

12:13pm

Marty: We're going to go on the record with an interview with Stacci Landis, and thank you for meeting with me today. My name is Martha Lemert. I'm going to give you a few introductory instructions and information about this investigation, but written complaints have been filed with the county human resources department concerning Commissioner Chuck Poling and the manner in which he interacts with others in county government workspaces. I am an attorney and outside investigator engaged at the direction of Commissioner Shane Middlesworth and Commissioner Ron Stewart in consultation with the county legal department to investigate these written complaints and to investigate the written complaints and other allegations involving Commissioner Poling. You're one of seventeen county employees currently identified as having potential information that could be relevant to the investigation. Information provided by you and others may become public at some point, including if the allegations involving Commissioner Poling are determined to be credible, or if disclosure is otherwise advisable or required by law.

As part of this investigation, Commissioner Poling will be given an opportunity to respond, to be interviewed, and respond to the allegations. You are not the subject of this investigation. Commissioner Poling is the subject of this investigation, and you are being interviewed as a potential witness. The county asks that you be honest, candid, cooperative, and transparent in the information that you provide. Your employer is prohibited by law from retaliating against you for providing testimony, information, or evidence in connection with this investigation. If after the investigation, after this interview, you believe you're experiencing retaliation, you need to contact the county HR department, who will then inform the county legal department. Commissioner Poling will be instructed not to contact you regarding your testimony today. If Commissioner Poling contacts you regarding your testimony today, please notify county human resources department and then they'll notify the legal department. This interview is being conducted during normal business hours, and as if you work for the county, it's part of your work for the county and you will be paid your normal wages for the time. When possible, it is helpful for you to be as specific as you can regarding the dates, times, locations, individuals present, what occurred. It's understandable also though if you don't remember all of those details as we sit here today. If at some point in the future, you obtain or recall additional information, testimony, or documentation that you believe may be relevant, you can contact me by email or phone and provide that information. This interview is being recorded so I can prepare the most accurate report possible. Today's date and time: it's the 3rd of August and it's approximately 12:13 PM. So, can you state your name and your position with the county government?

Stacci Landis: Stacci Landis. I am. I work for the Auditor's office. I am currently the IHF Deputy and the Tax Sale Assistant Deputy.

Marty: What does IHF .....

Stacci Landis: .....Ineligible homestead fraud.

Marty: OK. And how long have you been in that role?

Stacci Landis: November 2024.

Marty: How long have you worked for the county overall?

Stacci Landis: Twenty years this year.

Marty: Oh, OK. Have you ever held election, elected office with the county?

Stacci Landis: No.

Marty: OK. Have you ever worked in any other department besides the Auditor's office?

Stacci Landis: Yes.

Marty: Where?

Stacci Landis: In the Grant County prosecutor's office, Title 4D office for three years, or actually four years, then back to the prosecutor's office, criminal, and then three years I was the juvenile court reporter.

Marty: OK. Have you observed or experienced any conduct by Commissioner Poling in the county government workplace that you think might have been unlawful, questionable, intimidating, or inappropriate?

Stacci Landis: Inappropriate, yes.

Marty: OK. Can you describe that for me?

Stacci Landis: Yeah, we were looking for a new cleaning company. He knows I run a cleaning business. He approached me, whispered, telling me what to put in my contract, telling me that if I asked for \$300,000, I would probably get that, and as far as to have his wife email me a copy of the current cleaning contract. And then when it came time to take bids, didn't notify me, like it wasn't made public record that we were taking bids. So I hired additional work crew because I knew I was going to be needing them, and then had to turn around and let them go.

Marty: OK. And when did this all happen?

Stacci Landis: I honestly I don't remember, but I do still have the email from her that would give me the date, and I can get that date too.

Marty: So you still have that email and it would have attached the current contract....

Stacci Landis: ....I do...

Marty: ..... with the current company?

Stacci Landis: ... Uh huh.

ML OK. And then do you know why they didn't notify you that they were taking bids?

Stacci Landis: I don't. I kept an eye on the commissioner's agendas, looking for it so I can submit it. I did submit a rough draft but I wouldn't get to submit numbers until they were taking, you know, ....

Marty: ..... actual bids....

Stacci Landis: ..... actual bids. And never it was never on the agenda either until after, like they were narrowing it down. By then it was too late to submit.

Marty: But isn't the process, I mean, can you walk me through the normal process as you understand it for taking bids?

