June 14, 2025

TO: **United States Department of Justice**, U.S. DOJ Public Integrity Section (or U.S. Attorney for Western District of Washington), Federal Bureau of Investigation
TO: **Washington State Attorney General's Office**, Public Integrity Unit, Government Compliance & Enforcement, Criminal Justice Division, OPMA Unit, Environmental Protection Division

TO: **Washington State Auditor's Office** (Pat McCarthy, Kelly Collins, Tina Wakins, Sadi Armijo, Washington Special Investigations Unit

FROM: Otto Pointer, Blaine Water Coalition (Alias protected by Anti-SLAPP Act)

RE: **Formal Complaint –** Unlawful Conduct, Altering of Public Records and Legal Violations by City of Blaine Officials – Request for State and Federal Investigation & Invalidation of Blaine Ordinance 25-3028

## I. INTRODUCTION

This complaint is submitted on behalf of the Blaine Water Coalition (BWC). This complaint is not merely a land-use appeal. It alleges criminal conduct (RCW 40.16.010), ethical violations (RCW 42.23), focusing on prohibited contract interest, the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine (RCW 42.36), in connection with the City's 2025 Urban Mixed-Use (UMU) rezoning action and fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1346). These causes of action are not beholden to the SEPA appeal process and must be investigated independently.

This complaint is not an isolated incident but the latest example in a documented pattern of regulatory non-compliance and enforcement failures by the City of Blaine, which are the subject of existing complaints before the Department of Ecology and the EPA.

#### II. PARTIES INVOLVED AND ROLES

- Sam Randhawa, Planning Commissioner and real estate agent (Freeman Real Estate), whose direct financial interest in properties within the UMU (2670 Bell Road) increased from an official assessed value of \$629,639 to a market listing price of \$2,700,000 (a 328.8% markup) listed 27 days after his vote to rezone the UMU. This represents a potential realtor commission of \$67,500 (compared to \$15,741 on assessed value).
- 2. **Ali Taysi**, Private consultant (AVT Consulting) hired by the City of Blaine who allegedly simultaneously represented developers poised to financially benefit from the zoning changes, creating an undisclosed conflict of interest.

Alex Wenger authorized payments of \$1,846.50 to Ali Taysi (AVT Consulting) to help rewrite City zoning laws in a manner that favored the financial interests of developers Mr. Taysi simultaneously represented. Mr. Wenger violated competitive procurement requirements under RCW 39.04 and city policy. Wenger failed to solicit competitive bids, document a sole source justification, or disclose the conflict of interest, in violation of RCW 42.23 and MRSC procurement standards.

3. Alex Wenger – Director of Community Development Services (CDS), City of Blaine, reporting to Mike Harmon, City Manager allegedly intentionally sanitized and omitted key public comments for Planning Commissioner Chair Calvin Armerding's approval, including Department of Ecology 2024 Western Washington Stormwater requirements and critical protections under CRA (Critical Resource Area) – next to salmon running Dakota Creek) for the same property, from the official Planning Commission Recommendation (File #2025006) sent to the City Council before its vote on Ordinance 25-3028.

Property values appreciated in value as mitigation requirements such as creek setbacks, stormwater management were relaxed or eliminated in the rezoned areas. A pattern of City record sanitization is well documented constituting Injury to a Public Record, a Class C felony under RCW 40.16.010.

4. Alex Wenger - Gatekeeper of Information for City Council & Planning Commission

Director Wenger's role was not merely administrative in the UMU rezone amendment and Hearing; he was the primary architect of the flawed and biased outcome. By using his dual authority as the CDS Director and SEPA Official without separation of duties, he controls the public record. At the outset of the public hearing, he actively discredited and dismissed the BWC's substantive comments before they were even presented, shaping the Commission's perception. He then leveraged this authority to create sanitized recommendations for City Council to benefit favored parties, ensuring that no dissenting information would interfere with the predetermined outcome he and the conflicted parties sought. This constitutes a deprivation of the public's right to his honest services under 18 U.S.C. § 1346.

All three parties—Randhawa, Wenger, and Taysi—failed to disclose their conflicts of interest when asked directly by the Planning Commission Chair Armerding.

