

January 15, 2016

To: The Nevada State Board of Massage Therapists

April Whiting, Michael Smith, Robin Graber, Diane Huleva, Sandra Anderson and Walter Lopez

Greetings,

I am asking Lisa to send a copy of this letter to each of you to inform you that I have filed a complaint against the board members with the Attorney General's office. I think it is in the best interest of your Board to have an investigation into the actions and conduct of board members possibly based on advice given by legal counsel that was inappropriate and damaging to the organization.

The allegations against Lisa have been an ongoing issue which has spanned over a year and, frankly, I do not believe there is any way to repair that relationship and have encouraged Lisa to make the change in her career that is for her greatest good. The loss of trust and respect for Lisa by Michael and April is evident in the manner of conduct that more than exemplifies their feelings. For some reason that same animosity has been directed at me for which I am confused. I have been absent for over two years so do not see how any of this reflects back on me. But, I am not here to talk about me.

My reasons for filing the complaint are as follows:

1. First, your staff attorney has inserted his opinions into the actual operation of the board which has, in my opinion, unduly influenced board decisions. Legal counsel is to advise on the law and no more. Mr. Ling obviously crossed that line some time ago as was evidenced by his impassioned participation in recent meetings. He is not a board member and while he may have a voice when asked, he is not free to opine in an attempt to stop an action by the board. I believe this has caused certain board members to be ill advised on Open Meeting Law regulations which resulted in serial communication outside of a board meeting, collaboration on board issues, and certain bias against the staff.
2. Board members Whiting and Smith may feel they are free to discuss issues not before a meeting, and certainly not during a meeting. I heard enough to convince me that these two board members were engaged in side bar discussions while an agenda item was being heard. This conduct brings the question of legality to the proceedings.
3. Finally, I feel a great pride in the Board of massage therapists and hate to see that the last two years has completely torn the fabric of this organization. Lines are clearly drawn against each other and former members of the board which, if left unchecked, will result in the ultimate failure of the board.

As you all know, I am fully committed to this board and would do whatever it takes to guarantee the future of the board. Even if that means alienating people whom I have considered my friends. My hope is that the Attorney General's office will assist with rebuilding the structure and repairing some of the damage. Keith Marcher and Colleen Platt also can be a great asset in helping to clear up some of the confusion. Please trust the help that is offered.

I hope we can all put our differences aside for the greater good. If I may be of any service, I am always available to assist.

Billie Shea