

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:00:05](#)):

Great. Thank you all for being here today. I'm gonna go ahead and call this session of the City of Woodinville Hearing Examiner to order for the record. Today is October 7th, 2024 at 10:00 AM We have one item on the agenda today, which involves a November 6th, 2023 ethics complaint that was filed against Woodinville Mayor Mike Millman. My name is Peregrine Soer. I'm a hearing examiner with Laminar Law, whom the city has selected to hear and address ethics complaints filed against city officials. And who do we have here today on behalf of Mayor Millman?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:00:41](#)):

Uh, good morning. Uh, Mr. Sorter. My name is Harold Malkin. I'm counsel to, uh, mayor Millman. And, uh, would you like me to introduce the other people who are in the room with me?

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:00:52](#)):

Sure. That would be great. Thank you Mr.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:00:54](#)):

Malkin. Thank you. And you can see Mayor Millman, who's just, uh, who's just sliding down, uh, to be visible for this portion of the, uh, of the introductions. So Mayor Millman is here with me. Um, to my left is Michelle Millman, who's also going to be a witness today. And, uh, outside of the camera range, but also here with us is a colleague of mine who was assisting me today, whose name is Rachel Sandoval. And I'll let, uh, Ms. Connor introduce herself.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:01:25](#)):

Hi, I'm Cara Connor.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:01:28](#)):

Hello, good morning. So, uh, I just kind of wanna summarize, uh, what brought us here today. Uh, on November 6th, 2023, uh, member of the public, Alex Campbell filed an ethics complaint against Mayor Millman alleging violations of the City Code of Ethics, which is found at chapter 2.36 of the Woodinville Municipal Code. Uh, specifically Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell alleged that, uh, mayor Millman violated WMC 2 3 6 0 2 0 16, which incorporates by reference RCW 42 23 0 7 oh. I received the complaint on February 13th, 2024, and initiated my preliminary investigation as authorized under WMC 2 3 6 0 6 0 2. Following that preliminary investigation, which due to its confidential nature, was strictly limited to reviewing the information that was provided by the complainant. I determined that probable cause existed to support the allegations and I elected to retain the matter for a formal investigation. By way of this hearing here today, uh, Mr. Makin, does my summary of the events, uh, sound accurate to you?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:02:47](#)):

Yeah, it does. Mr. Sorter. And if I might just add one thing, uh, I did not, and I should have, I did not identify, uh, my law firm and, and in terms of, or in addition to identifying myself. So if I might just do that for purpose of the purposes of the record, Harold Malkin with the Law firm of Morgan Lewis and Bogas.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:03:07](#)):

Thank you, Mr. Malkin. Um, so, uh, Mr. Malkin has received my pre-hearing order, uh, which describes how this process is intended to proceed. Uh, but to be clear, this is an informal process. So while I want to ensure that we have an orderly hearing that's respectful to all the attendees here today, I will be granting you a lot of leeway in the presentation of your case, Mr. Malkin. Uh, I would note that these proceedings are somewhat unique, uh, because they are investigatory in nature and not adversarial, uh, Mr. Malkin will call and question witnesses, and I will also have the opportunity to question those witnesses. And because this is a legal proceeding, all testimony will be under oath or affirmation. Now, I hope that it was clear from my threshold determination that I have not reached any conclusions regarding whether any violations of the city code of ethics have actually occurred, and I am not acting in a prosecutorial manner. Rather, my purpose in asking any questions of the witnesses here today is to ensure that I have all the information necessary to make a sound and reason determination as to whether a preponderance of evidence supports the violations, uh, alleged in the complaint. And I'll ultimately, uh, address that in my recommended disposition to City Council. So if we could turn to the exhibits that were submitted in this matter, uh, I received, uh, 13 from counsel, which were designated ex one through EX 13. Uh, does that sound accurate, Mr. Malkin?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:04:45](#)):

Uh, yes, it does. Mr. Sorter with the exception of the one, uh, document or exhibit that we discussed a moment ago?

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:04:52](#)):

Yes, I was gonna address that next. Uh, so first I'll go ahead and I will admit, uh, exhibits one through 13 into the record, and I would note that this morning I did received a signed declaration from Kimberly Ellertson and Mr. Mulkin, which you like that a admitted as an exhibit as well?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:05:10](#)):

Yes, I would, I will be briefly, um, referring to that and with, uh, your permission reading it briefly into the record.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:05:17](#)):

Great. So I will go ahead and admit that declaration as Exhibit 14. Uh, Mr. Mulkin, do we have any other preliminary matters that we need to address before proceeding?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:05:28](#)):

Uh, I don't think so. Uh, other than just letting Ms. Connor know, um, that we had initially invited her to join after the preliminary, uh, your preliminary remarks and mine, um, uh, we are, we are now going to, I assume allow her to stay with us, uh, during my remarks and then we would move to her testimony.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:05:52](#)):

Great. And, uh, would you like to present an opening statement?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:05:56](#)):

I would

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:05:57](#)):

Thank you. Okay. You can proceed. Thank you.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:05:59](#)):

Thank you very much. Excuse me for one sec. Um, yes, I'm just going to give, uh, Michelle Millman the opportunity to leave if she'd like to, uh, until it's time for her to appear.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:06:09](#)):

Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:06:10](#)):

Okay. Thank you.

([00:06:18](#)):

Good morning. Hearing, hearing Examiner sorter Mayor Millman appreciates this opportunity to respond to the threshold determin of probable cause. As that determination readily and repeatedly acknowledges it was reached without the benefit of input or information from Mayor Millman. Indeed it was issued before he was even aware that an ethics complaint had been lodged against him by an outspoken critic of his tenure as mayor, a critic married to another Woodenville, another sitting Woodenville council member. As the saying goes, there are two sides to every story today as Mayor Millman's opportunity to present his perspective on the relevant events and communications that are the subject of the threshold determination.

([00:07:06](#)):

As to determination number one, mayor Millman is and has consistently been an honest, transparent, and ethical elected official of the city of Woodinville since first joining the City Council in February of 2021, the evidence will show that Mayor Millman never directly or indirectly requested free tickets from Chateau Semi Michel to see Chicago in concert. In response to the Winery's unsolicited 2002 invitation, in fact, the Winery's invitation explicitly informed him as well as other elected office holders who received similar invitations that tickets must be purchased. Similarly, mayor Millman at no time undertook to use or leverage his official position to secure special privileges in the form of otherwise sold out tickets or access to a pre-con reception. After being advised that the Chicago concert was sold out, mayor Millman told the winery that that was, quote unquote okay, that he was fine not attending the show. The winery with no prompting whatsoever for Mayor Millman then volunteered without elaboration or explanation. The tickets held aside, quote unquote, for just this purpose, we're still available. Mayor Millman paid full price for two such tickets without appreciating that others interested in buying Chicago tickets at that same time may not have been afforded the same opportunity.

