

2:41pm

Marty: I am talking to Tara Street at approximately 2:41 PM on July 31st. Thank you for meeting with me today. My name is Martha Lemert. Written complaints have been filed with county human resources concerning Commissioner Chuck Poling and the manner in which he interacts with others in the county workspace. 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 those written complaints and other related allegations involving Commissioner Poling. You are 1 of approximately 17 county employees currently identified as potentially having information that may be relevant to this 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 disclosures otherwise advisable or required by law. As part of this investigation Commissioner Poling will be given an opportunity to be interviewed and to respond to the allegations. You are not the subject of this investigation Commissioner Poling is the subject of the investigation, and you are being interviewed as potential witness. The county asks that you be honest, candid, cooperative, and transparent in the information you provide. Your employer is prohibited by law from retaliating against you--hold on just a moment-- OK we're going to go back on the record we just had a slight interruption. But the county wants you to be honest, candid, cooperative, and transparent in the information you provide. Again the employers are prohibited from retaliating against you for providing this information or testimony. If after this interview you think you are experiencing retaliation, you are to notify the county human resources department who will in turn contact the county legal department. Commissioner Poling will be instructed not to contact you regarding your testimony today. Commissioner Poling, if he contacts you regarding your testimony, you were to notify human resources who will then notify the county legal department. This interview is being conducted during normal business hours and as part of your work time so you will be paid for your time.

Tara Street: It's my day off too...

Marty:oh it's OK. When possible it's helpful for you to be as specific as you can regarding dates, times, locations, individuals present, what occurred. It's also understandable that you may not remember everything as we sit here today. If at some point in the future you obtain or remember something else that's important that you want to share, I will give you my contact information so that you can let me know. This interview is being recorded so I can prepare the most accurate report possible. Again today's date and time is the 31st of July and it's approximately twelve, 2:44 PM. Can you state your name and and position with the county?

Tara Street: Tara Street. I'm currently the health department administrator.

Marty: And Tara how long have you been in that position of the health department administrator?

Tara Street: It was office manager for approximately 12 years, and 2 years ago the title was switched to administrator at the request of Dr. Woods.

Marty: OK and Dr. Woods is the health officer, was the health officer.....

Tara Street:she was

Marty: at the time...

Tara Street: of the events, yes.

Marty: Who is the current health officer?

Tara Street: Dr. Matthew McAdams.

Marty: And umm who do you report to as the health department administrator?

Tara Street: Directly to Dr. McAdams OK and or the health board but he's he's my, my direct boss.

Marty: OK and have you observed or experienced any conduct by Commissioner Poling in the county government workplace that you believe may have been unlawful, questionable, intimidating or inappropriate?

Tara Street: Yes.

Marty: OK can you describe that for me?

Tara Street: Am I allowed to use my notes for the dates and times?

Marty: Sure.

Tara Street: OK. December 5th 2024, which was after the election but before he took office, it was a Thursday. I don't know if you want the background as to why Chuck was upset; he showed up at our office window, which it's just a big open window where we have the customers walk up and they're served...

Marty: sure, customer service window...

Tara Street: and he was angry because our Environmental division, who I oversee, had made a judgment call on a property that he had been working on and he didn't like it. He, he just wanted to berate me about, and to quote him-- I did make notes immediately after he left that day. He wanted to know why we were letting one person run sewage off into the creek and prohibiting another man from selling his house for the same injustice. And I tried to explain to him that we, along with IDEM, were dealing with the first person-- it was just a much more complicated situation. He just was angry that we were following the law the way we interpreted it against his client, and he was banging on the, pounding the counter actually with one finger I don't know why I just, with one finger and kind of spit was flying and he was angry. And at that time he said, "This is why we're, we're going to get you out of the health department and have Brandy come back and run it the way it should be." Brandy-- he was referring to Brandy Poling...

Marty: his wife...

Tara Street: ... who is his wife who did used to work for the health department--she's now on the health board.

Marty: And did, what position did Brandy have back when she was in the health department?

Tara Street: environmental health specialist. She did run the office that dealt with septic and yeah.

Marty: OK and he said this -- did you take, did you interpret that as him threatening your job?
...

Tara Street: ... yes...

Marty: or anybody else's?