## II. SUMMARY TABLE OF ALEGED LEGAL VIOLATIONS AND POTENTIAL CHARGES

Party	Position	Alleged Violations	Applicable Laws
Sam Randhawa	Realtor, Planning Commissioner	Conflict of interest, failure to recuse, false declaration	RCW 42.23.030, RCW 42.36, RCW 42.20.040
Alex Wenger	City of Blaine Community Development Services (CDS)	Felony Injury to Public Record; Misconduct, public records manipulation, conflict of interest, procurement violation, willful disobeyance of law	RCW 40.16.010, RCW 42.23.030, RCW 42.23.070, RCW 42.20.080, RCW 39.04.280, 18 U.S.C. §1346 (federal)
Ali Taysi	Private consultant, AVT Consulting	Dual agency without disclosure, aiding misconduct, possible fraud	RCW 9A.08.020, RCW 18.86.030/.060, 18 U.S.C. §1346 (federal)

## **III. CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS**

- **December 9, 2024:** The Blaine Water Coalition (BWC) submits a formal objection to the City of Blaine regarding the appointment of Sam Randhawa to the Planning Commission, citing his real estate profession and the high potential for future conflicts of interest.
- **February 21, 2025:** During a City ethics study session, City Attorney Peter Ruffatto explicitly warns all officials, including Commissioner Randhawa, that for direct financial conflicts, "recusal is not a cure" and the conflict "simply cannot coexist" with public office, directly referencing the controlling precedent of City of Raymond v. State Auditor.
- March 3, 2025: BWC) files a formal SEPA appeal of the City's Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS-2025006) for the PC-to-UMU rezone. The appeal was denied standing due to insufficient funds (\$500) despite request for relief for seniors on fixed incomes (note - City of Blaine SEPA appeal fees are \$2500 per appeal – approximately 2.5X higher than Whatcom County).
- March 5, 2025: Having been procedurally blocked from the SEPA process, the BWC submits its substantive environmental and procedural objections as written public comments directly to the Planning Commission for inclusion in the legislative record of the upcoming March 13 hearing.

- March 7, 2025: Director Wenger formally denies the BWC's request for intervenor status, stating the status does not apply to the Planning Commission.
- March 10, 2025: In response to BWC inquiries about the legality of the City's hearing process, Director Wenger refuses to address the specific legal questions. Instead, he issues a formal statement that the "City Planning Commission is an advisory body and does not review SEPA determinations."

Legal Significance: Wenger's March 10 written statement provides crucial evidence that contradicts the City's earlier position. After denying BWC's SEPA appeal on March 3 and their intervenor request on March 7, Wenger explicitly confirmed that the Planning Commission process operates independently of SEPA review. This admission undermines the City's implicit argument that SEPA was BWC's sole legal remedy since Wenger himself acknowledged that the Planning Commission—where the actual zoning recommendation occurred—was separate from and not subject to SEPA oversight. This procedural acknowledgment supports BWC's position that their ethical and criminal law allegations exist independently of the SEPA process and require separate investigation.

**Evidence of Procedural Irregularity/Misdirection:** Mr. Wenger's statement can be interpreted as evidence that the City either intentionally or unintentionally misdirected BWC regarding the appropriate legal channels. If the Planning Commission was the body making the critical zoning recommendation, and it was not subject to SEPA review, then directing BWC to SEPA for issues related to that recommendation was misleading

- March 13, 2025 (The Hearing): The Planning Commission holds a Type III-Legislative hearing. Despite direct inquiries from the Planning Commission Chair, Commissioner Randhawa, Director Wenger, and Mr. Taysi each fail to disclose their respective conflicts of interest. The Commission, with Randhawa participating, votes 6-0 to recommend the UMU rezone.
- Post-March 13, 2025 (The Alteration of the Record): Director Wenger prepares the official Planning Commission Recommendation for the City Council. This document is "sanitized" to deliberately omit all substantive public comments and, crucially, his own on-the-record acknowledgment that the 2024 Stormwater Management Manual would apply. The misleading document is then approved by Chair Calvin Armerding.

## Exhibit

under City file number 2025006. Public Notice of this SEPA DNS was published in the Bellingham Herald and posted at city hall on the same day. The City received correspondence from Otto Pointer and Jay Taber. No other comments were received. The fourteen-day SEPA comment/appeal period concluded March 5, 2025.

Source: Ordinance 25-3028, Planning Commission Recommendation to City Council

 April 28, 2025 (The Final Action): Based on the sanitized and misleading recommendation document, the City Council passes Ordinance 25-3028, adopting the UMU zoning. The final ordinance omits the critical stormwater requirements and other environmental protections that were purged from the record.