([00:08:49](#)):

In contrast to concert tickets, the winery explicitly advised Mayor Millman that it was permitted to donate the pre-con reception as part of the package it had offered to him. The reception, unlike the concert, was of only incidental interest to Mayor Millman. Consequently, when accepting the April invitation for the September concert, mayor Millman did not focus on the fact that the future reception, which he eventually attended only briefly, and without partaking in free food or drink, was by invitation only. At least one other elected office holder attended that same reception as to threshold determination. Number two, the evidence will also show that Mayor Millman neither sought nor received any benefit in connection with the matter related to his official duties as mayor in the interest of efficiency and for no other purpose. Mayor Millman included in his email responding to the Winery's concert invitation, a request to meet, to strategize an opposition to a transfer station that both the City

Council and Mayor Millman had already publicly opposed for more than a year, and was likewise opposed by virtually every resident and business in Woodinville, including Chateau Hel. There was nothing about Mayor Millman's email that objectively impliedly, or in the opinion of its recipient, suggested he was seeking or willing to trade a meeting to discuss the transfer station in exchange for tickets and exchange for concert tickets. Probity and integrity are core values of Mike Millman. The threshold determination implicates both of those values. Mayor Millman looks forward to addressing the threshold determination, supplementing the record, and answering any questions you, Mr. Sorter may have. Thank you. That concludes my introductory statement.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:11:09](#)):

Thank you, Mr. Malkin. Uh, you can go ahead and call your first witness whenever you're ready.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:11:14](#)):

Okay, I will do that. And if I might, just as a, as a procedural, uh, procedural thing, I might just invite Mayor Millman if he'd like to, um, to, to scoot to the end of the table so that he is not, um, he is not on camera throughout the examination, but I leave that to him, if that's all right with you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:11:31](#)):

Sure.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:11:32](#)):

Okay. Thank you. Uh, Mr. Sorter, we would like to call as our first witness, Ms. Cara Connor.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:11:41](#)):

Great. Good morning, Ms. Connor, if you could go ahead. Good morning. Uh, raise your right hand. I'd like to get you sworn in. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth in the testimony you give here today?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:11:53](#)):

I do.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:11:54](#)):

Thank you. And if you could just go ahead and spell your name for the record.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:11:58](#)):

Sure. It's Cara, CARA. Last name is Connor, C-O-N-N-O-R.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:12:05](#)):

Great. Thank you. Uh, Mr. Mulkin, you can proceed when you're ready.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:08](#)):

Thank you Mr. Sorter. Uh, Ms. Connor, good morning and thank you for taking time out of your day to, uh, to appear this morning. Um,

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:17](#)):

Good morning.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:18](#)):

Could you, uh, tell us please how you're currently employed?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:22](#)):

Yeah, I currently work for the auction of Washington Wines.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:26](#)):

And where did you, how, how long have you worked, uh, for the auction of Washington Wines?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:31](#)):

I've worked for them since June of 2023.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:35](#)):

Alright. And what were you, uh, by whom were you employed prior to that?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:39](#)):

I was employed by St. Michelle Wine Estates.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:42](#)):

And, uh, how long had you worked for Chateau San Michel?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:48](#)):

I was with them for 16 years.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:12:50](#)):

And did you serve in, uh, just one role or did you serve in multiple roles during that time?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:12:57](#)):

I worked in, um, a lot of different roles while I was there. Started, yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:13:03](#)):

Okay. And can you just briefly maybe tell us where you started and, and what you were doing when you, when you left the winery?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:13:10](#)):

Yeah. I started off in guest services working in the tasting room and events. Uh, I worked for HR for a short stint, and then I started working for the communications department.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:13:23](#)):

Okay. And what was your, do you remember what your position was when you left Chatto? Semi Michel,

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:13:29](#)):

Yes, the Community Relations manager.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:13:32](#)):

All right. And do you remember approximately, this isn't a test. Do you remember approximately how long you served as Community Relations manager?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:13:40](#)):

Um, I know it was before 2020 with Covid, so it was probably 2019 or so, so about four years. Three to four years.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:13:50](#)):

All right. And can you, uh, give Mr Sorter, uh, a sense of what your job responsibilities entail in his community relations manager?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:14:00](#)):

Yeah, I would say the majority of my role was working with our charitable contributions program. Um, I was also the liaison with local Woodinville, uh, the local Woodinville community, as well as, um, Washington Industry Associations.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:14:17](#)):

And was one of your duties as Community Relations Manager to serve as Chateau Semi? She's representative on the board of the Woodville Chamber of Commerce.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:14:26](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:14:27](#)):

And did you, were you in that capacity as the Chateau Hels board representative in the 21 20 21 22 time period?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:14:37](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:14:39](#)):

And was Mike Millman during that period of time, uh, a frequent speaker or attendee at chamber meetings?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:14:46](#)):

Not the meetings, the, not the board meetings, but various chamber events.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:14:51](#)):

Thank you. Thank you for that clarification. During your tenure as a community relations manager, did you have occasion to communicate with Mike Millman in his capacity as either a city council person or as mayor?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:15:04](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:15:06](#)):

How often would you say you and Mike Millman communicated between February, 2021 when he joined the council and when you left Chateau San Michel, would you say monthly, less frequently, more frequently?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:15:19](#)):

It was, I mean, just in general, it was probably monthly at various events.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:15:24](#)):

Okay. And were there any particular issues that you remember engaging with, uh, Mike Millman on during that period of time?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:15:33](#)):

Yeah, I think the only one was the, um, the transfer station in Woodinville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:15:40](#)):

All right. Uh, during the period of time that you interacted with, uh, Mike Millman, um, as the board representative to the Chamber of Commerce, did you develop an impression of him insofar as his professionalism and integrity as an elected official we're concerned?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:16:01](#)):

He, he very professional and very congenial as well. I know, you know, he just always, um, seemed very involved with the community and concerned about community issues and, um, and just was very professional to deal with.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:16:19](#)):