Tara Street: I mean I had already heard heard rumblings from other county employees mostly, that he had said when he became Commissioner, they would umm replace health board members in a way that it had me removed and then Brandy could wait run the health board, the health department the way it should be run. So probably with that event what was more unsettling was one of the girls that works in my office went home and told her husband that night that was the scariest thing I've ever experienced in that in that building and she was pregnant with her first child and her husband wondered if maybe she needed to leave her job. I, I don't know that Morgan, I don't know that she has written a statement or if she cares to. My staff shouldn't feel that way, especially not at the hands of an elected official. Occasionally we've had customers off the street that make you feel insecure or question your safety but my staff shouldn't ever have to feel that way. So it's kind of a situation where I think Shane 'cause Shane Middlesworth was standing there witnessing this whole thing along with Morgan, and I believe Lisa Dillon was there too-- she's a part time employee-- but I, I can't swear to that. I know Morgan was there. So Shane kind of distracted Chuck, and they left and that afternoon..... do you want me to keep going?

Marty: Yeah...

Tara Street: because this goes so this goes on and on

Marty: Yeah, so keep going.

Tara Street: So that afternoon Shane came down and asked if we could speak privately, and we, we went over to the council chambers and he was just trying to understand where the health department was coming from with these situations. I think he was trying to understand it enough to calm Chuck, I think, was my impression from that. And I answered his concerns and he said yeah but Chuck said you guys are overstepping. Chuck said this, Chuck said that. So that evening I went home and I pondered and pondered and pondered and I sent an email to Mike Mettler who is the --he oversees the entire environmental, I'm sorry, septic division of the Indiana Department of Health. And I just told him that I have a health board member and an elected official that are under the impression that we're a home rule state. (I have the email here that they're under the impression we're a home rule state and that we get to make our own judgment calls as far as that we the health department get to make our own judgment calls receptives through concerns, please advise). And his response was, I can't believe they still think that. No, you have to follow these Indiana codes da da da da. I forwarded that to Shane and said, based on our communications, Shane forwarded it to Chuck, I'm sorry, he forwarded it to both Commissioners, not just Chuck, which I guess understandably I didn't send it to necessarily have a conversation with all three Commissioners, I was trying to provide more clarity to Shane, but

Marty:right to educate him ...

Tara Street:yes...

Marty:on the fact that the things that you're doing and trying to enforce our state code ...

Tara Street: ...right

Marty:and state statute and not something that you're just making up, you know that have just been made-up at the county level

Tara Street: and we don't get to pick and choose, we have to ...

Marty:you have to follow whatever the state is, you could do more than what the state is, but what you're doing is just what the state is.

Tara Street: Right. So the next day maybe. Oh no I totally missed something. I received an email that afternoon from Chuck. It says, Tara, I know I can come off a little rough but I'm passionate about this--here are two of the rules that apply. Because you are the office manager, because he refuses to acknowledge that it was changed to administrator, because he doesn't think the health department needs an administrator. Anyway this ultimately falls on you. And he provides the quote. He goes on to tell me if the situation does not promote, generate or transmit disease, the health department doesn't have jurisdiction. OK so the whole thing kind of died then. I believe that was at the hand of David Glickfield a little bit. Fast forward to ---do you want me to keep going?

Marty: And David Glickfield's an attorney in town?

Tara Street: He's the health department attorney who also I think has been Chuck's attorney. He and Chuck have a relationship—a business, OK I don't know how to describe it. I don't know how--David kind of has a soft heart for the underdogs sometimes. I've known him for a long, long, long time .

Marty: So what happened next?

Tara Street: So now we're fast forwarding to February 7th. That's the interaction.

Marty: And this is February 7th of '25.

Tara Street: Yes. My situation is kind of an old story. I had I was working on payroll. It was it Friday morning. I was working on payroll. I had an employee on FMLA--that doesn't happen often. I was just trying to make sure I was turning in the paperwork properly, so I ran up to the 6th floor to talk to Justin Sadoff, who was the HR director at that time. Why didn't I just call? Because I do that--that's how I get extra steps in my job. If they're in the building, I walk to their office instead of calling. As I came off the stairwell and entered the door, Commissioner Poling was standing at the left down the hall, talking with Cami Savage and who I recognized to be her husband, only because he went to school with my kids many many years ago (I just recognized him as as her husband I've never met him or communicated with him). And as I looked to the left and saw them, Chuck said something about, 'Well there she is now.' oh I should've ...

Marty:Well who is Cami Savage?

Tara Street: She's just a county employee...

Marty:a county employee...

Tara Street:a county employee. For some background, she has, a she owns a home out on I think it's Bethlehem Rd. out in the country, and she had been having septic issues. We had received a complaint from someone in her string of neighborhoods, a country neighborhood, that she was her property was leaching raw sewage into his creek. And we got a call that morning, and Jeff my environmental health specialist called Brandy Poling and asked her about it and she told him, no, it's not, it's just where Chuck had, Chuck had cleaned the lines. He had cleaned out the tile and but this complainant was adamant that it was raw sewage, so I told Jeff I said just when you guys go out on your next sites swing by look at the creek you'll see is it sewer....

