

Turner, Nicole

From: Thomas Edrington <humboldtnomad@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2022 1:55 PM
To: COB
Cc: Bohn, Rex; Bushnell, Michelle; Wilson, Mike; Bass, Virginia; Madrone, Steve; Kent Sawatzky
Subject: Re: Public comment and letter of intent

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

You will find below an amendment to the letter of intent to sue filed on 4/25/2022. A second plaintiff has been added. Note that there are no alterations to the complaint, settlement demands, or deadline for response save for grammatical alterations. We look forward to your response.

Date: 4/25/2022
From: Thomas Kent Edrington
3318 Harrison Ave. Unit A
Eureka, California 95503
(707) 267-8015

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
825 5th St
Eureka, California 95501

Re: Notice of Intent to File a Lawsuit

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors,

The purpose of this Letter is to provide a formal notice that Thomas Kent Edrington and Kent Sawatzky ("Plaintiffs") intend to file a lawsuit against Humboldt County Board of Supervisors ("Defendant") due to the reasons explained as follows:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors and several executive staff have, on numerous occasions, violated the County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees, listed below. County employees, including elected officials, have improperly utilized county time, premises, resources, and property to pursue electioneering regarding Humboldt County's Auditor Controller election. It is clear that these county employees have no intention of ceasing this activity without legal action. This behavior is beneath the dignity of Humboldt's public servants, and violates county and state regulation. It has damaged the course of the democratic process in the county, and diminished our county's reputation and trust with its citizens and peers.

County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees

1. Except as specifically precluded by state and federal law, all county employees have the right to participate (or not participate) in political activities on their own time.
2. No political activity whatsoever is to take place on County time or County premises.
3. County Officials are reminded that the following activities are strictly prohibited:
 - A. Interrogation of employees (individually or in groups) about their off-time political activities or sentiments.
 - B. Asking one or more employees to report on the off-time political activities or sentiments of another employee.

C. Termination, demotion, transfer, suspension, reassignment, etc. in retaliation for an employee's off-time political activities or sentiments.

D. Compelling any form of political participation.

4. Employees who believe they are being subjected to any unwelcome political influence on the job should be encouraged to contact either the County Administrative Officer or their union representative immediately.

-- **Adopted by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors April 2, 1991.**

1. Settlement Demand. As a result of the aforementioned actions, the Plaintiffs desire the following relief:

County staff and elected officials will immediately cease in electioneering using county resources, time, and premises. The county will immediately and fully enforce the County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees and come into compliance with state law regarding use or denial of public resources to influence elections. Any county staff or elected officials in violation of these regulations shall have the maximum available disciplinary measures levied against them.

This offer to settle the matter out of court and avoid a lawsuit is valid for 10 days from the Date. If Plaintiffs do not receive a favorable response in 10 days, the Plaintiffs will immediately begin a lawsuit.

2. Governing Law. This Letter of Intent to Sue shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California.

Sincerely,

--

Thomas Edrington
Founding Member, Transparent Humboldt Coalition

--

Kent Sawatzky
Public Meeting Enthusiast

On Mon, Apr 25, 2022 at 12:24 PM Thomas Edrington <humboldtnomad@gmail.com> wrote:

My public comment on the Board of Supervisors' 4/26/2022 Agenda Item G-2, "Memo from County Department Heads and Recommendations from the Workforce Development Board related to the duties and responsibilities of the Auditor Controller (Supervisor Bushnell and Supervisor Bass)," is as follows:

Date: 4/25/2022
From: Thomas Kent Edrington
3318 Harrison Ave. Unit A
Eureka, California 95503
(707) 267-8015

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
825 5th St
Eureka, California 95501

Re: Notice of Intent to File a Lawsuit

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors,

The purpose of this Letter is to provide a formal notice that Thomas Kent Edrington ("Plaintiff") intends to file a lawsuit against Humboldt County Board of Supervisors ("Defendant") due to the reasons explained as follows:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors and several executive staff have, on numerous occasions, violated the County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees, listed below. County employees, including elected officials, have improperly utilized county time, premises, resources, and property to pursue electioneering regarding Humboldt County's Auditor Controller election. It is clear that these county employees have no intention of ceasing this activity without legal action. This behavior is beneath the dignity of Humboldt's public servants, and violates county and state regulation. It has damaged the course of the democratic process in the county, and diminished our county's reputation and trust with its citizens and peers.

County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees

1. Except as specifically precluded by state and federal law, all county employees have the right to participate (or not participate) in political activities on their own time.
2. No political activity whatsoever is to take place on County time or County premises.
3. County Officials are reminded that the following activities are strictly prohibited:
 - A. Interrogation of employees (individually or in groups) about their off-time political activities or sentiments.
 - B. Asking one or more employees to report on the off-time political activities or sentiments of another employee.
 - C. Termination, demotion, transfer, suspension, reassignment, etc. in retaliation for an employee's off-time political activities or sentiments.
 - D. Compelling any form of political participation.
4. Employees who believe they are being subjected to any unwelcome political influence on the job should be encouraged to contact either the County Administrative Officer or their union representative immediately.

-- Adopted by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors April 2, 1991.

1. Settlement Demand. As a result of the aforementioned actions, the Plaintiff desires the following relief:

County staff and elected officials will immediately cease in electioneering using county resources, time, and premises. The county will immediately and fully enforce the County of Humboldt Policy Statement Regarding The Political Activities of County Employees and come into compliance with state law regarding use or denial of public resources to influence elections. Any county staff or elected officials in violation of these regulations shall have the maximum available disciplinary measures levied against them.

This offer to settle the matter out of court and avoid a lawsuit is valid for 10 days from the Date. If the Plaintiff does not receive a favorable response in 10 days, the Plaintiff will immediately begin a lawsuit.

2. Governing Law. This Letter of Intent to Sue shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California.

Sincerely,

--

Thomas Edrington
Founding Member, Transparent Humboldt Coalition

--

Thomas Edrington
Cannabis Business Strategist