Did you ever witness anything, um, in your dealings with Mike Millman that called into question his integrity in your mind?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:16:27](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:16:28](#)):

Okay. Now, while working at Chateau Hel, uh, did the winery write on an annual basis, uh, to the best of your knowledge to local and state elected officials at the beginning of the summer concert series to invite them to attend a a, a concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:16:45](#)):

Yeah, they did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:16:47](#)):

And do you have an understanding during your time at the winery as to whether some of those elected officials, uh, accepted the Chateau invitation?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:16:56](#)):

Yeah, to my knowledge they did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:16:59](#)):

And, uh, would those who accepted to your knowledge include occasionally Woodenville City Council members other than Mayor Millman?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:17:08](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:17:10](#)):

Um, do you have, we're gonna put up on the screen, uh, a number of exhibits, but, um, I wanted to see if you had the hard copies that we had sent you, just in case you prefer working with hard copies.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:17:26](#)):

I do have the hard copies.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:17:27](#)):

Okay. But as, as I said, we're gonna, we're gonna project them on the screen, so I'd like to first ask that exhibit one, excuse me, be shared. Give us a moment to, to tee it up and enlarge it so you

([00:17:42](#)):

And others can see. It may take us just a moment.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:17:52](#)):

I can see it on my screen.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:17:54](#)):

Okay.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:17:54](#)):

I can

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:17:54](#)):

Too.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:17:55](#)):



Good. I can't see it on mine, but there we go. Uh, I'm not sure, actually. Do you need to be given permission, Rachel, to share documents? It's,

Defense Legal Assistant: Ms. Sandoval ([00:18:05](#)):

It's on their screen.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:18:06](#)):

Oh, okay. So you got, you can all see it. Okay, great. So, Ms. Connor, would you take a minute to just review Exhibit one and let me know when you've had a chance to, to read it?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:18:20](#)):

Yeah, I'm familiar with it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:18:21](#)):

Okay. And do you recall writing that email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:18:25](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:18:25](#)):

All right. And just without going into too much detail, it goes, we'll walk through it in a moment. What is that email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:18:32](#)):

Um, it's an initial invitation that I sent to Mary Millman about our summer concert series.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:18:39](#)):

And had you previously, excuse me, had you previously personally written similar emails, uh, to elected officials at the beginning of this summer concert season?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:18:49](#)):

This was, no, this was the first time I'd ever done it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:18:52](#)):

And do you happen to recall why you either chose to or were asked to send this email to Mary Millman in, uh, April of 2022?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:19:02](#)):

It just depe. Yeah. I, I was more involved with our community at this point, so previous years, there may have been somebody else who handled this, this part of it. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:19:13](#)):

And do you recall whether you drafted this email yourself, whether you piggybacked on emails that had been sent to elected officials in prior years?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:19:24](#)):

Yeah, I took the verbiage from other emails.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:19:28](#)):

All right. And prior to sending Mayor Millman Exhibit one, do you recall him ever approaching you regarding the possibility of complimentary tickets to a concert at Chateau San Michel?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:19:42](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:19:44](#)):

Do you recall hearing from any colleagues at Chateau Semi, she no. Prior to sending Exhibit one to Mayor Millman, that he had ever approached them about complimentary tickets to either a Chateau, to a Chateau Semi she event?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:19:59](#)):

No, I don't, no one's, I don't recall anyone ever saying anything like that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:20:03](#)):

Okay. Let's take a moment if we could to, uh, walk through your email invitation to Mayor Millman. Um, after announcing or advising him, uh, of the start of the upcoming summer concert series, what does the email say about whether the winery can offer Mayor Millman free tickets to a concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:20:33](#)):

Um, it says we can't offer the tickets.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:20:37](#)):

And I'm sorry, did you say can or cannot?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:20:40](#)):

We cannot, that they would have to have the tickets already.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:20:43](#)):

Okay. And by have the tickets already, do you mean purchase the tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:20:48](#)):

Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:20:49](#)):

Okay. And, um, looking at Exhibit one, was Mayor Millman limited to choosing from only certain concerts?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:21:00](#)):

Uh, no. We, we usually would send out the link. Um, I mean, there's occasionally concerts that might not be available, but we would send out the link, you know, that for that goes to all the concerts as that first option.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:21:14](#)):

Okay. And am I reading correctly that in the second paragraph, um, it says in order to comply with PDC, which I assume is Public Disclosure Commission, is that correct? That would,

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:21:29](#)):

Again, I pulled that from another email. Okay. So I,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:21:32](#)):

Okay.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:21:32](#)):

Yeah, I would assume that that's what it means.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:21:35](#)):

Okay. But it says, in order to comply with PDC gift limits and reporting requirements, we are unable to provide complimentary concert tickets, however, we are pleased to offer you presale access to purchase two tickets to the concert of your choice. Did I read that correctly?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:21:51](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:21:52](#)):

Okay. So, so the invitation indicated to Mayor Millman that, that he could choose any concert. Is that correct?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:22:00](#)):

Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:22:01](#)):

Okay. And any concert that means that he was free to identify, tell me if I'm correct about this, that he was free to identify any concert and then would be able through the winery to buy tickets to that concert. Is that correct?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:22:18](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:22:19](#)):

Okay. Um, what were the other components, if you remember, um, of the package that was offered to Mayor Millman in your, in your email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:22:29](#)):

Um, the other component was, uh, an invitation to our pre-con reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:22:35](#)):

All right. And was there, in contrast to the tickets that you addressed not being able to be provided, uh, for free by Chateau Hel, was there any problem with Chateau Hel offering the reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:22:52](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:22:53](#)):

Okay. And, and why do you remember addressing why that was in your email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:22:59](#)):

Because the value fell below the gift limit.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:23:03](#)):

Okay. And the gift limit was what, to the best of your recollection?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:23:07](#)):

Um, \$50.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:23:09](#)):

Okay. Um, and a question about that particular concert that's referenced, was that the same reception or a different reception from something that has been, uh, referred to, um, in, in this matter so far as the Vintage Reserve Club, um, reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:23:30](#)):

It's a separate reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:23:32](#)):

Alright. And do you recall what the fee was for Vintage Reserve members, uh, for that reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:23:40](#)):

I don't in particular know. I, I think it was around 75.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:23:45](#)):

Okay. And, um, was there any information provided in exhibit number one, the email that we're looking at now, um, about her, how Mayor Millman would go about, um, actually purchasing the tickets if he was interested in doing so?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:24:06](#)):

Um, let's

([00:24:07](#)):

See. I did say that there's a link to the current lineup Mm-Hmm.