Stacci Landis: Yeah, so they open it up, you know, hey, we're going to be taking bids for ...

Marty: .... XYZ....

Stacci Landis: ..... right....

Marty: ..... contract...

Stacci Landis: .... and then contractors submit their bids.....

Marty: ..... There's a time period for people to do that....

Stacci Landis: .....Yes, there's a time period, yep, and then when the time period ends, they open them and then take the ones that, you know...

Marty: ..... best fit the needs of the district.

Stacci Landis: ..... Right. And then it's decided upon, and then that person is hired.

Marty: OK.

Stacci Landis: I mean, like I said, I was told how much to ask for. I was told I needed to build a team. And I started building my team and never went anywhere else further, which I mean is just like my first, that's this is my first, more things I thought were shady business.

Marty: OK. Have you ever bid for, had you ever submitted any bids for cleaning services before with any governmental entity?

Stacci Landis: Not government entity, no. No, but I have....

Marty: ....., just private sector?

Stacci Landis: .... Yeah. Yeah, I have.

Marty: Had you mentioned that you had submitted a rough draft. Do you have any records or emails of you doing that?

Stacci Landis: Possibly I do, although, actually no, I believe my rough draft was submitted hand to hand to them upstairs. And it was like, this is what I'm working on. Yeah.

Marty: And when you submitted that by hand, was there any response? Who did you give it to?

Stacci Landis: I gave it to one of the ladies upstairs in HR...

Marty: ..... but following that, no one ever....

Stacci Landis: .....no.....

Marty: ..... notified you or did you know whether there was a public posting or notice of the bids?

Stacci Landis: I didn't see a public notice or a posting.

Marty: And you were looking for it?

Stacci Landis: Yeah. I mean, I could have missed it in the newspaper if that's where it was. I could have missed it there.

Marty: When was it, when was the contract awarded?

Stacci Landis: I don't know an exact date for that. It would have been close to six, eight months ago, maybe nine months ago. Going back, going back. So possibly a year ago, June maybe, June, July ....

Marty: .....of 2025?

Stacci Landis: .... Yes.

Marty: OK. Are you aware of Commissioner Poling doing anything else that you thought was questionable, intimidating, or in any way inappropriate?

Stacci Landis: I, I, I. Yeah.

Marty: OK, what else?

Stacci Landis: Yeah, I am. So, election time, primary election time....

Marty: Is this in 2026 or...

Stacci Landis: ...2026. I was a candidate for clerk. Once I announced my candidacy, well, prior to me announcing my candidacy, he was in our office two or three times a week, two or three hours at a time.

Marty: In the Auditor's office?

Stacci Landis: In the Auditor's office. Once I announced my candidacy, he never came back to the office. Like he was in the county building? But never in our...

Marty: ..... , but never popped into your office?

Stacci Landis: ... never popped into our office.

Marty: And, and what was he doing when he was in the office prior to your announcing your candidacy for two to three hours in the Auditor's office? Like why would he be there that long?

Stacci Landis: Well, sometimes he would come in if they would, like he would get information from Ange, you know, like they would discuss meeting agendas and, you know, go over the thing commissioner things is what I assumed he was doing in there. I'm sure sometimes too just BS'ing, you know. I'd never know exactly what they were discussing because I'm in the front of the office and they were in the back of the office. So like I never knew exactly what they were talking about or what they were doing. That was just....

Marty: .... And is Ange the Auditor?

Stacci Landis: Yes. Yeah, sorry.

Marty: And so but after you announced your candidacy.....

Stacci Landis: ..... he never came back.

Marty: He never came, showed up again...

Stacci Landis: ....., no, not until after election. Also, of course, you know, I'm going to want to advertise and to do things that I need to do. So I contact Channel 27, which is our local Facebook news. Mr. Tyson is paid county funds for things, for advertising and stuff like that. So I contact Mr. Tyson, contact Mr. Ed Bounds, who is also a Marion source news on Facebook, and basically I was told that advertising for my opponent was paid for and if I wanted to advertise,

or that I couldn't advertise at first, not until two weeks prior to the election. I had someone else reach out to Mr. Tyson and he was told I had to pay premium for advertising.

Marty: So first you were told, wait, let me back up a minute. So who was your opponent in the, in the primary?

Stacci Landis: Mike Scott.

Marty: OK...

Stacci Landis: County Council...

Marty: ..... for the clerk, for the position.

Stacci Landis: .... Yeah.

