

Respondent Name
Vickie Raines
Complainant Name
Wesley Cormier
Complaint Description
<p><u>Wes Cormier</u> <i>(Mon, 3 Oct 2022 at 6:28 PM)</i></p> <p>The flyer says that under Commissioner Raines the General Fund Levy decreased (-26%), the Road Fund Levy decreased (-24%) and new construction is a total of \$789 million since she took office.</p> <p>Firstly, levy rates increase and decrease for two reasons. Elected officials levy more/less taxes or the housing market increases/decreases (with the exception of the state school levy). Commissioner Raines only levied more taxes, not less. If your levy rate decreases, it does NOT mean your property tax is reduced. Likewise, if your levy rate increases, it does NOT mean your property taxes were increased. The decrease in the county Road Levy Rate (-24%) and Current Expense (General Fund) Rate (-26%) shown in this flyer is a direct result of the housing market. Not Commissioner Raines voting record despite her saying, "... the record shows consistency with no huge peaks and valleys." She had absolutely nothing to do with the trajectory of those levy rates.</p> <p>Secondly, I worked beside Commissioner Raines from 2015 to 2020 and she has not brought forward any legislative or administrative policy changes that would help new construction in our county.</p> <p>Lastly, Commissioner Raines has nothing to do with the Senior Exemption Program. It is administered and controlled by the County Assessor's Office.</p> <p>The flyer is grossly misleading and dishonest.</p>
What impact does the alleged violation(s) have on the public?
Incumbent and candidate for County Commissioner Vickie Raines presented a flyer/paper that outlined her successes over the past seven (7) years. The flyer was dishonest and misleading to the public. The flyer could change the outcome of a close and competitive race as it was distributed to more than 70 citizens and businesses at a business forum.
List of attached evidence or contact information where evidence may be found
Attached; Commissioner/candidate Raines handed out a flyer at the Greater Grays Harbor Inc. candidate forum on September 27, 2022.
List of potential witnesses
Kyle Paulie - Host of the candidate forum
Certification (Complainant)
I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that information provided with this complaint is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY TAX LEVY HISTORY 2015 - 2022*

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
County Road Levy Rate	2.2340133	2.2500000	2.2500000	2.1875355	2.0985057	1.9835198	1.8929310	1.6924552	
County Levy Rate	1.7158223	1.7551101	1.7887499	1.7202290	1.6411123	1.5153089	1.4233377	1.2617855	
Veterans Rate	0.0068739	0.0068544	0.0111250	0.0000000	0.0000000	0.0004824	0.0049379	0.0081529	
County + Veterans	1.7226962	1.7619645	1.8000000	1.7202290	1.6411123	1.5157913	1.4282756	1.2699384	
									Total
New Construction	\$69,904,794	\$53,424,750	\$72,220,960	\$88,055,718	\$102,755,219	\$112,559,255	\$110,908,955	\$179,776,583	\$789,606,234
Senior Exemptions	\$2,122,072	\$2,444,528	\$2,585,809	\$3,380,618	\$3,182,820	\$3,944,275	\$4,122,835	\$4,730,618	\$26,513,575

*Tax Information provided by the GHC Assessor's Office 2022

**The Rhetoric
Doesn't Pencil Out!**

"My opponent has repeatedly stated that I increased taxes every year in office and that simply isn't the case. Serving 8 years with five other commissioners of different political affiliations, the record shows consistency and not huge peaks and valleys. I have an extensive history in finance. I believe Budgets matter—Experience counts! I'm asking for your Vote in this election".

- ★ County tax levy rate has decreased 26% since Commissioner Raines took office.
- ★ County Road Levy rate has decreased 24%.
- ★ New construction during Vickie's 8 years as commissioner has totaled \$789.6 million.
- ★ Property tax exemptions for low income seniors has totaled \$26.5 million, allowing our valuable seniors relief from taxes as our community grows.

Re-elect

**VICKIE
Raines**



for Grays Harbor County
COMMISSIONER

District 3- NP