

King County Elections

From: Egan, Bobbie
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2006 6:51 PM
To: Huff Menees, Sherril
Subject: RE: Media calls - today

Forgive the sarcasm... I do not care if he reads this e-mail through a public records request.

-----Original Message-----

From: Huff Menees, Sherril
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2006 6:50 PM
To: Egan, Bobbie
Subject: Re: Media calls - today

Thank you Bobbie.

----- Original Message -----

From: Egan, Bobbie
To: Sims, Ron; Duncan, Carolyn; Tanaka, Paul; Triplett, Kurt; Whitney, Sheryl; Huff Menees, Sherril; Bouffiou, Sean; Jones, Natasha; Whalen, Caroline; Bayne, Ryan; Quinn, De'Sean; Coppersmith, Megan; Bascom, Brooke; Strouse, Michael; Buck, Jim
Sent: Tue Oct 10 18:47:32 2006
Subject: Media calls - today

We rec'd a call from TV W's Mike Bay about our election results schedule and just one other call from Keith Ervin.

Keith is filling in for Sharon Chan while she is on vacation in China for the next two weeks.

Keith enjoys writing stories about King County Elections staff taking vacations and plans to write a story about Jim Buck's long-planned anniversary vacation.

Keith claims he rec'd an anonymous "tip" from a King County Elections employee who is concerned that our "chief" is out of the office during a critical time before the General Election. Of course, long before Dean Logan ever planned to go to L.A, Jim planned a celebratory anniversary trip to Europe (Oct.5 to Oct.25). Keith interviewed Sherril Huff Menees, our very capable Assistant Director who devotes 120 percent of her attention to King County Elections. Sherril explained our office is a well-oiled machine and that we have not heard of any concerns by staff that Jim is out of the office. In fact, Sherril has assumed many of the Superintendent functions since 2005 when she became Assistant Director. Sherril shared with Keith her experience as a two-term, Kitsap County Auditor and the role she has played at REALS since Feb 2005.

We told Keith: " If there is a concern, we want to know so we can fix it immediately. Our focus right now is on the quality control improvements we've made to improve our procedures. King County has implemented quality standards recognized as the best in the nation which tells me we are very well-prepared heading into the General Election. The fact is, the kind of work we're doing now is standard processes we do up to six times a year and the key people taking the lead are either veteran staff OR professionals we've hired from the private sector."

By way of background, I explained to Keith that Walt Washington, a veteran superintendent of both the Recorder's office and Animal Services, assumed the position of Assistant Director in mid-July and has taken over responsibility for Records, Licensing and Animal Services.

Councilmember Phillips' staff informed me this afternoon that Keith called to get his take on Jim's scheduled vacation.

When asked, Keith said he would consider writing a story about Sharon Chan's vacation to China.

That is it for King County Elections.

-Bobbie

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