## IV. ALLEGATIONS AND CLAIMS

## Allegation Count 1: Conflict of Interest (RCW 42.23)

Commissioner Sam Randhawa's concurrent roles as Planning Commissioner and licensed real estate agent for properties directly impacted by the rezoning constitute a clear and prohibited "beneficial interest" under RCW 42.23.030. His affirmative vote materially increased the market value of these properties from assessed value of \$629,639 to \$2.7 million property listing, resulting in a personal financial gain, including an estimated \$67,500 in sales commissions, and windfall of \$2,070,361 (if sold at listing) to the Freeman Family Revocable Trust which owns the property<sup>1</sup> and is affiliated with Freeman Real Estate where Mr. Randhawa has agency relationship.

Despite explicit and direct inquiries during public hearings, Commissioner Randhawa failed to disclose this conflict and did not recuse himself, thereby violating his statutory and ethical duties. Washington Attorney General opinions, reinforced by City Attorney guidance<sup>2</sup>, confirm that such direct, targeted financial benefits trigger mandatory recusal and that failure to comply renders any related contracts or decisions void ab initio and may warrant forfeiture of office.

# Allegation Count 2: Appearance of Fairness Doctrine (RCW 42.36) and the Quasi-Judicial Nature of the Targeted Rezoning

Although the City of Blaine CDS classified the March 13, 2025 hearing as a "Type III-Legislative" action, the rezoning's substance and effect were fundamentally quasi-judicial in nature, thereby invoking the mandatory fairness and disclosure requirements of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine (RCW 42.36). The rezone fails the test for a true legislative act and instead meets the established legal criteria for a quasi-judicial decision (e.g., Raynes v. City of Leavenworth, 1992).

The rezone was not an area-wide legislative change. It was a targeted, highly localized rezone action designed to benefit two specific identifiable parties (Freeman Family Trust

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Whatcom County Assessor's office (4001075483020000, 4001075163010000, 4001075363600000)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Washington Attorney General opinions, reinforced by City Attorney Rufatto's explicit advice that for a 'direct financial interest in that contract recusal is not going to be an option' and that 'the more direct the more targeted the financial benefit the more you're going to have a problem', confirm that such direct, targeted financial benefits trigger mandatory recusal. The *City of Raymond v. State Auditor* (1998) case strictly enforces RCW 42.23, holding that such actions are void and require forfeiture of office regardless of intent or recusal.

and Lincoln Village LLC) over the objections of identifiable opponents (BWC)) - refer to appendices for maps, property records, property pictures and developer relationships.

- 1. The Action Was Not "Area-Wide" but Highly Localized. The UMU rezone was not a broad policy change affecting the community at large. Its primary and immediate effect was to confer substantial development rights and financial benefits upon only two key properties: the Freeman Family Trust parcel at 2670 Bell Road (represented by Commissioner Randhawa) and the Lincoln Village LLC property (whose developer has an agency relationship with City consultant Ali Taysi). This targeted application, affecting a small group of citizens more acutely than the public, is a hallmark of a quasi-judicial action.
- 2. **Determined Legal Rights:** The vote was not an abstract policy debate but a decision that granted specific landowners new, valuable development entitlements, functioning as a site-specific rezone for their direct benefit.
- 3. There Were Readily Identifiable Proponents and Opponents. The proceedings were not a general policy debate but a contest between specific parties with vested interests. The proponents were clearly identifiable: Commissioner Randhawa, the Freeman Family Trust, and Mr. Taysi's developer client (Lincoln Village LLC). The opponents were also identifiable, including the Blaine Water Coalition, which was denied intervenor status.

Consequently, the strict standards of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine apply. Commissioner Randhawa's direct and undisclosed financial stake created an impermissible "entangling influence" and a "pall of partiality" (*Buell v. City of Bremerton*, 1989) over the proceedings. His failure to recuse himself, despite prior legal warnings, constitutes a procedural defect that renders Ordinance 25-3028 void and unenforceable under Washington law.

# Allegation Count 3: Public Misconduct and Ethical Breaches by Alex Wenger and Ali Taysi

The Municipal Ethics Act (RCW 42.23) prohibits public officials from having a beneficial interest in contracts they authorize. It does not provide an exception for "small amounts."

Director Alex Wenger authorized the disbursement of \$1,846.50 in public funds to Ali Taysi, a private consultant who simultaneously represented developers poised to benefit from the zoning amendments.