([00:24:15](#)):

<affirmative> to

([00:24:16](#)):

Purchase the tickets.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:24:18](#)):

Yep. And then does it also say, uh, if you could read the, the last, uh, the second to last paragraph, starting with if you are, um, of your email, what does that say?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:24:31](#)):

Uh, if you are interested in attending the concert, let me know and I'll provide you with additional and I probably should have said information.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:24:39](#)):

Okay. And that in, would that information have helped him know what to do to actually purchase the tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:24:45](#)):

Yes. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:24:47](#)):

And my last question for you about Exhibit one is, is, is parking referenced in this email, um, as being part of the package?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:24:57](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:24:59](#)):

Um, let me ask that we share on the screen exhibit number two, and please let me know when you can see that

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:25:06](#)):

On the screen. Yes, I can see that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:25:15](#)):

Okay. And do you recall, uh, exhibit number two?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:25:19](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:25:20](#)):

And is that an email that you, a follow-up email that you sent to Mary Millman?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:25:24](#)):

Yes, because I realized I had not sent the link that I had referenced in the earlier email.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:25:30](#)):

Okay. Um, after receiving the link, uh, in exhibit number two, uh, at some point, do you recall Mayor Millman responding to your invitation exhibit number

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:25:42](#)):

One? Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:25:43](#)):

Okay. Uh, could we show Ms. Connor exhibit number three? And again, Ms. Connor, just because I don't see it, just let me know when it's on your screen.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:25:54](#)):

I can see it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:25:55](#)):

Okay. Um, can you tell us, uh, if, if exhibit number three is Mayor Millman's response to your invitation?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:26:04](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:26:05](#)):

All right. And would you kindly, um, read, um, the beginning and the first paragraph of Mayor Millman's, uh, response?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:26:16](#)):

Yes. Um, he says, hi, Kara, thank you so much for reaching out to me. My wife and I love the concert. Therum would love to see Chicago September 3rd.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:26:25](#)):

Okay. And did you interpret that first paragraph, uh, the language in that first paragraph as a request for complimentary tickets to the Chicago concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:26:36](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:26:38](#)):

Is there anything looking at that language, anything that Mary Millman wrote in that first paragraph that you believe could reasonably be interpreted as a request for complimentary tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:26:50](#)):

No, he was, I just read it as he loves the concerts and they like Chicago.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:26:56](#)):

Okay. And in fact, in exhibit number one, which we looked at a moment ago, you had specifically advised him that Chateau San Michel could not offer complimentary tickets. Is that correct?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:27:07](#)):

Correct. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:27:09](#)):

Um, now if you would please read the second paragraph, um, of Mayor Millman's response to your invitation.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:27:17](#)):

Yeah. Um, I also wonder if we could talk about the proposed site of a transfer station near the Chateau. I'm interested in organizing community and business opposition to the process and proposed sites by King County.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:27:29](#)):

Okay. Uh, let me ask you a couple questions if I could, about this transfer station that you referenced earlier. You had spoken to Mayor Millman about before you sent him your invitation. Um, do you recall approximately how far from the winery the proposed, uh, transfer station site was? I'm sorry, the proposed transfer station site was from Chateau Semi Michel?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:27:55](#)):

Yeah, it's, it was less than a half mile, I think.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:27:59](#)):

Alright. So relatively, it sounds like relatively close and down the road.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:28:03](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:28:04](#)):

Alright. Was the possibility of locating a transfer station in Woodinville near the winery something that had been under consideration by King County for some time prior to Mayor Millman raising the possibility of a meeting or discussion with you?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:28:20](#)):

Yeah. Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:28:22](#)):

And do, do you recall if the city council was already on record as opposing a county transfer station near the winery at the time that Mayor Millman wrote this email to you?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:28:35](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:28:36](#)):

So you recall that the council was opposed pre previously?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:28:40](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:28:41](#)):

Okay. And what about Mayor Millman himself? Had he expressed to you, uh, or do you recall being told by colleagues at Chateau Hel or other members of the Chamber of Commerce prior to sending Mayor Millman exhibit number one that he had announced his opposition to the transfer station?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:29:00](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:29:02](#)):

What about community opposition generally? Um, at the time Mayor Millman broached the possibility of a meeting. Do you recall it being predominantly positive, negative, mixed,

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:29:15](#)):

Predominantly negative. I mean, this was something that no one in Woodenville wanted.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:29:20](#)):

Right. And let me ask a, a separate question, not about the content so much of the email, but a question about do you recall thinking at the time you received this response that it was either odd or inappropriate in some way for Mayor Millman, both to identify the summer concert to which he wanted to purchase tickets and also to ask about a meeting to discuss the transfer station?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:29:52](#)):



No, I just, um, took it to be the same way I deal with communications, which is just being efficient and because you're dealing with the same person over two different things, it, it just makes it more efficient to combine it in emails.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:30:07](#)):

Okay. And did it cross your mind that Mayor Millman was offering to take some official action in connection with the transfer station in exchange for Chateau Michel making tickets available to the Chicago concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:30:22](#)):

Not at all.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:30:26](#)):

Now, I'd like to show you, um, exhibit number four. And again, I'm sorry to keep asking you, but when, when you can see it, uh, let me know.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:30:37](#)):

Um, yeah, I can see it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:30:38](#)):

Okay. Do you recall if this was your next communication with Mayor Millman after he identified Chicago as the concert he was interested in attending?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:30:48](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:30:49](#)):

Okay. And, um, after indicating interest in the transfer station discussion that Mayor Millman suggested, did you ask Mayor Millman, um, in the last paragraph? Um, well, let me, let me, rather than asking, uh, characterizing what you asked him, let me ask you to read that last paragraph of, um, exhibit number four.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:31:15](#)):

Okay. Um, for the Chicago concert on September 3rd. Do you already have tickets for this? I'm showing it sold out, but I think we have some options as these need to be purchased by you. In the meantime, I've added you and Michelle to the invitation list and we'll send a confirmation in the next few weeks.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:31:32](#)):

Okay. Um, now in connection with, you're telling him that the Chicago concert appeared to be, um, sold out, you had just three days earlier invited him to, uh, choose a concert of his choice. Is that correct?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:31:48](#)):

Correct.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:31:50](#)):

Alright. And, um, you mentioned the possibility, the possibility of quote unquote some options, um, as being available. Did you identify to him in this email what those options might be?

