, to get a temporary restraining order against this State Senator, therefore, provide 100% of this documentation or deny in writing such documents exist or such action was attempted.

I have not attempted to get a restraining order against you and don't know why any state senator would allege otherwise. I believe any attempts at a restraining order would be available through the courts.

14. Provide the name of the individual who provided this to the media while you failed to notify this State Senator of anything.

I do not understand what name you are requesting. I haven't spoken to the media.

15. Provide 100% of the documentation and communications with Dexter Johnson and Betsy Imholt related to this alleged complaint.

This request would need to go through Cameron Miles in Legislative Counsel. Again, the memo was not borne out of a formal complaint.

16. Again, this is a formal legal request for 100% of the correspondences, emails, documents, notes, electronic communications, and telephone records related to the attached alleged complaints.

We forward all records requests, which I believe this to be, to Legislative Counsel for proper handling. You have copied Cameron Miles so I will await his guidance.



### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

900 Court St NE Salem, Oregon 97301

To:

Capitol Staff and Occupants

From:

Peter Courtney, Senate President

Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House

Date:

June 20, 2019

Subject:

Capitol Safety and Health Concerns

Recently, concerns for the safety and wellbeing of our staff and the public have been brought forward. We want to assure you that each and every one of these concerns is being taken seriously. There is no greater priority than the safety of our staff. As most of you know, we are fortunate to have the Oregon State Police in the building. We are taking all reports to OSP and requesting their expertise in ensuring safety and security at the Capitol. While we don't discuss specific security measures, we want you to know OSP is assisting us to take all necessary steps to address specific concerns. In addition, we want to encourage anyone who has a concern to discuss the concern with your supervisor or Jessica Knieling in Employee Services at 503.986.1370. We have options and tools available to assist you.

Peter Courtney

While we have confidence everything is being done to ensure safety and security in the Capitol, you need to feel safe at work. Please let us know what we can do to support you. OSP is also a resource for you to address any safety concerns and they can be reached at 503.375.3555.

Finally, this session the legislature has prioritized changing the culture in the Capitol with a focus on making this building a place where everyone feels safe and welcome. While we work to modify our rules and policies, we know that any real change comes from each of us choosing to behave in a way that promotes this change and finding the courage to report and challenge the behaviors of individuals whose actions serve to intimidate, degrade or devalue others.