Arguing this is de minimus for multi-source bids ignores the scale of the resulting benefit conferred by Wenger worth an estimated \$500,000 in increased land value to Mr. Taysi's developer client. The actions of Mr. Wenger constitute **Procurement Misconduct** and an illegal conflict of interest under **RCW 42.23**, as it used public office to generate a private windfall, regardless of the contract's size upon a consultant with developer ties. The

minimal contract amount does not excuse the violation; under **RCW 42.23.050**, the contract is void and the action may be grounds for forfeiture of office.

Consequently, this violates the Washington State procurement law (**RCW 39.04.280**) and City of Blaine purchasing policy, and MRSC guidance. This contract was awarded without soliciting the required three bids, without documented justification for a sole source. The "small city" or "limited resources" argument is not a legal exemption under Washington law or city policy.

Neither Mr. Wenger nor Mr. Taysi disclosed these material conflicts of interest, thereby breaching their duties of transparency, good governance and the duty of care. The benefit to the developer (P. Blair Murray - Lincoln Village LLC) allegedly affiliated with Mr. Taysi exceeded an estimated \$500,000 in land value<sup>3</sup>, the benefit to Mr. Randhawa in approximately \$67,000 in commissions and \$2.1 million in rezoned land value.

Both individuals are potentially liable under federal and state fraud and false claims statutes. If after investigation this is proven, Mr. Taysi's undisclosed dual agency breaches professional fiduciary duties and contractual obligations requiring full disclosure and fair dealing. Under RCW 9A.08.020<sup>4</sup>, Mr. Taysi may be held liable for aiding and abetting official misconduct.

# Allegation Count 4: Omission of Material Facts, Altering Public Records and Public Comment by Alex Wenger

For Type III legislative hearings, such as the Planning Commission Hearing on March 13, 2025, Meeting minutes must include

- A summary or verbatim record of public comments, especially those relevant to the decision or recommendation.
- Key statements by officials addressing regulatory compliance or public concerns.
- Deliberations showing how input was considered.

The deliberate omission and sanitization of environmental comments from public records by **Director Alex Wenger demonstrates a pattern of public misconduct and potential class C felony "Injury to a Public Record" under RCW 40.16.010.** 

For example, during the March 13, 2025 Planning Commission meeting, Director Wenger explicitly stated the applicability of the 2024 Western Washington Stormwater Management Manual and required critical area setbacks for the Freeman property. This

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$ (~ plats: 4001065725200000, 4001065725680000, 4001065415630000, 4001065305680000, list may not be all inclusive)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mr. Wenger and Mr. Taysi failed to disclose these material conflicts of interest, thereby breaching their duties of transparency and good governance and potentially constituting **procurement misconduct**. Mr. Taysi may be held liable for **aiding and abetting official misconduct under RCW 9A.08.020**, as well as **false pretenses**. His undisclosed dual agency constitutes a **breach of professional fiduciary duties** and contractual obligations requiring full disclosure and fair dealing, particularly if it influenced legislation.

crucial information, along with other substantive environmental and procedural objections, was deliberately omitted from the official planning commission minutes and recommendations forwarded to the City Council for their vote on Ordinance 25-3028

"There were some comments about neglect for stormwater and sewage impacts. And I do want to point out that the city has opted into the 2024 [Dept of Ecology Western Washington] stormwater manual. So that will apply to this project. We've had a lot of discussion about that. So any new development that comes into the city or the zoning district, either one, of course, I'm going to be subject to the most current." – Alex Wenger (Source: Meeting Recording Transcript Timestamp: 09:24–09:53, March 13, 2025 Planning Commission)

By removing all substantive regulatory compliance protections<sup>5</sup> afforded to Dakota Creek and procedural objections from the official recommendation sent to the City Council—including his own acknowledgment of the 2024 Stormwater Manual requirements—Mr. Wenger prevented council members from making informed decisions and exercising their duty of care, leading to their unanimous approval of Ordinance 25-3028 based on a sanitized and misleading record.

**Note:** The City has argued in the past that audio recordings of meetings constitute the complete record. This is incorrect.<sup>6</sup> **The injury to the public record is the creation of a fraudulent derivative record—the official recommendation—with the clear intent to deceive the City Council and induce a legislative decision based on incomplete and misleading information.** 

## Implications of Record Alteration:

Such willful sanitization of planning commission minutes and public comments directly impeded the City Council's ability to engage in informed deliberation, make sound voting decisions, and fulfill their duty of care.