Marty: And he, and you were told by 27, Channel 27 that...

Stacci Landis: .... And Ed Bounds....

Marty: ... and Ed Bounds, that initially that they couldn't advertise for you?

Stacci Landis: ... Correct.....

Marty: ....Because they had no room?

Stacci Landis: ... because it was paid for me not to.

Marty: They were paid for you, they were being paid for you not to be able to advertise?

Stacci Landis: Correct.

Marty: Did they say who they were being paid by?

Stacci Landis: No.

Marty: Did they indicate that it was the candidates, that Mike Scott had paid them to not?

Stacci Landis: Ed said that for you. Ed said that Mike had. However, I mean, I know this is probably silly and that's why I was talking about hard evidence. I mean, I know this is silly, but if you go back and you look, the past 2 elections, there's a group, there's a group, and as a matter of fact, the same thing happened when Shane and Chuck were running for, so that's that's how I knew.....

Marty: .... If you go back and look at the past 2 elections... What, the finance forms?

Stacci Landis: Nope, not on finance forms, because they float that pretty good. Channel 27 and Ed Bounds.

Marty: OK.

Stacci Landis: If you go back and you watch, they only will advertise for a certain group of people, so that certain group of people gets elected, and that's exactly what happened again this time. Mr. Scott is one of our council members. Yes. But he does not have the experience that I have. Yeah. But then two weeks prior to election, I had one of my attorney friends reach out to Mr. Tyson and say, why won't you do this for her, and he said, well, I will now this close to

election but she's going to have to pay premium. Premium was \$5,000, so they wanted, he wanted me to double what they paid, and I mean I'm little old me, I work two jobs. I can't afford ...

Marty: .... Sure. And, and did they indicate that was double what the other side was paying?

Stacci Landis: He did, he did indicate that, yes.

Marty: And what attorney contacted them regarding this?

Stacci Landis: Mr. Tom Myers, because he does a lot of advertising for his law firm with Rashar.....

Marty: ..... and Rashar Tyson is the person at Channel 27...

Stacci Landis: ...correct?

Marty: ..... Does he own Channel 27?

Stacci Landis: He does.

Marty: Is he an on-air personality with Channel 27?

Stacci Landis: Not that I know.

Marty: But you're saying that he has a contract with the county government to ....

Stacci Landis: ..... He does....

Marty: ..... to provide...

Stacci Landis: .....Yeah, they, yeah, he provide or, yes, I don't even, I don't know how else to even, I mean, because there's no, I don't have access to the hard evidence on that, is what I'm trying to say.

Marty: OK. But you, you believe that there's a ,some kind of payment that he's getting from county government...

Stacci Landis: ..... popping up to Mr. Bounds.

Marty: Yeah, Mr. Bounds, and Mr. Bounds was given a building down the road by Chomp Properties....

Marty: ..... and Chomp Properties is owned by....

Stacci Landis: ..... Chuck Poling....

Marty: .....Chuck Poling. In that property that was given over to Ed Bounds, how did Chomp Properties get a hold of it, do you know?

Stacci Landis: He bought it in a sheriff's sale, I believe, a sheriff's sale or a tax sale.

Marty: Do you know when that was done?

Stacci Landis: I don't, but I can find out for you. I mean, I processed the deed when Mr. Poling's wife and Ed Bounds came into the office. I processed the deed. I mean, and I know people say

for no consideration, and then there was money that changed hands, but that deed said no consideration.

Marty: So it was a quick claim deed that had no consideration on it, just handed over to Ed Bounds.

Stacci Landis: Right.

Marty: What is the, what is, do you know what the assessed value is of the, of that building?

Stacci Landis: I don't, I could probably get it, but I don't have it right now.

Marty: Yeah, I'd be interested in knowing what the value of that. I know he if he bought it in a sheriff's sale, it'd probably have been bought at a cheaper price, but there's obviously tax, there's got to be tax information regarding that.

Stacci Landis: Bounds receives Social Security disability, so he put the building into his LLC, I'm assuming, trying to evade Social Security finding out.

Marty: Does Mr. Bounds use that building currently...

Stacci Landis: ...yes, for his podcast and his Marion source news and I'm not trying to sound like a sore loser, but I have 20 years' experience here. Twenty years' experience and knowing that I was not allowed to advertise, and they beat me by 600 votes, 600 hundred votes.

Marty: So, it was a pretty close election, and even without your ability to advertise, and they refused until just before the election and then wanted to charge you a premium for the ads.