Speaker 6 ([00:32:05](#)):

No. Well, I, I, I guess I did.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:32:12](#)):

Um, I said that there's options that they need to be purchased by him, but there were some options.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:32:18](#)):

Yeah. Okay. Right. And I'm just asking, did you, did you go into any depth or did you identify specifically what those options might be?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:32:25](#)):

No, I didn't.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:32:26](#)):

Okay. Um, let's take a look at e at, uh, exhibit number five

([00:32:31](#)):

If we could. Let me know when you can see that.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:32:38](#)):

I can see that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:32:39](#)):

Okay. And, um, is this Mayor Millman's response to your email letting him know that the Chicago concert was sold out?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:32:50](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:32:51](#)):

Okay. And do you remember him sending you this email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:32:54](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:32:55](#)):

Okay. Would you read the, just the first two sentences of his response?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:33:01](#)):

Yes. I think I misunderstood the prior email. No, we don't have tickets, but that's okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:33:07](#)):

Now, when you read the first sentence quote, I think I misunderstood the prior email close quote. Um, what was your interpretation, if you remember, and if you had one of what Mary Millman was saying that he thought he had misunderstood?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:33:23](#)):

Um, I honestly just don't really recall the specific, like, um, perception that I had over that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:33:31](#)):

Okay. And what about, um, the second sentence, uh, when Mary Millman wrote quote, no, we don't have tickets, but that is okay. Did you understand him to be saying that he and his wife were okay not attending the concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:33:50](#)):

I did read it that way.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:33:52](#)):

Okay. And did he ask anywhere in this response exhibit number five, um, his response to you about the Chicago concert if the winery might have any additional tickets available for sale?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:34:07](#)):

He did

([00:34:07](#)):

Not.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:34:13](#)):

After responding to your email, um, or I should say, after addressing the, the, uh, ticket issue, can you read the balance of, uh, mayor Millman's response to you?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:34:30](#)):

Yeah, he said, um, as far as the transfer station issue, I would like to meet with you and Adam at both of your convenience if you want to get together with Adam and throw out some dates that work.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:34:42](#)):

Is it fair to say from the balance of Mayor Millman's email that, um, even though he had expressed to you that he was okay not attending the concert because it was sold out, he was prepared to move ahead with the discussion that he had broached concerning the transfer station?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:35:03](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:35:04](#)):

All right. And, um, just out of interest, do you, I'm, I'm asking you now to jump forward in time. Do you recall whether a meeting ever took place, whether that was ever successfully scheduled?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:35:17](#)):

Yeah, I think it did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:35:19](#)):

You think it was Okay. Um, showing you exhibit number six, um, if you would take a

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:35:29](#)):

Moment, let me know when you see that and have had a chance to review it. Yeah, I can see that I look at it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:35:42](#)):

Okay. And this, this is an email that you sent to Mayor Millman, is that correct?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:35:47](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:35:48](#)):

And do you recall this particular email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:35:51](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:35:52](#)):

Okay. And this is your response to him telling you that him and his wife, he and his wife, excuse me, uh, we're okay, um, not going to the concert because it was sold out?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:36:04](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:36:05](#)):

All right. And I'm gonna ask you about the second paragraph in a second, but in regards to the first paragraph, could you just read that?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:36:15](#)):

Um, yes. Uh, yes. We do have the restrictions of gifting government employees over certain amounts. We're not able to give you concert tickets, uh, believe me, we would love to but can donate the pre-con reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:36:26](#)):

Okay. So my first question is, um, do you remember why you felt the need to start your response to Mayor Millman's prior email in which he said it was fine if, if they couldn't go to the concert? Do you recall why you, uh, addressed the issue of, um, not being able to give him free tickets when he hadn't inquired about that possibility?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:36:55](#)):

Yeah, I don't know the specifics of why I started it that way. Like when I look at it now, I'm like, it, it seems like a weird, like, I don't know. I, I didn't have that impression at all. So I don't know why I started it that way, was, um, poor communication on my part.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:37:13](#)):

Right. And, um, as far as the, um, the, the, uh, pre-con reception, what did you tell him about that in your response?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:37:27](#)):

Um, I said donate, but it was really more of an invitation to the pre-con reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:37:32](#)):

Okay. But it was something that you indicated your, your email says, but, but can donate Can donate,

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:37:39](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:37:40](#)):

The pre-con reception is that, did I read

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:37:42](#)):

That accurately? Yes. That we could still provide that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:37:44](#)):

Okay. As part of the package.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:37:46](#)):

Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:37:50](#)):

And even though Mayor Millman said in his prior email to you, exhibit number five, uh, that he was okay not attending the concert, um, did you in the second paragraph of this email, um, provide him with some information about, um, possible tickets that may still be available? I'm sorry, I didn't hear you.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:38:19](#)):

Uh, sorry. Yes. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:38:20](#)):

And can you read the second paragraph, please, of your email?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:38:24](#)):

Yes. Um, we have a block of GA tickets. GA is general admission, uh, on hold just for this purpose. So if you do want to go, we would arrange payment for the tickets. Just let me know at any time if you want to do this.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:38:37](#)):

Okay. And you, you just said you that we have a block of GA tickets, general admission tickets on hold quote, just for this purpose. Did, did you elaborate at all as to what, just for this purpose meant?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:38:50](#)):

I did not.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:38:52](#)):

Um, once you advised Mayor Millman that this possibility existed, that in fact there may be some additional tickets still available, um, did he get back to you and indicate whether he was interested in, in purchasing two such tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:39:11](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:39:12](#)):

All right. If you would take a look at exhibit number seven.

([00:39:19](#)):

Let me know when that's up on the screen. Okay.