Marty: yeah, investigate...

Tara Street: we can figure it out. We're kind of required. If somebody says, we're required to do that. So...

Marty: and and this was work that that if I understand what's going on here that Brandy Poling and the the sewer business that Chuck Poling has had performed for this person...

Tara Street:yes, yes....

Marty: at their property...

Tara Street:yes....so Chuck says, there she is now, and he stormed up the hall and was yelling at me about us wasting time sending people out there, and I don't need to be sending my people out there-- you don't need to send them out there. Don't.... and I said, 'Well I already did' and he if he would have just listened, I could have told him they didn't find any raw sewage, it was black sludge from where he cleaned the tile. But he he just kept cutting me off and yelling at me and and and and it just lasted for a minute and Cami and the three of them went back down the hall and talked for a minute and I went on into where Justin's office is to have the conversation I went up to have. And Cassie Corporal was in Justin's office with him so I waited out in a little foyer area off to the right and just stood over there and looked out the window until Cassie left. As Cassie walked out his door, I went around to go in and Chuck came storming up the hall again and just was berating me about the way the health department's being run, and he he got up, I don't think he knows personal space. He got up super close and was poking at my chest-- not touching me-- but just poking at my chest and yelling and cutting me off every time I tried to speak. At one point I took a step backwards and said, 'Stop poking at my chest'! And he stepped forward and by then I'm like in the doorway with my back kind of up against the door jamb...

Marty: ... yeah....

Tara Street:And he, and he stepped forward, and and I I said STOP! and there was no taking another step back...

Marty:You're back up against the door jamb...

Tara Street: yes...

Marty: and you can't ...

Tara Street: And I said STOP POKING AT MY CHEST! About that time Shane came up the hall and I don't know exactly what Shane said ('cause I couldn't hear it, I couldn't hear what Shane said), but he kind of touched Chuck's elbow from behind, and Chuck turned to leave, and then he snarled back, and said GET OUT OF MY OFFICE. And I said I just need an answer to a question--I don't know why I said that--I don't know why I didn't just run. I just needed the answer, so I could go back and do the payroll, and be done. So, but I also during all of this...

Marty: how long did this last, when he was like up against...

Tara Street:oh gosh, it seemed I don't know it seemed like forever-- it probably wasn't 5 minutes,

Unknown: hi I just wondered if maybe you could go to circuit because I have to pump.

Marty: OK I'm sorry it's OK I totally forgot when I told you yeah I'm sorry let's break off this interview here for a moment OK.

Marty: We're going to go back on the record and I'm talking to Tara Street it's approximately 3:01 PM so you were talking about this interaction on, in February of 2025 where Commissioner Poling was—he had you back up against the door jamb and was poking at your chest, and for about 5 minutes and you just wanted to get an answer on your FMLA issue...

Tara Street: by the time it stopped, I just was shaking, I didn't, I wasn't able to just think clearly at all. So, should I go ahead?

Marty: Yeah, who all else was there while this was happening?

Tara Street: So Justin Sadoff was in his office which is just a tiny little office but I was in the only doorway, like the only entrance and exit to that office, so he was kind of trapped in there. And I think that's why I was reluctant to back any further that direction because then you are trapped in a little room. April Ailes was at her desk, which is outside his office. Shane Middlesworth was there and Cassie Corporal, who was leaving Justin's office when it started, and she stopped in the stairwell and watched the whole thing. I didn't, so to be honest I didn't realize Cassie had stayed and watched it. After I got the answer to my question from Justin, I went back to my office and a few minutes later she came in and went back to my office and was trying to pretend like nothing happened, because I didn't know how to, I didn't know what to do with this

Marty: did you, did he make, did he make you afraid?

Tara Street: ...yes....

Marty: was he intimidating...

Tara Street:absolutely, and I think part of it was because he was so close and 30 some years ago he assaulted a health department employee in anger over the way a septic system was being handled, and he thought he knew the best way to do it and his name was-- we knew him as Jake. His legal name is Emery Jake Campbell. There were charges filed. There was a restraining order. He broke Jake's nose. He, he head-butted him while they were arguing and broke Jake's nose in this altercation in the health department. So, maybe I'm, I don't like anger. I don't like rage, and he was up so close...

Marty: ... and he was yelling

Tara Street: through gritted teeth ...

