



Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

SUPPORT FOR KNUDSEN

staci patton <yayabear3@gmail.com>
To: Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Mon, Oct 19, 2020 at 11:47 AM

Leana,

Good morning. Since I have not heard from you, I assume you were not planning on responding to my email in regards to the Muth/Knudsen issue. I ask that my letter(email of support) & attachment be included in the next packet for public comment in November.

Thanks,
Staci

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **staci patton** <yayabear3@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 15, 2020 at 1:07 PM

Subject: SUPPORT FOR KNUDSEN

To: Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Scott Anderson <scott.anderson@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Annie McHale <annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, <amy.weissfeld@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Matthew Knudsen <matthew.knudsen@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Paul Hendricks <paul.hendricks@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, <robert.muth@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Toby Nixon <president@washingtoncog.org>, Mosbrucker, Rep. Gina <gina.mosbrucker@leg.wa.gov>, Jeanette Foster <jfoster@gorge.net>, Mitch Patton <nwtsrinc@gmail.com>, Sheriff Dave Brown <daveb@co.skamania.wa.us>, Pat Bond <patb@co.skamania.wa.us>

Leana, Scott & Council,

I really do not even know where to start....before the attached letter was even brought to my attention, this morning I had taken a look at tonight's meeting packet,which included emails by Adam Kick as to why he declined to prosecute in the alleged racial remarks incident, at Granny Gedunks.

So, I was really confused when I read Mr. Muths reasoning as to why he says Mr. Knudsen "implied" he was a racist. Thinking there might be a better explanation, I went to the city's youtube page comment section, and after reading, I'm still struggling to see the connection. If Adam Kick cannot prove that Mr Trabue is a racist or made racially charged statements, with the accounts of 2 employees, Im not sure what Mr Muth thinks he will accomplish by his "interpretation", other than being a lawyer and give the appearance of trying to intimidate someone, which is pretty disheartening,in my personal opinion.

So, Mitch and I stand with Pat Rice, in supporting Mr Knudsen if needed, for rallying the troops,and raising funds...elected officials need to find better things to do with their time, like listening to the concerns of their community,not threats of lawsuits, just because.....

Sincerely,
Staci Patton



Muth_Letter.pdf
803K

KILMER, VOORHEES & LAURICK, P.C.

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Robert C. Muth
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Admitted in Oregon and Washington

October 14, 2020

Via Hand Delivery

Matthew Daniel Knudsen
390 NW Chesser Road
Stevenson, WA 98648

Re: Retraction of Public Defamatory Statement

Dear Mr. Knudsen:

You have published a comment to the general public on the City of Stevenson's website link via You Tube of the September 17, 2020 City Council meeting. Your published comment is:

Robert's view that "I have a background in Black studies" has the appearance of "I see no color" or "I have a Black friend". Even if staff thus far have not had any negative interactions, it does not forecast the future. Additionally, even if the city government does not think there is an issue, the community has asked for this, and can be thought of "better safe than sorry"—it hurts nothing to undergo some further education, satisfy the public's concerns, and prepare for the future. This kind of uninterested attitude is just as dangerous as individuals who are overtly racist—as it can pave the way for silently consenting and allowing those situations in the future. The city government needs to be a leader of the community, and if someone like this is going to hold it back—the community needs to be willing to vote them out and support someone who in turn supports this community and its concerns.

First, your comment, published to a third party, is defamatory under Washington law. You have intimated I am a "racist". Since you cannot actually prove I am a "racist"; a subjective label, your comment is not protected speech. Furthermore, you have chosen to make the comment outside of a City Council meeting in a comment section of a YouTube link. As such, your comment is not protected speech under any applicable anti-SLAPP statute.

Second, if you do not delete the comment you published and issue a retraction in the comment section, I will commence legal action against you personally.

You have exactly 24-hours to delete the comment and to publish a retraction stating your comments were improper.

KILMER, VOORHEES & LAURICK, P.C.

Matthew Knudsen

October 14, 2020

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You should govern yourself accordingly.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert C. Muth

Robert C. Muth

RCM:cmo

cc: Scott Anderson, Mayor City of Stevenson via hand delivery

Ken Woodrich, Attorney for City of Stevenson via hand delivery

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