([00:39:25](#)):

Um, do you recall that being Mayor Millman's response after he was advised that there might still be some tickets available?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:39:32](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:39:33](#)):

Okay. And just in the first paragraph of his response, what, what did he say?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:39:39](#)):

Um, my wife and I would love to buy tickets. Thank you.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:39:43](#)):

All right. And do you recall what, if anything you did, um, in response to him advising you that in fact he was interested in moving forward with purchasing tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:39:57](#)):

Yeah, I put him in touch with our guest services team, uh, that handles, um, ticket purchases so that he could work through them and do that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:40:08](#)):

Okay. And in the second paragraph, uh, I think I just have one more question for you in the second paragraph of exhibit number seven. Um, do you see the second sentence says, I believe a proactive approach is needed at this moment, so if possible before May 3rd at 9:30 when I meet with the Woodinville Weekly to do an interview on the transfer station. Do you see that?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:40:36](#)):

Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:40:37](#)):

And I, is that in reference to the mayor, um, discussing still this possibility of getting together to discuss opposition to the transfer station?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:40:48](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:40:48](#)):

Okay. Had my question is simply, had you known previously before he mentioned it in exhibit number seven, um, that he had a meeting scheduled with the Woodinville Weekly, um, to, to provide them information on the city's position regarding the transfer station?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:41:09](#)):

No, no. For know if I knew about, I don't think I knew about it before this. Okay. But I don't recall if I did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:41:15](#)):

Okay. Um, Ms. Connor, those I believe are the only questions I have for you. And I would, um, I would, uh, turn it over to Mr. Sorter in case he has some questions for you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:41:31](#)):

Yes. Uh, thank you Ms. Connor for being here today. Uh, Mr. Malkin did cover a lot of the, uh, issues I wanted to address. So I just have a few questions for you, um, in the, uh, and I don't know if we wanna bring it back up, the Exhibit one.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:41:51](#)):

Give us one second

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:41:56](#)):

Back paper's ready,

([00:41:58](#)):

<laugh>. I've got it in front of me.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:42:00](#)):

Okay, Ms. Connor. So, uh, you mentioned a, uh, VIP concert reception, uh, that's, uh, valued at \$50. What's, what's included specifically with that, uh, concert reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:42:14](#)):

It was, um, it was food and wine

([00:42:19](#)):

Before the concert.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:42:25](#)):

And then I

([00:42:25](#)):

Believe you testified that you had drafted this, uh, particular email to the mayor, but you used kind of a, a template or some previous, uh, emails that are similar in nature. Did you send out a similar invitation, uh, if we want to call it that, to other, uh, dignitaries or other public officials?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:42:49](#)):

Uh, no, I did not. I believe my, I believe other people at St. Michelle might have.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:42:54](#)):

Okay. And then, um, you may have covered that this, but is it a common practice for the winery to offer this sort of pre-con reception to dignitaries and other VIPs?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:43:08](#)):

Yes.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:43:10](#)):

Uh, let me just look at my notes

([00:43:12](#)):

Here. Um, did you at any

([00:43:20](#)):

Time understand, uh, mayor Millman's communications as requesting free concert tickets?

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor ([00:43:30](#)):

No.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:43:31](#)):

Okay. And then, uh, I think Mr. Makin covered

([00:43:39](#)):



Everything else,

(00:43:44):

So I, I don't have any additional questions for you, Mr. Malkin, do you have any questions based on my inquiry?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (00:43:51):

Could I take just 30 seconds? We can, we can mute the recording that I can just confer with Mayor Millman.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:43:59):

Sure.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (00:43:59):

Okay. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:44:01):

You, you can just

(00:44:01):

Mute on your end. Great. Thank you. Mute me Mr. Sorter. Thank you. And,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (00:44:33):

And Ms. Connor, thank you as well. We don't have any additional questions.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:44:37):

Great. Thank you. Can this witness be excused?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (00:44:40):

As far as I'm concerned, yes. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:44:42):

Great. Thank you for being here, Ms. Connor, you can, uh, go about your day.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor (00:44:46):

All right. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:44:47):

Thank you, Ms. Connor.

Defense Witness: Ms. Connor (00:44:49):

Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (00:44:52):

Uh, and Mr. Makin, whenever you're ready. Uh, you can call your next witness if you'd like.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:44:56](#)):

Yes. Thank you. And, and I thought, um, Mr. Sorter, that I would with your permission, read Exhibit 14 into the record, exhibit 14 being the exhibit we discussed earlier, uh, the declaration from Kimberly Ellertson.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:45:13](#)):

Sure.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:45:14](#)):

Okay. This is, um, this is Exhibit 14 is a declaration dated October 2nd, 2024 from Ms. Kimberly Ellertson, and I will read it verbatim. Um, and please, Mr. Sorter, not again, not that I need to ask you to but, or give you permission, but if I misread anything, please let me know because, um, obviously my intent is to be accurate. Um, the Declaration states, and I quote, I Kimberly Ellertson hereby declares as follows, I am over 18 years of age and competent to testify in this matter. The facts related below are personally known to me. I am currently the executive director of the Woodenville Chamber of Commerce. I have served officially in this role since October of 2019, after first serving as Interim Executive Director in September of 2019. Prior to Executive director, I was the director of marketing for the Woodinville Chamber of Commerce, a position I started in 2013 as Executive director of the Chamber.

([00:46:29](#)):

I have worked frequently with Mike Millman, both in his capacity as an elected city council member and subsequently as mayor of Woodinville Mayor Millman. And I typically communicate one to two times each month regarding various issues of relevance and importance to the Woodinville business community. In all of my dealings with Mayor Millman on behalf of the Chamber, I have found him to be a person of absolute integrity dedicated to furthering the interests and wellbeing of the residents and business community of the city of Woodinville. The Chamber hosts regular breakfasts and lunches to which community leaders are frequently invited to address chamber members and to take members' questions. Mayor Millman has attended a number of those gatherings as both a guest and as a speaker. To the best of my knowledge, mayor Millman has always arranged to have the city pay for any meals provided to him at chamber events.

([00:47:36](#)):

Similarly, during my tenure as executive director of the Woodinville Chamber of Commerce, mayor Millman has never, to my knowledge, either directly, directly requested a special privilege or preferential treatment from the Chamber, or as a result of a communication by the Chamber on Mayor Millman's behalf from a Chamber member. One particular issue of overriding importance to the Woodenville business community as well as to Woodenville residents generally has been the possible citing of a King County transfer station in Woodinville. This possibility has been known and of concern to the Chamber since August of 2020, and has engendered opposition across the local community with without regard to political affiliation or demographics. The Chamber and its members have staunchly consistently and publicly opposed location of a transfer station in Woodinville, and the Chamber has actively strategized to oppose a transfer station since at least September of 2020. Kara Connor, communications relation manager, I'm sorry, community relations manager at Chamber member Chateau Sam Michel advised the chamber of Chateau Sam Michel's opposition to the transfer station in April, 2021. In addition, I received a communication from former Woodenville Mayor Gary Harris at the

end of January, 2021, notifying the Chamber of the City Council's unanimous opposition to the transfer station. At the same time, the Chamber encouraged its members to complete a survey regarding the transfer station and included a link to the City of Woodville's website for more information on the city's position. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, close quote, and it is signed by Kimberly Ellertson.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:49:52](#)):

Thank you, Mr. Malkin.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:49:54](#)):

Certainly. Um, should we proceed to our next witness?