Marty: and angry ...

Tara Street: uh huh....yeah, yeah, he was mad, he was real mad.

Marty: Did he use any swear words or name calling...

Tara Street: Not that I can recall...

Marty: or anything like that?

Tara Street: He again said, 'I've been fighting with the health department for 35 years' which is true absolutely true. He again told me he was going to bring back Brandy back to run the place and that I needed to get my people under control. I can't remember. I do not recall any foul language, that doesn't mean it wasn't there. I, I grew up military and my son is military, so I don't have virgin ears, I don't talk that way, but there was nothing that stood out to me as far as vulgarity. It was the anger...

Marty: it was just, the the intensity and the anger...

Tara Street: yes and and the spit ...

Marty:and the closeness ...

Tara Street:and the poking and the....

Marty: So you could feel the spit-- that that's how close he was and how...

Tara Street: no, I could see it

Marty: you could see it....

Tara Street: I don't believe spit ever hit me, because I would have filed charges; I would have tried to press charges about that, no, but both times when he was angry, but you can hear and see the spit, like in his mouth.

Marty: And how far away from you was he when you were back up against the door jamb?

Tara Street: Oh close enough I could feel his breath like

Marty: within within a foot or so ...

Tara Street: There was NO personal space. Yes, yeah, absolutely, absolutely, absolutely.

Marty: Did he in any way put his hands on you...

Tara Street: No...

Marty: you said he poked at towards ...

Tara Street:no

Marty:your chest but didn't actually touch you ?

Tara Street: correct . Yeah yeah. He never, never no physical contact at all.

Marty: And you said that I think you were talking about the fact that a coworker, Cassie, came down to talk to you afterwards?

Tara Street: So when I went back down to my office and and and I took the stairs and just tried to gather myself a little bit and and I went in and I stood at my desk for a minute. When I came in, Jane the nurse who I mentioned that was on FMLA, was standing there talking to Morgan. So I I just stood there just trying to, I don't know collect my thoughts, look and act normal, and and I see Cassie Corporal come through the lobby doors and she looked to see if I was there and she came in and she walked right over and she put her arms around me, and she said nobody should have to go through something like that. 'Are you OK?' and I was like, 'yeah I'm fine' but then my staff is over here like what, what happened? What's going on? And I just said Chuck Poling just ripped into me up there and I didn't go into much more detail because I was going to start crying. And I didn't see or hear anything from Chuck again that day.

Marty: OK. Have you had any other interactions with Commissioner Poling since then?

Tara Street: None like that because he sits, he's a Commissioner, I am required, when the health department has grants they need to apply for, we're required to get their permission.

When we have contracts, we have to run it through the Commissioners -- those meetings are all public, you can go watch. Multiple times after the meetings, other county employees come to me and say, I'm sorry he acts that way he's just...

Marty: How does he act towards you in those meetings do you believe?

Tara Street: I don't even know the word for it like he, he doesn't like the way I'm running the... An example I went, we took, we wanted to give the hospital \$30,000 for a, for their new beginnings program and he approved it but this is it that money needs to go to the schools, the schools, the children need the money. OK, Chuck, like we have a school liaison who gets all kinds of money and you gotta give him nothing I'm you have to get him raised up into school before you can worry about giving him the money into school. It just, he just doesn't like the decisions we make and he makes it very clear. I can't....

Marty:has he voted against requests....

Tara Street:yes ...

Marty: made to the by the health department....

Tara Street: ...yes almost all of them. Yes, he is very unhappy that we continue to use preparedness money to hire a preparedness coordinator. And at the meeting 2 weeks ago, 3 weeks, 2 or 3 meetings ago, when I went and asked to apply for the grant again, he he voted no. He wants that money to go to Bob Jackson because Bob Jackson already does all of that. The problem is the grant doesn't allow you to give it to Bob Jackson. The grant clearly says it has to be a health department employee. Well Chuck disagrees with that. Well I'm sorry you disagree with that.

Marty: Who's, who's Bob Jackson?

Tara Street: He's the head of the Emergency Management Agency and yes his office does work very closely with our preparedness coordinator and yes Bob Jackson does do a lot of the same things. I do have an email for the next time I have to take this request. I emailed the state who's in charge of the grant and said, again, can I pay the EMA director this....

Marty: this money....

Tara Street: this \$25,000 and they said, no, because, and it makes perfect sense, in a disaster, he's focused on 17 different thing. We want somebody focused on the public health perspective, and we're willing to pay \$25,000 a year for that person. So he I think as he's in a position of power, he just is trying to run it the way he thinks it needs to be run, without the education he needs to make those decisions...

