

Pam Ferderbar

From: Pam Ferderbar <whamster2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 8:10 AM
To: DOA Public Records Board Comments; Blessing, Matthew T - WHS; Ferguson, Paul M - DOJ; Naab, Bryan S - LAB; Schmidt, Melissa A - LEGIS; Broady-Rudd, Sandra; Buesing, Carl; Sorce, Peter
Subject: Public Records Board address

Dear Public Records Board Members,

Way back in the day I earned a degree in journalism from Marquette University. The relationship between the media and government has never been warm and fuzzy, but it has been relatively respectful, with each side accepting that we have a job to do and our skepticism of one another is "not personal." Our current administration seems to have gone out of its way, and sadly this includes each and every one of you, to make it a contentious relationship rather than the peaceful detente we had enjoyed, and within which we were both able to serve the public.

The sneaky little end run that sought to limit access to public records has every appearance of not only impropriety, but of selectively shoring up the malfeasance of the administration you serve. I was taught that those who serve the public are generally better than that, but you have dragged public service to a new low. Whether or not you agree with our open records laws, and for whatever reasons you wish to keep certain records "on the DL," you have given yourselves a black eye, and each and every one of you now looks like a crook.

On the plus side, you are the reason journalists win Pulitzers. So good job with that.

If for no other reason than you might want to look like decent law-abiding citizens, please stop trying to reduce or entirely obliterate the open records laws that were enacted to keep those who govern "honest."

Sincerely,

Pam Ferderbar
Delafield, WI

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