Stacci Landis: Exactly, exactly. And then there's the matter of an employee coming to me the day after, actually two days after the election because I took the day after off, come to me to tell me that she voted for me even though my name wasn't on the piece of paper she was handed.

Marty: And she, she voted for you even though your name wasn't on the piece of paper she was handed? Did she explain what she meant by that?

Stacci Landis: I said, "What in the hell are you talking about?" And she said, "I was given a piece of paper of people, or I was given a piece of paper with names on it of who to vote for..."

Marty: .... by whom?

Stacci Landis: And that's what I said. And she said, "I can't tell you." And I said, "Did your boss do that?" And she said, "I'm not telling you." And I said, "OK." And so I took it to Nick McKinney, which is the president of the Republican committee. I also took it to the Grant County prosecutor's investigator, John Kaufman, and when Nick got back with me, he said that, "Will she testify?" And John said, not Nick, I apologize, John said, "Will she testify to that?" And I said, "She won't even tell me who gave her the paper."

Marty: Who was that employee that came up to you two days after the election?

Stacci Landis: Morgan Lehman.

Marty: Does she work in the Treasurer's office?

Stacci Landis: She does.

Marty: Did she show you the piece of paper?

Stacci Landis: She did not.

Marty:... she did not. OK. Did she indicate who was on that piece of paper?

Stacci Landis: Not me.

Marty: OK, not you, but other, but she didn't identify, like it was XYZ people on there.

Stacci Landis: Yes, I'm assuming it was the same ones on the one business card, the ones that were advertised for on 27 and yeah. I'm assuming it was Mike Scott, Rodney Falk. Yeah, they had a business card. OK, the only people that were allowed to, and I have the business card. It's in my car, I think, or if not, my husband put it up, but...

Marty: .....do you have a copy of that business card?

Stacci Landis: I do. That was all of them, they were all on the same business card. The only ones that were allowed to advertise on Channel 27: Ed Hartman, Randy Ackman, or Randy Adkins, Ed Hartman, Rodney Falk, Mike Scott, Payton Scott, and Frank Hicks.

Marty: And the John Kaufman, the prosecutor, said, "Is she willing to testify to that?" And your response was what?

Stacci Landis: No, she told me she would lose her job. She's a single mom, and which I understand.

Marty: Are you aware of Chuck Poling bringing candidates into the building....

Stacci Landis: ...I am .....

Marty: ..... into county buildings? ...I've witnessed that for myself....

Marty: .....Do you want to talk about that?

Stacci Landis: They got off of the large elevator, and when I talk about the large elevator in the county building, there's a large elevator--- if I'm standing looking out my office, a large elevator to the left, and two twin elevators in front of me. So, he and Ed Hartman got off of the elevator, walked into the Treasurer's office, was there for quite some time...

Marty: ..... right into the Treasurer's office....

Stacci Landis: Upon leaving the Treasurer's office and getting back onto the elevator, it was like, "Make sure you vote for Ed."

Marty: They said that out loud?.

Stacci Landis: Yeah.

Marty: Was this during working hours?

Stacci Landis: It was during working hours.

What is your understanding of being able to electioneer in the county government during working hours?

Stacci Landis: Absolutely none. It's even on the clerk's website. There is no promotion, advertising, you're not even allowed to use the computers ....

Marty: .....for campaign activity or anything like that, ....

Stacci Landis: .....email from my phone to order new supplies and things like that on my lunch hours.

Marty: ..... Right, or after hours or, you know, when you're at home or something like that. ....

Stacci Landis: .....Right, Absolutely nothing during .....

Marty: .....working hours.....

Stacci Landis: .....Working hours, yeah, it's been that way since the day I started here.

Marty: OK. And was he, was it just Chuck and Ed, or was anybody else with them?

Stacci Landis: I remember only seeing Chuck and Ed that day. I had in the parking lot, after or after commissioner meetings, he, Randy, Ed, Molly Early, I want to say Ed's wife, who I only know from working the polls, stood in the parking lot probably my entire lunch hour and discussed. And then Chuck would find somebody in the parking lot to go introduce them to.

Marty: So he was corralling people as they came back from lunch, or?

Stacci Landis: Yeah, I might have photos of that, that I've taken photos, I might have deleted them afterwards, but I—are these sunglasses? They're not.

Marty: So you might have captured some photographs of him and others....