Marty: or without paying attention to limitations being placed on him by outside statute ...

Tara Street:right.....

Marty:or entities or....

Tara Street: right

Marty: you know anything else OK.

Tara Street: So there was a whole email attack after that. So I told you that happened on February 5th on, and I was wrong about my timing, it was after that second inter, inner altercation, what interaction, I don't even know what you call it, that I emailed the state. It was

after the second the one in February that I emailed the state. Interestingly, five days after that February event, Chuck emailed Dr. Woods explaining all the things I'm doing wrong in my job and saying that I needed to be removed as the administrator and sent back to Vital Records with all of his reasons. Why did she share that with me? I don't know why Dr. Woods shared that email with me, but she did, and I actually have the email where she forwarded it. She said I couldn't do this role without you-- believe that-- you do an incredible job. And then she wanted me to see what he had said. He said there are a lot more issues that need to be addressed. He would like to schedule a meeting.

Marty: Do you know whether Dr. Woods ever actually met with Chuck Poling?

Tara Street: There was so, after that altercation, I I don't know I call it an altercation, those are two-sided.....

Marty:encounter....

Tara Street:yes, after So, so Chuck sent the email and I had sent the email to Mike Mettler and sent it back. So I'm going to tell this timeline, and then that'll come up in this. Then Brandy sent an email to the Commissioners

Marty:Brandy Poling?

Tara Street: Brandy Poling to the Commissioners, Mike Mettler, David Woodsfield, and Dr. Woods discounting everything I had said. And she says that they did not, they have never claimed that. You can go watch the health board meeting where Chuck Poling stands there and says, 'This is a home rule state, we get to do as we please.' I can give you the exact place you can go watch it at a health board meeting.

Marty: Sure what date was it?

Tara Street: It's right here. Oh no, hang on, the 3530 second, I don't put what meet I'll find out that that what that meeting wasit's I didn't put the day and the month and the day of the meeting.

Marty:but you have a link on the, on the

Tara Street: There's a link to the video

Marty:materials....

Tara Street: yes, where, he says we run our own health department, every county, the state is advisory. We have to make our own calls in every county--that's the law. When you go back and look, even Alice will tell you that. Alice Quinn used to be an environmental health specialist that he fought with all the time.

Marty: But that's not your understanding of what the law is on that...

Tara Street: no.....

Marty: in that regard? No.....

Tara Street: no, it's not the law, we don't get to make our own choices.....

Marty:you have...

Tara Street: especially with raw sewage, like raw sewage has to be dealt with. Anyway. So Brandy sent an email saying I was wrong. I'm not IOPA certified, neither is Chuck Poling,

by the way. I've never worked in the environmental division. I'm not sure why she wrote this email or she misunderstood the question that was asked. However she's incorrect in her belief, so I, and I'm going to, well you have it. I responded just with, out of respect for the Grant County Health Department environmental staff and myself with my, my answers. And then I sent an email to... So at that point Dr. Woods and I both started asking for guarantees from the Commissioners that that kind of assault wouldn't happen again, and I asked multiple times

Marty:did you feel like you're you were in danger with, with what he was doing when he was yelling and screaming at you?

Tara Street: So knowing his history of

Marty:head-butting...

Tara Street:right ...

Marty:that health department worker...

Tara Street: that didn't play into the back of my mind; it, it did, and and I feel like November and then February and and I think, yes, I was concerned because the bullying into doing it his way wasn't working. Like I was continuing to tell my staff no.....

Marty: to follow those regulations...

Tara Street: the way it was supposed to be done.... So at one point we were directed that anything to do with Chuck Sewer & Drain had to go through David Glickfield-- that they had to go through David Glickfield if they had questions for the health department--t that was their solution. And I'm wasn't, I just wanted something in writing, something in writing. So I sent an email in May. I waited. Dr. Woods--you asked if she ever had a meeting? There was a meeting that I believe she pushed for to try to come to some resolution to assure that this could stop, that Chuck would have to leave the health department alone. I don't even know for sure when the meeting was. There was a meeting. According to Dr. Woods, she was told she was not to discuss anything that went on in that meeting with anybody, and according to he,r Angie Jarvis was there, the County Attorney, all three Commissioners, David Woodsfield, Justin Sadoff, and herself. She was told not to tell me what was decided in that meeting, so at that point I felt like I had no more assurance than I did before the meeting took place, and so I, and it was prior to that meeting I emailed Commissioner Stewart and asked him if I could have a conversation with him, just because Shane wasn't hearing my side of the story. Chuck wasn't I mean...