This deliberate record manipulation directly benefited property owners by facilitating a rezone that relaxed or eliminated critical mitigation requirements for properties like 2590 Bell Road, located in critical areas and groundwater recharge zones adjacent to the salmon-bearing Dakota Creek<sup>7</sup>. This was achieved by ignoring legally mandated

Stormwater Manual, Director Wenger willfully altered this advisory record to present a false and misleading basis for the Council's legislative action, constituting Injury to a Public Record under RCW 40.16.010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The southern portion of the rezoned property (Randhawa / Freeman real estate listing) in particular is in the Blaine Groundwater Protection Management Program subject to Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO)<sup>5</sup> with connected hydrology to adjacent Drayton Creek and the 175 ft setback under U.S. WOTUS, and the shared shoreline with Whatcom County, including CAO setbacks<sup>5</sup> in fragile ecological areas under the 2016 Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) and as such is also designated a Critical Resource Area (CRA).
<sup>6</sup> The official Planning Commission Recommendation (File #2025006) is a distinct public record created for the sole purpose of advising the City Council. By deliberately omitting all substantive environmental comments, critical area ordinance concerns, and his own on-the-record statements regarding the 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Its been well documented with the Department of Ecology that the City of Blaine consistently fails to enforce building codes and standards in sensitive coastline areas (i.e., Drayton Harbor Reach violations, coastline

environmental protections, including the 175-foot setbacks required under a combination of city, county, state, and federal critical area ordinances. The purpose of this manipulation was to clear the path for high-impact commercial development, such as gas stations and strip malls, thereby artificially increasing land values for private gain.

Finally, City Council members were not made aware of significant conflicts of interest within the planning commission recommendations. This includes the failure of Mr. Randhawa (Freeman Family Trust, Freeman Realty), Mr. Wenger, and Mr. Taysi (Lincoln Village, Tin Rock Development LLC) to disclose their relationships with property owners and affiliates who directly benefited financially from the rezoned properties.

This act of willfully altering and concealing official documents filed in a public office to influence a government decision constitutes **Injury to a Public Record, a Class C felony under RCW 40.16.010**. This criminal act is part of a broader pattern of public misconduct designed to suppress dissent and manipulate the quasi-judicial process.

This act is consistent with other documented incidents, including the manipulation of email timestamps to deny public comments demonstrating a clear pattern of altering public records to suppress public input and predetermine outcomes (e.g., Mott's Hill Overlook. February 28, 2025 email redaction of time stamp to deny public submission – Alex Wenger 8).

## Additional Alleged Counts: Federal Law Violations

The collective actions of the parties involved may constitute violations of several federal criminal statutes, including but not limited to:

- Honest Services Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1346): Criminalizes schemes to deprive the public of the intangible right to honest governmental services by public officials and private actors who conspire with them.
- Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961–1968): Potentially applicable given a pattern of fraudulent activity, concealment, and financial benefit that can be demonstrated for the City of Blaine.

## V. REQUESTS FOR STATE AND FEDERAL ACTION

armoring) and has relaxed setback standards for influential realtors or developers (i.e., variance setbacks Leighton Street). This contrasts with Whatcom County which has adopted state recommended environmental standards (2024 Stormwater plan and Drayton Harbor shoreline setbacks of 175-200 ft).

<sup>8</sup> **Sent:** Monday, March 3, 2025 at 08:43:50 AM PST

**Subject:** RE: Failure by CDS to include timely public comments for Hearing Examiner Record - BMC 13.01.05 compliance with the "most current" version of 2024 Washington State Department of Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual. Please be advised that you will receive a copy of the City Council's final decision as a party of record. Contrary to your statement, not all of your comments were not submitted in a timely manner. Unless the hearing examiner reopens the public hearing for this quasi-judicial application, no further response is warranted, and the application record is closed. Thank you, **Alex Wenger, AICP** CDS Director

Beyond the specific violations, the overarching harm is to the integrity of public governance. The actions of these officials have systematically impeded public oversight, violated the civil rights of citizens to participate in their government, and replaced transparency with a pattern of concealment and retaliation (City Manager Harmon Incident<sup>9</sup>, City Council Member Mike Hill accosting Citizen in City Council Meeting Police Report<sup>10</sup>). For this reason, we demand not only the prosecution of the individuals but also state-level intervention to restore accountable governance in the City of Blaine.