Stacci Landis: ..... just standing in the parking lot, talking, talking loud, because Chuck is not a quiet person; he's very loud, and so if I'm sitting in my car eating my lunch or even on the phone or whatnot, I mean, you hear him over four cars over, you know. If you have an email address, I'll get all...

Marty: ..... yeah, I'll get you, I'll get you that contact information after the interview. So, you observed that, and that was again in the primary election...

Stacci Landis: ...yep...

Marty: ... or running up to the primary election in 2026. Had you—is there anything else that you've observed that you think was inappropriate, intimidating, or questionable by Commissioner Poling?

Stacci Landis: I mean, I've seen videos, I've seen videos of him being rude; I've seen videos of him trying to talk someone in the Assessor's office. I mean, and those videos were released on Facebook, like we've seen those. I've seen the videos of him trying to talk somebody into voting for Ed, so we would all get a raise just because he wants to shoot down the jail because—I don't know, he wants to shoot down the jail project, he thinks that nobody's going to get a raise if the jail project goes. I have, my sister works in the clerk's office, my sister's not going to lie to me. So my sister, you know, she gives me the lowdown of what happens in her office.

Marty: Who's your sister?

Stacci Landis: Stephanie Riggs.

Marty: And what did she tell you about what happened in the clerk's office?

Stacci Landis: She told me about him coming in and yelling, and I'm sure she probably told me exactly what it was about, but telling him that that was his office and he owns these buildings.

I have heard those words come out of his mouth. I can't remember what suggest or what was actually happening, but I heard him say he owns...

Marty: ..... these buildings, county buildings...

Stacci Landis: .....these fucking buildings...

Marty: ..... these fucking buildings. OK.

Stacci Landis: Yeah, he's the boss of these buildings, is what he says. And as a matter of fact, if you look at one of my podcasts during primary election, my one with Garage Talk, when I was asked who would I answer to, I specifically say, "Not the commissioners," you know? I mean, because I wouldn't, and that's why—that's what I was referring to him saying that. But anyways, my sister comes out of the office and she says, "Chuck, it's how you talk to people," You know...

Marty: .....she said that to him....

Stacci Landis: .... Yeah, say that to him. It's, it's how you approach people. If you would soften your approach. But yeah, I mean, that's what I have. I have a lot of that, I have a—...

Marty: ,,,,did she tell you at the time that that encounter occurred at the clerk's office, about it at the time?

Stacci Landis: She did. She told me, well, that evening...

Marty: ..... that evening...

Stacci Landis: She didn't tell me right away, but she did tell me that evening. She told me about them coming into Pam's office and taking her—I want to say plants and fan, maybe of Pam's. But she told me about the time Chuck got in Pam's face, and of course, you know, that's secondhand account, but still I'm—...

Marty: .....but you heard about it, like that same day or later, that same day or within short period after....

Stacci Landis: .....Exactly. I've talked to Mr. Kaufman a couple of times. John and I are friends; we worked together a lot of years....

Marty: ..... and he's a prosecutor...

Stacci Landis: ...prosecutor/investigator, so he was a detective with Marion Police Department. Like, I've talked to them about a lot of things. Yeah. Those of us who were not allowed to advertise would be the prosecutor Scott Hunt, our judge elect, Superior Court 1 judge elect Jamie Moore. Jamie was allowed to advertise finally within those two weeks; he went ahead and paid the premium. I asked him, I flat out asked him, I said, "Did you pay the money?" And he said, "I did." Mr. Bounds and I were going to do a podcast. He actually reached out to me and asked me if I would do a podcast. I know I'm all over the place, I'm sorry.

Marty: ..... Yeah, no, that's OK.....

Stacci Landis: ..... popping up. Mr. Bounds and I was going to do a podcast; he rescheduled on me one day. We set a new date, and then he asked to get back with me for a second date, that he had something he had to go do that, and then he never got back with me. As a matter of fact, me and Ed are no longer friends, so he probably has not gotten back with me. But, like, if you follow the money, there's a Gary Miller on Facebook that used to live here in town, and he posts a lot of the money, like if you follow the money and then follow the actions of the

candidates, you can see that they were all working together. Which, I mean, hey, work with whoever you want to, whatever, but be fair about it and let somebody else advertise.

Marty: Right.....

Stacci Landis: ...and I wrote a letter to the governor. I don't think it went anywhere.

Marty: Do you still have a copy of that letter to the governor?

Stacci Landis: Oh, I might...