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:49:59](#)):

Yes. If you're ready, we can go ahead and

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:50:00](#)):

Do that. Okay. Yes. I'm just gonna step outside for one moment and get our next witness. Thank you.

([00:50:34](#)):

Mr. Soer. We'd like to

([00:50:36](#)):

Call, uh, mayor Millman's wife, Michelle Millman as our next witness.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:50:41](#)):

Great. Thank you for being here this morning. Uh, if we can go ahead and get you sworn in, if you can raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth and the testimony you give here today?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:50:52](#)):

I do.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:50:53](#)):

Thank you. And if you could just please spell your name for the record.

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:50:56](#)):

Michelle Millman. M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E, Millman, M-I-L-L-M-A-N.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([00:51:03](#)):

Great. Thank you for being here, Mr. Malkin. You can proceed when you're ready.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:51:07](#)):

Thank you. Uh, good morning Ms. Millman. How are you?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:51:10](#)):

Good morning. Doing well.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:51:12](#)):

Good. How long have you and, uh, Mike Millman been married?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:51:15](#)):

We just celebrated 27 years together last month.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:51:19](#)):

And do you and Mike have any, uh, children?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:51:22](#)):

We do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:51:23](#)):

What, uh, what kind of family do you have?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:51:25](#)):

Two boys, uh, oldest 25, the youngest 23.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:51:29](#)):

And just preliminarily, uh, Ms. Millman, how has Mayor Millman, how has Mike been holding up since he learned of the ethics complaint, uh, and the determination of probable, the threshold determination of probable cause in this matter?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:51:45](#)):

Oh, I would say it's been very stressful, uh, to Mike, and I'm saying this coming from a wife of a first responder who spent decades in the Everett Fire Department, which was a very stressful job. And this seems to be another level. Uh, Mike spent decades. We've lived in Woodinville for decades and coaching our kids, their friends, volunteering, HOA, things like that. And to have his integrity in question, I think is, is probably what is the most stressful about this entire thing.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:52:21](#)):

Thank you. And you mentioned a moment ago that you've lived in, in Woodinville for two decades. Is it literally been 20 or so years?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:52:27](#)):

Uh, three decades, if I misspoke. Yeah. Okay. Um, so I've been there 28 years and Mike 30 plus.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:52:33](#)):

Okay. And how are you currently employed?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:52:36](#)):

I am the CEO at a nonprofit Cancer Pathways here in Seattle. Based in Seattle, but we reached the entire us.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:52:44](#)):

Alright. And, uh, what about before joining Cancer Pathways? How were you employed?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:52:49](#)):

I was a broadcast journalist for 35 years, 29 of those at Chiro seven TV in Seattle.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:52:56](#)):

And as a broadcast journalist, were you bound by a professional code of ethics?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:53:01](#)):

Absolutely. You are? Yes. As a journalist.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:53:04](#)):

And were journalistic ethics important to you during your career as a broadcast journalist?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:53:10](#)):

Yes. You, you could never even give the impression, uh, you were taking something, some sort of favor from a company because you just always knew coming up through college in J School, as we call it, journalism, you know, that you cannot even give the impression of taking something from someone in case they are maybe the subject of a news story someday. And you don't wanna come across, um, biased in any matter. So you, you just know that from the get go that you cannot take things from, from companies.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:53:41](#)):

And Ms. Millman, in your opinion, and based on your personal observations, um, of Mike over the years, do you believe that Mike has been appropriately mindful of the importance of ethical behavior since taking elective office as a city council member in Woodinville in February, 2021?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:53:58](#)):

Absolutely.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:53:59](#)):

Are there any examples that you can cite, share with Mr. Uh, Mr. Sorter, um, of Mike's ethical conduct while serving an elected o uh, serving an elected office or ground rules that he's adopted for himself to try and ensure that his conduct is always beyond reproach?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:54:16](#)):

Well, Mr. Sorter, I would just tell you that, uh, I, I work full-time, so I'm not around Mike all the time, but the times I'm around him, it is, I can't even count the number of times people have approached both of us together. Hey, let me buy you a cup of coffee, can we get that bottle of wine for you? And it has always been, no, sorry, I can't. So I have seen this on numerous occasions. Um, even at one point at

dinner, um, I think it was the restaurant owner, maybe a manager who sent us over something and Mike had to go approach them and say, put that on our bill. We cannot take that. And it was just something very innocuous.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:54:53](#)):

And are you aware of Mike ever soliciting gifts, gratuities or meals associated in any way with the exercise of his official duties as either a city council member or the mayor of Woodinville?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:55:06](#)):

No, that would be against any, the Mike Millman I've known for decades uncharacteristic of him to do that. I've never known him to do that, to solicit anything like that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:55:17](#)):

What about being aware of Mike ever trying to use his official, um, either trying to use or using his official position with the City of Woodinville to secure tickets to any type of event or performance, whether at Chateau San Michel or elsewhere?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:55:33](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:55:35](#)):

Do you have a recollection of Mike receiving an invitation to attend a Chateau San Michel summer concert performance at the winery in 2022?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:55:44](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:55:45](#)):

Do you recall whether you and Mike conferred over which concert to attend?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:55:51](#)):

I think after he received the email, he, because I'm so busy, he's so busy, it was like, what weekends do we have open? That sort of discussion.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:01](#)):

Okay.

