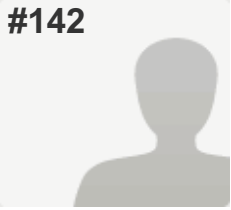


#142



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PAGE 2: About Agencies Scheduled for Study

Q1: Please share any comments, suggestions or concerns you may have about these agencies. Please note your responses will be posted online and may be included in a Committee report.

Natural Resources, Department of

As a current employee of DNR, I am a little concerned with the inner operations of the agency - or lack thereof. I cannot speak of anything of concern with the public assistance that is provided by DNR, however, the inner operations within the agency is truly almost unbearable at times. With the personnel change in the OSS Director position to Derrick Meggie, the Procurement and Finance departments have struggled since that time. Mr. Meggie did not support the existing procurement/grant staff and as a result, several well experienced employees felt no recourse but to leave the agency. Mr. Meggie has allowed for persons of authority in positions within the Finance (Viola Faust) and Procurement (Valerie Duncan) departments to "bully" numerous employees to the point of them leaving because of it. When I say bully, it is not just of a physical nature, but of a mental/emotional nature as well. The fact that there is no communication whatsoever from Mr. Meggie, Ms. Faust, or Ms. Duncan with not only their internal staff, but also to staff in other divisions within the agency, makes it difficult and concerning to place any trust in their decisions/procedures etc., and while the Finance/Procurement areas by nature are to assist/service other divisions within the agency, agency staff are getting distraught and seeking employment elsewhere – and not only OSS Division staff. When Ms. Faust or Ms. Duncan conduct a meeting and answers a question with "I don't know who is friends with who, or who is sleeping with who...", but still doesn't answer the question, or delays a function/process and states "it's a SCEIS error" when for a fact it is due to the lack of knowledge about that certain function or process, again, it is difficult to put any amount of trust in those management employees (Ms. Faust, Ms. Duncan, and Mr. Meggie). There appears to be a line drawn in the sand within the OSS department. When the Finance Director (due to retirement) and

Procurement Director (due to lack of staffing and Mr. Meggie support) positions were vacated and posted, several internal employees were interested in the positions, and applied for them. However, these internal employees were told they were not "qualified" for the positions, which allowed Mr. Meggie to hire externally. It is common knowledge that Mr. Meggie had relationships with the individuals prior to when they were hired – either through his rental business, or his church, or some other type, and upon hire, neither Ms. Faust nor Ms. Duncan approached the staff to get a "feel" of the current processes within the agency, but instead, made random changes to processes with the explanation that "changes are being made because what was currently being done was illegal" - even though there were never any audit findings in the past - which intentionally or otherwise, immediately raised a red flag as to the knowledge base of how their departments were to be run. As a matter of fact, this is still going on today! However, just know that there are good employees within the agency, even though unfortunately, good employees have been lost as a direct result of the chaos caused by Mr. Meggie, Ms. Faust, and Ms. Duncan. Other divisions within the agency are successful as a direct result of the good employees/managers there and the cultivation of their relationships. However, the one division that is depended upon (specifically the Finance/Procurement departments within the OSS Division) to provide the service needed to ensure continued success, is the "bad apple" so to speak. In a nutshell, the solidarity within the agency has been significantly negatively impacted by action and words of Mr. Meggie, Ms. Faust, and Ms. Duncan. SCDNR is now the laughing stock of the state. As I have heard so many times, "who would want to work at DNR?" Shameful...absolutely shameful!

PAGE 3: There are three questions seeking general information.

Q2: What is your age?

55-64 years old

Q3: Which best describes your current role?

State employee of an agency currently under study by the House Legislative Oversight Committee (i.e., DJJ, State Transportation Infrastructure Bank, DPS, Department of Agriculture, DHEC, Archives and History, Retirement System Investment Commission, Law Enforcement Training Council, and Treasurer's Office)

Q4: In which county do you live?

Lexington
