

BEFORE THE BOARD OF ETHICS
FOR THE CITY OF TACOMA

In the Matter of the Complaint Against
Mayor Marilyn Strickland

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND
ORDER OF DISMISSAL OF BOARD
OF ETHICS

Board of Ethics Complaint No. 2015-003

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- 1.1. On July 8, 2015 the City of Tacoma Office of the City Clerk received a handwritten completed City of Tacoma Conduct Complaint form filed by Betsy P. Elgal¹. The above described document is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 1.2. Exhibit A alleges Mayor Strickland wasted the complaining party's valuable time and energy as well as making other statements which are for the most part illegible.
- 1.3. The format of Exhibit A contains several boxes which may be checked to identify the type of complaint the filing party believes he or she is making. Because the box for "Ethics Violation" is checked on Exhibit A the City Clerk's Office processed this matter as a complaint against Mayor Strickland under the City's Code of Ethics, Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 1.46.
- 1.4. The matter was referred to the Board of Ethics as is required by the City's Code of Ethics (Tacoma Municipal Code 1.46.040 B) and was assigned Board of Ethics Complaint No. 2015-003.

¹ The handwritten document is quite difficult to read. The name appears to be Betsy P. Elgal.

- 1.5. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedures of the Board of Ethics, initial review of Complaint No. 2015-003, for the purpose of determining the legal sufficiency of the complaint, was conducted by the Deputy City Attorney assigned as legal advisor to the Board.
- 1.6. It was the initial opinion of the Deputy City Attorney that Complaint No. 2015-003 alleged facts which, even if true, would not constitute a violation of the Code of Ethics by Mayor Strickland and that dismissal of Complaint No. 2015-003 was appropriate pursuant to the Code of Ethics (Tacoma Municipal Code 1.46.045 F (2)(a)(i)).
- 1.7. As directed by the Administrative Procedures of the Board of Ethics, the Deputy City Attorney's initial opinion, together with Complaint No. 2015-003 was provided to the members of the Board of Ethics for review.
- 1.8. A quorum of the Board and unanimously concurred with the initial opinion of the Deputy City Attorney that Complaint No. 2015-003 alleged facts which, even if true, would not constitute a violation of the Code of Ethics and that dismissal of Complaint 2015-003 was appropriate.

II. CONCLUSION

2.1 Complaint No. 2015-003 does not present any facts, which, even if true, would constitute a violation by Mayor Strickland of any provision of the City of Tacoma Code of Ethics, therefore Complaint No. 2015-003 is dismissed pursuant to 1.46.045 F (2)(a)(i).

III. ORDER

Based on the foregoing, Complaint No. 2014-003 is hereby DISMISSED.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2015.

City of Tacoma Board of Ethics

By: Sean Armentrat 
Title: Chair

cc: City Attorney
Mayor Marilyn Strickland
Betsy P. Elgal

"EXHIBIT A"

RECEIVED

DUE # 2015-003 Otrickh

JUL 08 2015

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE



Return form to: Customer Support Center
Room 243
747 Market Street
Tacoma WA 98402

City of Tacoma Conduct Complaint Form

In order to increase transparency, accountability, and responsiveness for citizens and employees, the City of Tacoma has instituted a conduct Complaint Management System. This public web based system will benefit both citizens and employees who have a complaint regarding the conduct of City employees or officials. Citizens can enter complaints directly into an online complaint form, submit paper copies of the form, or direct complaints at any time to any City employee or official. Employees may also enter complaints about the inappropriate conduct of other employees within the organization.

Name: BETSY P. EGAN I am submitting this anonymously

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: 8914 VETERANS DR. SW #C City: Lakewood State: WA 98498

White Black or African American Hispanic or Latino Asian Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander American Indian or Alaskan Native Other I do not wish to designate
MULTI-RACIAL

Type of complaint:

Unsure Ethics Violation Whistleblower Misconduct EEO Workplace Violence

Employee's Department: CHAMBERLAIN (if known)

What is your complaint? (Additional comments or information can be included in attached documents)

I HO REGULARLY MAKE SURE THAT ANY CITY COMPLAINTS WASTING ALL MY VALUABLE TIME & ENERGY. I DO LIVE HERE. I WANT TO KNOW HOW THEY OPERATE HERE IN TACOMA. ESPECIALLY WITH THE CNG. NUNN HIGGS WAS STILL A CONGRESS AND NOTARY OF A 2 MILLION DOLLAR. AND I HO THINK MANY YOU SPURK W/ HAVE, CNG. NUNN HIGGS STAFF.

Signature: In filing this complaint, you are saying that the allegations you are making are true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You acknowledge that the information may be used by the City of Tacoma to further investigate the complaint.

Your signature: Judy Pankin

If you provide an e-mail or mailing address, an e-mail or letter will be sent to you verifying receipt of your complaint and the complaint tracking number. Use this number to follow the status of your complaint at: <http://cityoftacoma.org/complaints>. If you do not receive notification within 10 days, please contact (253) 591-5000.