Marty: forget, yeah, forget about that--- he's made his, he's made his intent clear that he wants his wife in there.

Tara Street: So I yeah I was I just needed Commissioner Stewart to understand I'm not the bad guy here and we met and I kind of went over this stuff and explained the environmental septic stuff to him and he said at that meeting he said, OK I'm going to ask you to trust me, just trust me, we're going to get this handled. OK. So fast-- they had the meeting with Dr. Woods. She wasn't allowed to tell me anything. I then in, I believe it was May, May May 27th of 2025, I emailed the Commissioners saying you know, this happened on February 7th. There was a meeting with Dr. Woods. She wasn't allowed to discuss it with me. I asked David Glickfield. He said yeah a meeting took place, but he was kind of confused about what I was wanting, which David and I, I considered him a friendly acquaintance, but we had words in the store from Mutual Bank that day. I said, 'What do you mean you don't understand what I need'? His daughter, his stepdaughter is the girl that needed to pump. I said if they had done that to Emily or your wife would you not understand what the need is? And that's what he said, 'Tara anything that Chuck needs has to go through me from now on.' And that's all that I was

getting, and that's standing in the bank. But still, I just wanted something in writing that you're looking out for me, and basically that request was followed by an email from Marty Harper telling me the Commissioners are following through with what was agreed upon during the executive session with Dr. Woods in February. That's what the email said. So a little bit of my complaint is more against more than just right. I believe people are afraid to stand up to Chuck like in public meetings. Everybody just lets him mow over you-- in in that situation all those people stood there-- every single one of those people that stood there and watched that happened apologized later. I'm just mind blown by it all, by it all honestly.

Marty: OK and just so the record's correct, have you ever been you know issued discipline or anything and all the time that you've worked for the....

Tara Street: no...

Marty: health department ...

Tara Street:no. I do have an email from David Glickfield. OK since the day of that event I finished my work day went home, cried, and told my husband what had happened. Gosh I don't know why I feel the need to cry right now. Took my dog for a walk. While I was walking the dog, my husband called our son Dallas, who I don't know, Dallas helped get Chuck and Shane elected, and told him he needed to get his guy under control, and apparently Dallas called Chuck and demanded an apology by noon the next day. Chuck said f-that. He would never apologize to me. Anyway I get home from walking the dog and my husband told me he had contacted Dallas. I have a text message I could provide somewhere I told Dallas I didn't intend for him to learn about it that way, but stay out of it. I didn't need his help with Chuck Poling. I would be fine. There are a lot of claims that Dallas is now going after Chuck over this. That is not true and and Dallas would would tell you that too. It's, it's the history the continued....

Marty: right, the pattern of conduct....

Tara Street: yeah and and and it's my understanding that what Dallas said to him after the Megan Glickfield incident was, I helped get you in there and you're making me look bad. You better stop treating people that way or I'm gonna help get you out. It's my understanding of how things went Dallas and Dallas's issues with Chuck have nothing to do with the February 5th 9th 2025 event.

Marty: OK. Have you had any more since that February event, uhm direct interaction with Commissioner Poling?

Tara Street: Minimal, minimal. There was a time ...

Marty:other than you have to go to these meetings to ask for money...

Tara Street: correct, correct. Yes. Several times things have been said and done that lead me to believe that he tries to influence Brandy on the board and Brandy shares information with him that's communications with the board ...

Marty: and Brandy Poling is on the health board currently?

Tara Street: correct. And her appointment on the health board I believe is the reason Dr. Woods resigned. Dr. Woods went to great lengths to prove to them that legally Brandy should not be a health board member and when it was time and and she proved this, it's my understanding like a year ago and what she was told then was well it's very difficult to remove someone from a board, so let's let her finish out her term and then when it comes time for reappointment, we'll look at it. So when reappointment time came along, Dr. Woods met with

and interviewed a couple of different wonderful candidates--one was well, I won't go into who they were--and when she recommended them to the Commissioners. And then they declined both of her candidates and reappointed Brandy for a four year term.

Marty: Yeah but the, but the problem, part of the problem is that the Commissioners are appointing the people he's he it's his wife that he's appointing...

Tara Street: and I don't think they're separating well. How did she know about the email interaction with Chuck and myself and Mike Mettler? How did she know about that? Chuck had to have shared it with her....

Marty: sure, otherwise she wouldn't have chimed in ...

Tara Street: heremail is at Chuck's Sewer & Drain. And then she interjected herself in that knowing when I rebutted her email, I did include the health board because I felt like if she's speaking at whatever and whatever.....