Marty: ..... and this would have been following the primary.

Stacci Landis: Just asking for a chance to be able to run again in the general because of all of that, but like I said, I don't think it went anywhere. I know they were looking at changing the law.

Marty: And in terms of, when you, when you said your sister told Chuck Poling, "You know, it's how you approach people," what is your experience in terms of how he approaches people, that puts people off—

Stacci Landis: He's brash, he has to be in your space when he talks, he spits, and he wants to be two inches away from your nose, just like when he was there telling me about the contract. And then, that, like, I'm sitting at my desk and he's standing over me, but he's leaning over my desk and, like, in my face, like, I can, you can smell his breath when he talks to you.

Marty: So he's within a foot of your face?

Stacci Landis: Yeah..

Marty: .... at least..

Stacci Landis: ....., and definitely in your personal...

Marty: ..... in your, your, he's closer than arm's length away from you...

Stacci Landis: ..... Yeah, most definitely. But he also doesn't know how to whisper, because the girls in my office knew exactly what he said to me, so when he walked away, we talked about that. You know.

Marty: So other people can even overhear what he's saying because he's not—

Stacci Landis: yeah...

Marty: ... he's so loud...

Stacci Landis: .... Yeah....

Marty: ... But he's in your face....

Stacci Landis: ... Yeah...

Marty: .....nonetheless.... Talking about...

Stacci Landis: ..... he's always tried also not really to intimidate me, like he—he's never tried to, like, intimidate me at all, and I don't know if .....

Marty: .... you don't consider getting into your personal space an attempt to intimidate...

Stacci Landis: ....., but I mean I do think, but I mean like purposely, like try to rouse me or anything. I don't think, like face to face, like me and you, he's never, I don't want to say intimidate, threatened...

Marty: ... , he's never, he's never come right out and threatened you with anything.

Stacci Landis: Right. He's never grabbed me or touched me...

Marty: ....., never. OK.

Stacci Landis: And I don't know if it's because he knows who my husband is.

Marty: Who is your husband?

Stacci Landis: Shane Landis. They know each other, let's say. So, I don't know if it's because they found out that he was my husband or he knows that my husband won't tolerate it and would probably do the same to him. I don't know if that's why. I mean, I'm thankful for whatever reason that he's never grabbed me or touched me or threatened harm to me.

Marty: But you've observed him, not just with yourself, but with others, getting into people's personal spaces, being loud, as though, as he's doing so.

Stacci Landis: Most definitely. I don't think there's probably an employee here in this building who has not witnessed something.

Marty: OK. And what is the, what history or knowledge of history do you have regarding Mr. Poling and his criminal history or anything like that?

Stacci Landis: So I know that he head-butted a—an employee of the health department when he was not commissioner. I know his entire record was expunged. I know when he was married to Natalie Conn that they were standing in, at the time was Duchess, it's now the Green Olive, and she tells everybody that they have the best weed in Grant County.....

Marty: ..... like for sale, like marijuana?. OK.

Stacci Landis: Yeah, I was there, I was there that night.

Marty: Do you think he was selling it at that point?

Stacci Landis: Yeah, oh, I'm assuming so, I'm assuming so. I know he's got a lot of batteries, like I know he—well, I mean, he tried to intimidate my husband. They were...

Marty: Tell me about that.

Stacci Landis: So, Shane used to work at Phil's Transmission. His family owned Phil's Transmission for years. Shane was working on one of his shit-suckers that Shane would call.

Marty: So, who owns Phil's Transmission?

Stacci Landis: Shane does, it was Shane's family.

Marty: OK, yes,

Stacci Landis: It's no longer Shane's family, even though his dad is still there, like with the transition and stuff. So, Shane was working, and like I said, Shane calls them shit-suckers, or

whatever you want to call them, and he said Chuck came down and tried to intimidate him then. I can probably get the entire story, but—

Marty: ...was that before Shane, before Chuck was a commissioner?

Stacci Landis: Yes, it was way before Shane, or ...

Marty: ... so he wasn't, he wasn't on County Council at the time?

Stacci Landis: No, he was not, not probably. OK, they're now.

Marty: But so, Chuck has a history, is what I'm gathering from you in town, of trying to intimidate people and throwing his weight around.

Stacci Landis: Yeah, most definitely in business, but for a lot of things.

Marty: And speaking of that, how much work does he do, does Chuck's Plumbing do with the county?

