

Text from OOC Legal Counsel:

From: Ross Day [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2012 2:46 PM
To: Bow Rack [REDACTED] Steven K. Chapman; Jerod Broadfoot
Subject: Moving Forward with OOC

All-

I believe I have been copied on the latest round of emails concerning the magazine and Wil Askew. Thanks for including me in that correspondence.

As an initial matter, I have been asked “who I represent”. While I am Steve’s personal lawyer, I am also the lawyer for OOC and the OOC Foundation. I am writing to everyone today as the lawyer for OOC.

First, it is important that everyone understand that no one member can unilaterally commit OOC to legal action (unless the Board decides to delegate that authority to one person – which has not happened with OOC). Therefore, before any legal action can be taken against Mr. Askew, the Board would have to approve such a course of action. Because the Board has not decided to bring any action against Mr. Askew, no legal action is pending.

Second, I cannot stress enough to everyone the importance of keeping your affairs on the straight and narrow. In the case of the \$750 paid to Mr. Askew, that was done in April or May I believe, and here it is August and the magazine has not been completed. OOC has promised its members two annual online magazines for their membership, and if OOC does not give its members what it has promised, OOC could – at least theoretically – be on the hook for refunds to its members.

But more concerning is this: if the IRS or the Oregon Department of Justice were to inspect the books they would flag this transaction and want to know what we got for the \$750. You may think to yourself : “why would they flag a transaction that is only \$750? The reason is because OOC’s budget is not very large, and a \$750 transaction is going to stand out and get noticed.

As we have discussed in the past, there are other similar bookkeeping issues that I am concerned with that will certainly draw attention from regulating agencies. It is my job to advise OOC on how to avoid enforcement actions by agencies like the IRS and the Oregon DOJ. The easiest and surest way to avoid enforcement actions is by making sure your books are clean to begin with, that way you do not have to agree to “follow the law” if and when the government comes knocking at your door.

Understand this: the consequences to every Board member personally is something you all need to be aware of. If the DOJ, for instance, determines that money was being spend inappropriately, they DOJ, for instance, could levy fines against each of you personally, not just OOC. Steve is right to be concerned about what is going one, especially in light of the fact that all of the OOC board members could be held personally liable.

With the foregoing in mind let me suggest the following course of action: (1) nothing is going to be done concerning the magazine/Wil Askew until October, when hunting season is over, (2) Jerod will identify content for the magazine in order for the magazine to be completed and ready for publication, (3) Steve will prepare a list of transactions he is concerned about and will present that list to me to present to the entire Board.

Lastly, I think everyone is concerned about the future of OOC. I can understand why. The obvious friction between Steve and Jerod makes it tough to get anything done internally, but that dynamic is easy to overcome. The bigger problem presented to the organization is the fact that the dispute between Steve and Jerod was made public. Equally problematic is the fact that OHA believes OOC is nothing more than a money-making operation for Jerod. In politics, perception is reality – and these perceptions are everyone else’s reality.

I understand Wayne believe OOC can survive without OHA’s support. I am not sure that I agree OHA is the 800-pound elephant in the room that influences all of the other game-oriented groups in Oregon. If OHA is telling people these perceptions about OOC, well, OOC is going to have a difficult time surviving in the environment. We need to fix this problem if OOC has any chance of surviving in the immediate future.

Those are my immediate thoughts. I know you all are headed out to shoot at things this weekend, and I am going to the coast to camp and hopefully pull things out of the water. After everyone has had a chance to review this, if you want to send me a response, that would be much appreciated.

Ross

Ross Day
Attorney at Law
Day Law Group, P.C.
12755 SW 69th Avenue, #200
Portland, Oregon 97223