Marty: the whole the whole health board should be aware of it

Tara Street: correct, correct.

Marty: Has Commissioner Poling ever, do you believe he's spying on you or following you?

Tara Street: ABSOLUTELY! There's a camera right above my, that far away from my desk in my office, absolutely, absolutely I believe that, absolutely. He also, I believe, is indirectly attacking me through this Ed Bounds, who has these podcasts. They're vile-- is the only way I can describe this man. He reminds me of Howard Stern... he appears to be a Howard Stern wannabe. I'm not a Howard Stern, never did care for Howard Stern because he's vulgar and Bounds is vile and the way he talks about county employees. I have a Debbie--she's a part timer who's in her 70s but the hardest worker you'll ever have--and when Ed Bounds was--he named me specifically a time or two and then the rest of the time he just referred to me as Dallas Street's mom. He said at one point on his podcast which has now disappeared quite interestingly. He said the whole reason Dallas Street is mad at Chuck is because Chuck had to correct his mama and she went crying to Dallas and then Dallas got mad at Chuck. But he referred to the women, them F'ing entitled bitches down there at that county building, like he just ranted on

Marty: did he actually use the F word?

Tara Street: ... yes he did. I'm sorry....

Marty: fucking bitches down at that and trust me I've heard it all ...

Tara Street:entitled ...

Marty:entitled fucking bitches down there

Tara Street: down there at the at the county building, and I believe he was actually mad at Cami Savage when he said it. But the point is--so Debbie came in and said you know I was talking to Rich, I think I maybe am not safe working here anymore. Llike he was inciting--when you look at his client base, I think they're people that would, would easily be incited to come down there and stir trouble. We have no security. These Commissioners-- we used to have an "Alice" button, but we don't even have that anymore to call for help, so my office is an open window that cannot be closed. It's an open window on the 1st floor. Sometimes we are the only person on the 1st floor--the only people--the women in my office. There is no security.

There are no other people down there. To call for help, you have to get your mouse, open the phone app on your desktop, pick up your, and then on your keyboard dial 911,

Marty: ,,,,and by then you know right

Tara Street: I have had to crawl through that open window when I've been locked out-- it's not hard—anybody..... So to have Ed Bounds inciting people, just the general public, about those entitled evil women down there at that county building on behalf of Chuck, because he has posted on his Facebook page, he'll go back to prison for Chuck Poling, like it feels, like like Chuck is just poking... actually I honestly think they're trying to get to Dallas and using me to try to get to Dallas. Because most people of that mindset can be incited by picking at their mama if that makes sense. Dallas isn't one of those people.

Marty: What is your, what does Dallas do here in town? Is he...

Tara Street: no he, he just got involved in politics because of I believe the solar thing because of the solar ordinance that was coming, he got involved in politics, he teaches. He's a soldier 10 years in the in the army and then now he teaches and coaches football. He's well respected.

Marty: So has Commissioner Poling ever attempted to have any other relatives friends or associates hired by the county? I mean we've talked about his wife and him wanting him her in your job or

Tara Street: not that I'm aware of.....

Marty: at the health department. OK. Have you ever seen Commissioner Poling where you thought he might be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or anything like that?

Tara Street: No but other than those events, I don't usually spend time around.

Marty: Sure and have you ever heard Commissioner Poling telling people how to vote or talking to them about voting?

Tara Street: I saw the video but

Marty: where he was escorting Ed Hartman through the building. OK. Has that ever happened with any other candidate for office where they're coming through the building during work hours?

Tara Street: Well, no no there was one who and and I really don't want to name him 'cause it it was comical, it was comical. There's... its Mike Scott, who's been on the council for years. I have had more of the interactions with Mike than I have your average county councilman because during COVID his father--he just had an awful experience with it. So we had a brief interaction where I told him I was incredibly sorry that that was his experience and and we bonded over that and my niece who he used to teach at Mississinnewa High School (I don't know if he does now or not) but my niece was in his class and she's had a rough life and he took a special interest in her so we've had a friendlier relationship than I've had with most county councilman and he when he was running for clerk this time (he just showed up at our window one day he said I just stopped by to see if there's anything you guys need) and it was just comical because he's never showed up at my window before but now he's running for office, but no, no that's the only interaction. I think Ed Hartman has a sour taste in his mouth for me because of Dallas and Randy Atkins has a sour taste because of Dallas and that's a completely different situation. I mean Dallas has called Randy out on some terrible stuff that he allowed to happen many many years ago as a principal--publicly called him out, so I think I think their

sour taste is because they don't like Dallas, and Dallas might do very very good at keeping separate or ...