Stacci Landis: Since it was blasted all over Facebook? Not much. But before then you would see a Chuck truck every day for hours at a time.

Marty: When was it blasted all over Facebook?

Stacci Landis: During primary election, and I don't know, after that, maybe Dave's Excavating was here and fixed a problem, and I don't think anybody has been back since.

Marty: Who's Dave's Excavating?

Stacci Landis: They're on 33rd St. in Marion.

Marty: OK, and they're a different business?

Stacci Landis: Yeah.

Marty: OK, do you know whether Chuck's has done any bids with the county for work?

Stacci Landis: Not officially.

Marty: OK, do you know whether they're still being called out for any emergency work?

Marty: I don't know that either.

Marty: But before the primary you remember seeing trucks...

Stacci Landis: .... Oh yeah, all the time....

Marty: ..... trucks all the time, out in front of what buildings for the county?

Stacci Landis: Back behind, it would be the parking lot of the county building.

Marty: And what about the, any trucks seen at the Salem building?

Stacci Landis: I don't normally see the Salem Building.

Marty: OK, but you, but your view would be of the county building...

Stacci Landis: ..... yeah....

Marty: ..... and you'd see the Chuck....

Stacci Landis: .....yeah ...

Marty: .....trucks there all the time.

Stacci Landis: Right.

Marty: Are you aware of Commissioner Poling doing any, behaving towards you or people that work with you, in any other inappropriate, threatening, coercive way that you haven't already described?

Stacci Landis: I'm sure there is things, I just—I can't remember a thing, or I can't remember right off the top of my head. And that, well, I mean obviously you see how my menopause brain is working because I started with this one, to that, and then came back to this. Not anybody in my office, well let me tell you this, let's go back to election, can we go back to election? So my boss, Angie Jarvis, the Grant County Auditor, her—and she was, what she would take as being intimidated or threatened or stalked because of my sign in her yard, and I would assume Mr. Stewart's sign as well--and when I say Mr. Stewart, I'm telling you that as my assumption, I don't know for sure. But I noticed, like I said, the only advertising I had was what I personally put on Facebook because I couldn't pay to advertise anywhere else, and we don't have a radio. And she would like and share my post, and her and I would talk, and she told me how she thought I would make a great clerk, yadda yadda, and then about a month before election she stopped liking my stuff, she stopped sharing my stuff, she stopped talking to me about it. And I just happened to be talking to some of the girls at work, and I'm like, I bet you anything he's threatened her or something. Come to find out he wasn't threatening her personally, but she was being talked about and threatened on Ed Bounds News, Ed Bounds Podcast. It's not anything she's going to come forward with, but it was bad enough to where, like, she lives in the middle of nowhere, and people were driving by her house. It was bad enough that she took my sign out of her yard and then told me that she was sorry that she did.

Marty: OK. And so you believe that Ed Bounds went on his podcast and badmouthed her, and she started seeing some odd things, and did she she talk to you directly about this, or was this ....

Stacci Landis: .....she told the office, the front office, me and the 2 girls that work up front. She told me, and she apologized. She said, Stacci, I'm sorry. She was like, but I just can't, I can't let that kind of stuff go on. Like, she lives in the middle of nowhere, she's home by herself a lot at night. You know....

Marty: .....right, does she have kids at home or ...

Stacci Landis: ....she doesn't...

Marty: .....OK, but still...

Stacci Landis: ..... but she's home by herself at night, so you know, she was scared and felt like she was being targeted, and you know, I understand that completely. And then, since some of the videos like .....

Marty: ..... what did, what did Ed Bounds say about her on the podcasts?

Stacci Landis: That he was going to find somebody to run against her, find a Democrat to run against her, just things like that. That she was, you know, she was going to go down and she ain't nobody. Basically, Ed Bounds called us all whiny ass bitches, fat bitches, basically is what

he calls us, privileged bitches. You never know exactly which one of us he's talking about, but how would he get all of his information? Like, I don't know.

Marty: Do you have any of the, did you still have any of the recordings of the podcasts?

Stacci Landis: That some of those, some of them are still on. A lot of them he took down, especially the night of the election when all the names that I mentioned on the back of the business card were all at Green Olive and we were all down here. You know. Ed Bounds was live, and you hear Chuck say, thank you for voting our way, thank you. Thank you for helping me. I might somewhere to print it out and have his speech that he put on Facebook. Thank you, Chuck.

Marty: Chuck's, Chuck's speech?

