

All,

After considering the email sent by Royce Buckingham on behalf of Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Richey yesterday and the position taken on this matter, I have some comments.

First, I am no longer the Chair of the Whatcom County Republican Party, John Ramsey was elected to this position on December 12, 2020 and is included in this email. So I do not speak for the WCRP at this time. However, since this was originally my complaint, I would like to make it known that I do not agree with the assessment made to not prosecute under state law.

Royce Buckingham, on behalf of Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Richey, states " Based upon the evidence referred to our office, there is not sufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a thing of value was exchanged for votes "for or against" a particular person or measure."

This statement was used as the main reason not to prosecute the case. However, this reason is nonsensical as the phrase in state law includes both "for and against", which means it is not necessary to prove the intent of the voter because they clearly voted "for or against" a candidate when they cast their vote. Unless, of course, the ballots were turned in blank, which is hard to imagine and not reasonable to argue. So, yes, the Lummi Votes project offered a thing of value for a vote "for or against" a candidate and this is against state law.

It doesn't take much imagination or, quite honestly, intellectual integrity to conclude the Lummi Votes project was designed to promote votes for Joe Biden and the Democrat slate in Whatcom County as the video evidence clearly shows Biden campaign signs at polling locations (also a state law violation) as well as an almost 2 hour forum featuring the Democratic candidates running for various offices in Whatcom County and the Chair of the Democratic Party, Andrew Redding put on by Lummi Nation Votes. I can tell you that I received no such invitation to participate in a forum and neither did any of the Republican supported candidates. Not to mention the FB post with the organizer of Lummi Nation Votes excitedly exclaiming "We did it!" After the election on November 3rd showed the results of the election favored Democrat candidates winning in Whatcom County, State and Federal races. It just doesn't pass the smell test to try and argue that we don't know who the Lummi Nation Votes project was attempting to promote during the 2020 General election. They were clearly promoting Democrat candidates.

Which leads me to the possible reason our Prosecuting Attorney is loathe to prosecute this case. Prosecuting Attorney Eric Richey, Democrat, publicly endorsed and supported at least two Democrat candidates, Alicia Rule and Sharon Shewmake. I witnessed his endorsement sent out on mailers and heard his radio spots supporting them. He may

have done more that I'm not aware of. Clearly, he was working to help get them elected and now finds himself in an compromised position as he is asked to follow the laws he was sworn to uphold and doing so will be counter to his desire to support Shewmake and Rule. It's reasonable to assume his office is not capable of performing their responsibilities in this matter and my recommendation to all is to move this out of Whatcom County based on the compromised position of our elected Prosecuting Attorney and his office.

On a final note, I would ask you to consider had this been the Whatcom Republicans, how would you proceed? I think we know the answer to that. Disgraceful.

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Email sent from iPad