The following actions are respectfully requested under the authority of the Washington State Attorney General, Washington State Auditor, and the U.S. Department of Justice:

- 1. **Referral for Criminal or Civil Action:** Investigate, and if warranted, prosecute Commissioner Randhawa, Director Wenger, and Mr. Taysi under applicable state and federal statutes, including but not limited to RCW 42.23.050, RCW 40.16.010, and 18 U.S.C. § 1346, for knowing conflicts of interest, fraud, public misconduct, and injury to public records.
- 2. **Immediate Removal of Commissioner Randhawa:** Due to violations of RCW 42.23 and RCW 42.36, request removal from office and nullification of the UMU zoning decision (Ordinance 25-3028).
- 3. **Enforce Judicial Precedent:** *City of Raymond v. State Auditor (1998)* as precedent confirming that good faith is not a defense, and violations require forfeiture of office and contract nullification.
- 4. **Invalidate Ordinance 25-3028:** As an action tainted by financial conflict and lack of transparency, it is void under RCW 42.23 and RCW 42.36.
- 5. Mandate Ethics Reform: Compel the City of Blaine to immediately adopt a comprehensive Code of Ethics for all elected and appointed officials. This Code must include clear, mandatory disclosure, recusal and disciplinary procedures. The City of Blaine's persistent refusal to establish such a code, amidst a documented pattern of systemic ethical failures and lapses, constitutes a fundamental breach of its officials' fiduciary duties and a dereliction of their responsibilities to the citizens

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> RCW 42.23.070(1) - Prohibited Use of Public Office - Mike Harmon

Harmon violated this statute by using his official position as City Manager to publicly attack Otto Pointer with unsubstantiated claims. In the official Request for Council Action dated May 12, 2025, Harmon stated that Pointer's notice "contained various misstatements, false allegations, and disinformation". This constitutes using his municipal office to secure a special exemption from legitimate regulatory oversight by attempting to discredit a citizen's valid environmental notification. **Refer to Appendices** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Hill Retaliation during city council meeting - CCTV Footage and Case Progression (Case #24A39027) https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/qqz1e9zeuxiiy4hm81keu/HillAggressive.mp4?rlkey=f1uk4ewpy5zp5mvsiww 8fmpe3&st=ynqayn92&dl=0

- of Blaine. This demonstrates a pervasive disregard for public policy, consistent with principles articulated in *Hubbard v. Spokane County (2002)*.
- 6. Apply Remedies and Principles of the State Ethics in Public Service Act (RCW 42.52): While primarily applicable to state officers, the principles of RCW 42.52—which prohibit the use of public office for personal gain and require avoidance of even the appearance of impropriety—constitute persuasive authority. Their application to the City of Blaine is essential to reinforce the gravity of the alleged violations and justify comprehensive state-level intervention and remedies for public misconduct.

We appreciate your consideration of these serious matters given the ongoing gravity of issues continuously reported at the City of Blaine. We respectfully request confirmation of receipt of this formal complaint and an update on the status of your initial review within the next thirty (30) days.

Sincerely,

Otto Pointer, Alias protected under Anti-SLAPP Blaine Water Coalition

CC (courtesy copies):
Mary Lou Steward, City of Blaine Mayor
Mike Harmon, City of Blaine Manager
Calvin Armerding, Chair, Blaine Planning Commission
Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Supervisors
Eric Ritchey, Whatcom County Prosecutor
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Casey Sixkiller, Department of Ecology

Casey Sixkiller, Department of Ecology Lummi First Nation MRSC Board of Directors

# **Key Citations**

- 1. Washington State Legislature RCW 42.23 Municipal Ethics Act
- 2. Washington State Legislature RCW 42.36 Appearance of Fairness Doctrine
- 3. Washington State Legislature RCW 39.04.280 Competitive Bidding Requirements
- 4. Washington State Legislature RCW 42.20 False Declarations and Disobedience
- 5. Washington State Legislature RCW 9A.08.020 Aiding and Abetting Misconduct
- 6. Washington State Legislature RCW 18.86 Real Estate Professional Conduct
- 7. Washington State Legislature RCW 42.52 State Ethics in Public Service Act

- 8. Cornell Law School U.S. Code Federal Laws on Fraud and RICO
- 9. Department of Ecology 2024 Stormwater Management Manual Western Washington
- 10. Department of Ecology Stormwater Manuals and Guidance
- 11. Whatcom County Critical Areas Ordinance and Regulations
- 12. Whatcom County Critical Areas Information and Maps
- 13. Whatcom County Assessor and Treasurer Property Search Portal
- 14. Washington State Legislature RCW 42.23.050 Forfeiture and Contract Voidance