Stacci Landis: Yeah. Thank you for voting our way. Thank you for making our county great.

Marty: Why do you think it would be really important for Chuck Poling to have someone in the Auditor, in the Clerk's position, that was his person?

Stacci Landis: From what I hear? So just listening and talking with Pam. Pam and I are friends too, you know, I mean, I've known a lot of people here for a lot of years. So, and I do watch the commissioner and the council meetings, by the way. I don't, I'm not able to attend them, but I do watch them, and I know there's a certain amount of funds being held by the clerk's office. And my feeling is he asked Pam for those funds, and Pam said, it's against the law, I can't give you those funds. And I think he wants those funds, and I think he's going to try and intimidate to get them.

Marty: OK. And in terms of, you talked about Ed Bounds and how you think that he has sort of worked to try and intimidate people on behalf of Commissioner Poling; is there anybody else that you think Commissioner Poling has used to try and intimidate people as surrogates?

Stacci Landis: Not off the top of my head. I'm sure as soon as I walk out of here, I'm going to think of stuff that I wanted to say.

Marty: Sure, and again, you know, I'll have, you'll have some contact information. If there's additional items that you think about, you can reach out to me. Any, have you ever heard about Commissioner Poling talking about wanting to, the county to hire his wife in the health department?

Stacci Landis: Uh huh.

Marty: OK, tell me what you know about that.

Stacci Landis: He, well, I'm assuming it's for, I'm assuming it's for like leach fields and things like that. I've, I've overheard him say that, in not so many words, and I can't quote him, but I, I've overheard him say that the, they don't do things right, that that the health...

Marty: ..... at the health department...

Stacci Landis: ....., yeah, they don't do things right, and they need to get Brandy in there so things can get done right. And I, I don't know, like I said, I assumed it was leach field sewer or sewer septic systems, but...

Marty: ..... Does the health department has responsibilities....

Stacci Landis: ..... correct...

Marty: ..... for, you know, sewage and, and you know, you know, environmental issues as part of public health. OK.

So, are you aware of ever seeing Commissioner Poling, that where he appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any point, or do you know? I mean, you mentioned the, the weed comment that his then-wife made.

Stacci Landis: Outside of work hours. Yes. During work hours I can't say that, I never seen him under the influence.

Marty: Outside of work hours, have you ever observed him where you thought he might be high or using marijuana?

Stacci Landis: High and drunk, yeah, at the, it was then the the Duchess.

Marty: OK. Are you aware of any times where Commissioner Poling has ever tried to shut you in a room or refuse to let you leave anywhere....

Stacci Landis: ....no.....

Marty: ..... or anything like that? ...

Stacci Landis: .....not me personally, no.

Marty: Has Commissioner Poling's conduct impacted your ability to work at all?

Stacci Landis: No, I can still do my job, and I can still do it. I mean, because that's, that's why I'm here to do a job, and I still do it. I, I don't like it. I, I, you know...

Marty: ..... but how, how does Commissioner Poling's interaction or presence in the work, in the county work environment affect county work environment generally?

Stacci Landis: No one likes to see him coming.

Marty: OK. How so?

Stacci Landis: I mean....

Marty: ..... what do people...

Stacci Landis: ..... I mean, nobody is like cowered from him or was like afraid of him, but they're always just, you know, oh and myself included, I'm not going to lie about it. 'Here he comes, here he comes again.'

Marty: Do people just dread him showing up? ...

Stacci Landis: ...yeah .....

Marty: .....because why, why is that?

Stacci Landis: ....Yeah, and I think it's because of how he, he's showed he's an ass since he's been the commissioner. I mean, I really think that he is just, he gets off this pompous, I am better than you attitude, and yeah.

Marty: So is the power important to him?

Stacci Landis: Oh, definitely, definitely.

Marty: Are you aware of any other communications or incidences of similar nature that we haven't talked about that you want to share?

Stacci Landis: Not off the top of my head.

Marty: OK. Are there any other people who might have relevant information?

Stacci Landis: I don't know who the 17 are that you've, you've talked to, but....

Marty: ..... other than people we've already mentioned, is there anybody else that you think?

Stacci Landis: No.

Marty: , OK. Well, I don't have anything else. Did you, did you ever submit any kind of written statement regarding this?

Stacci Landis: I did not.

Marty: I don't have anything else. I appreciate your time, and we'll go off the record, and it's about 1:00 PM.

1:00pm