Marty:your work life and

Tara Street: ...yes...

Marty:your personal life. Because my son-in-law is on the polar opposite side of all those fences as Dallas is. He owns a construction company. He would build a solar environment if they could get one here right, so we don't talk about that stuff, we just don't.

Marty: OK, so have you, do you believe anyone has attempted to intimidate you on behalf of Commissioner Poling?

Tara Street: No.

Marty: OK I mean you talked about Ed Bounds and the comments that he's made on his podcast but ...

Tara Street: no I think he's very offensive. I think he's insulting. I think he's vile. It's such a struggle for me and he believes what he's told whether it's true or not, and then just puts it out there.

Marty: And other than that what you've described, are there any other examples of Commissioner Poling making physical contact with you or getting into your personal space, other than what we've already talked about? Were there any, do you know whether there are any videos or recordings of that incident? ...

Tara Street: ... there were no cameras at that time....

Marty:at that time OK. Has he ever shut you in a room, Commissioner Poling, and refused to let you leave or anything like that?

Tara Street:no.

Marty: OK. How has Commissioner Poling's conduct towards you impacted your ability to work?

Tara Street: I'm kind of an old school, suck it up buttercup, kind of mindset, so I mean it hasn't prevented me from working. I'm not great at public speaking anyway. It's like, in fact when I was asked to take this role, Dr. Moore was the the boss then and I said yeah you do all the public speaking, I'll do the rest of the work, then he left you know, he had to. But there's a whole lot more anxiety in the days building up when I know I'm going to have to present a request with Commissioner Poling because there's a feeling that he's going to be anti no matter what just because. It hasn't prevented me from doing my job; it's just caused it to be a lot more anxiety ruled.

Marty: OK . How how has his conduct or presence impacted the work environment within county government or at large?

Tara Street: So let me say, the health department specifically, my environmental health specialist, it just causes him, he'll come to me and say OK we've got a situation, it's Poling is the contractor. And and it causes him to have to pause and second guess and and he just wants somebody alongside him every step of the way. We don't have that with other contractors, and he wants to run everything by the attorney before he makes a decision when it's a Poling situation, you know ...

Marty: and he wants to have like a second set of eyes looking at it or ?

Tara Street:yes yes and it's the only contractor that we have that issue with. There was a health board meeting and I can find out when that was, approximately 15 months ago, where Commissioner Poling and his wife wanted special exception to the rule and they know you can request a health board meeting and present your case and they can in extreme situations, they can waive the rules and grant you a permit anyway. And oh I don't know if the health board would want to get involved in saying how they feel about this--they just felt kind of bullied and badgered into granting their request and well but they

Marty:but basically an effort to to get the special treatment for his company ...

Tara Street:absolutely.....

Marty:through the health board ...

Tara Street:for his own personal property. It's for a property--I mean it's their property and what was approved by the health board due to their lack of knowledge and their lack of during, due to his intimidating nature, they went ahead and approved it rather than just taking a pause and educating their self better. Sarah Seward who's a health board member said later I wish I would have just thought to table it for two months, 'cause we meet every other month. There's just something about his demeanor that short circuits your ability-- it's like a bully-- it short circuits your ability to think clearer. I don't I don't know how to put it into better words than that.

Marty: OK umm so other people within the government feel the intimidation...

Tara Street: Absolutely, absolutely. I think the reason a room full of people will sit and watch him act that way and apologize later is because I feel bad that the targets on you, but better you than me.

Marty: Right. And you're providing me with your written statements and whatnot-- is there any other evidence or videos or anything else that you think I need to look at and you'll follow up on the, on the date of the of the ...

Tara Street: of the health board meeting....

Marty: Of the the health board meeting and everything that ...

Tara Street:and you have all of these so I'm going to OK I'm going to write a note I'm here to send you the special exception household special exemption.

Marty: Is there any other, anything else that you would like to add that you think I need to know about with respect to the situation?

Marty: OK are there any other witnesses that you think would have relevant information that we haven't already discussed?

Tara Street: No, I think I think Dr. Woods has provided you a statement somewhere.

Marty: OK I don't know that I have a statement from Dr. Woods do you know...

Tara Street:its the envelope that...

Marty: oh OK OK she dropped it I, was off yesterday...

Marty: OK.

Tara Street: she dropped it off yesterday...

Marty: OK thank you I I don't have anything else and I'll end the interview here it's about 3:36 PM thank you.

3:36pm