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:01](#)):

Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:02](#)):

And, uh, did, did one of you, uh, suggest Chicago or was that a consensus choice?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:06](#)):

I think it was just a consensus thing. We have this date open kind of thing on, I believe, was it Saturday night? Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:13](#)):

And did you eventually accompany Mike to a performance by the band Chicago at some point during the summer of 2022 with Chateau Semi Michel?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:21](#)):

I did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:23](#)):

Is it your recollection that it was always Mike's intention to purchase those tickets to Chicago?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:30](#)):

Absolutely.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:31](#)):

Did he ever mention to you the possibility of trying to secure complimentary tickets in connection with the wineries invitation? No. Did you and Mike attend a pre-con reception at Chateau Semi? She on the evening of the Chicago concert?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:46](#)):

We did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:56:47](#)):

And do you recall if that reception in particular was something that you and Mike were looking forward to,

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:56:54](#)):

Um, looking forward to? Might be a stretch. I think it was more like, this is going on before the concert, let's swing by type of attitude. But not nothing we discussed for days leading up to, it was more that Chicago concert was the draw at that if you've ever been gorgeous venue on a nice day or evening.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:57:14](#)):

And do you happen to remember if you, uh, and or Mike ate or drank at the reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:57:19](#)):

We did not.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:57:21](#)):

And how is it that you're confident two years later that that was the case?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:57:25](#)):

Mike and I as an older couple, shall we say, we eat <laugh> very early. So we had already eaten and it was more in the mindset of let's just swing by, be kind of on our way to the concert.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:57:36](#)):

And would it, would it, would it have been consistent or inconsistent with the ground rules that you identified earlier that Mike had chosen to abide by, to partake in free food or drink at the reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:57:50](#)):

Right. Very consistent to not partake in any free food or drink.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:57:53](#)):

And as far as the reception is concerned, do you, and again, I realize it's, it's been a couple of years, so if the answer is no, that's fine. Do you recall how long approximately you and Mike stated that reception?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:58:05](#)):

I would say my recollection, looking back at that, because it was of the mindset, let's swing by type of thing, getting to the concert was what we wanted to do. Um, 'cause the weather was, so, I do remember the weather being lovely that night. So wanting to get there to the outdoor venue, um, 20 minutes max, 15 to 20.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:58:24](#)):

Any particular re Well, let me ask you this question. Do you recall leaving before the reception was over?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:58:30](#)):

I believe I, I honestly though, do not know how long it lasted. If it was something that was five to seven, four to six, I don't know that regard. So I believe there were people still there when we left.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:58:42](#)):

But your, your recollection is stayed, I think you said 15, 20

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:58:45](#)):

Minutes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:58:45](#)):

Is that Yeah. Okay. Yeah. And why did you stay only as, as briefly as you did any particular reason?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:58:51](#)):

Well, as I mentioned, it was more getting to the concert and getting to see Chicago. And that venue is wonderful. And when it's not raining <laugh> in the Northwest and you have an outdoor venue not covered, you wanna get out and enjoy it. So again, the, the reception in my recollection was let's stop by for a bit and then get onto the concert.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:59:12](#)):



And you indicated not partaking of, of any complimentary food or, or, uh, beverages at the reception. Do you recall purchasing food or drink after leaving the reception at Chateau Semi Michel?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:59:23](#)):

Well, because we'd already eaten. I bought a glass of, I believe it was, uh, I don't know if it was white or red, a glass of wine.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([00:59:31](#)):

All right. And let me just shift your attention just for a moment to the, um, transfer station that had been proposed for, um, Woodenville. Uh, was that a regular subject of conversation among community members throughout 2021 and 2022, if you recall?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([00:59:51](#)):

Oh boy. I do recall, uh, generally in, in what I do, um, it was just amongst friends, um, who would say, can you believe this? When the county floated that idea of possibly a transfer station coming to Woodinville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:00:04](#)):

And do you recall any of your friends or neighbors in Woodinville being in favor of a transfer station, possibly being located in the city? Not

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:00:12](#)):

One.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:00:13](#)):

What about local businesses to the extent that you ever interacted with them about or overheard conversations about a transfer station in Woodinville?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:00:21](#)):

Uh, I would say I, I cannot to this day have not heard, uh, from or about one business being in favor of a transfer station coming to Woodinville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:00:31](#)):

And what about Mike? Uh, do you recall whether he has consistently held the same position, um, about locating a transfer station, uh, since it was first floated by King County?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:00:45](#)):

He absolutely has. And that would be against it, <laugh>? Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:00:49](#)):

And do you recall approximately, um, how long, well, let me ask the question this way. Do you recall at some point after Mike joining the city council in February of 2021, the issue coming up in some way, shape, or form before the council?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:01:08](#)):

It came up before the council, I believe a short time after Mike got on council. So within a month or so.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:01:15](#)):

And do you recall, um, what Mike's public position was at that time

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:01:20](#)):

Would be against it,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:01:22](#)):

And do you know whether Mike's position on the transfer station has been steadfast throughout his time on the city council or has it shifted over time?

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:01:32](#)):

It has never shifted. He has never been in favor of a transfer station in Woodinville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:01:37](#)):

Okay. Mr. Sorter, I believe those are the only questions I have for this witness.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:01:41](#)):

Great. Thank you Mr. Malkin. Uh, Ms. Millman, thank you so much for being here. I don't have any, uh, questions, uh, for you. Uh, Mr. Malkin, uh, can Ms. Millman be excused?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:01:53](#)):

Yes, Mr. Sorter. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:01:55](#)):

Great. Thank you. I hope you have

Defense Witness: Ms. Millman ([01:01:57](#)):

Pleasure. Thank you Mr. Sorter.

([01:01:58](#)):

Thank you. You as

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:01:58](#)):

Well. May I just show Ms. Millman outside? I'll be back in one second.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:02:05](#)):

Absolutely. Thank

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:02:06](#)):

You. Take some water here.

(01:02:30):

Thank you, Mr. Sorter.

(01:02:31):

We're gonna just switch places now and I'm gonna call, uh, mayor Mike Millman.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:02:36):

Okay, great.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:02:40):

Do either you or Ms. Hank need a break?

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:02:43):

I was gonna ask if you would like a, a quick break.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:02:47):

I think. I think, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:02:49):

I'm good to, to go on or we can take a break. I'll, I'll leave it up to you.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:02:54):

That'd be great. It looks like it's 1111. Could we maybe break just until 1115? I think, uh, uh, I think a brief break. Uh, I think they call it a, a bio break would be useful.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:03:04):

Sure. Sounds great. Let's, let's come back on in, in about five minutes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:03:08):

Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:03:09):

Okay.

(01:07:26):

<silence> We're

(01:07:26):

Back on the record. Uh, Mr. Malkin, I believe when we left off, you were gonna call Mayor Millman as your next witness?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:07:32):

That's correct. Mr. Sorter. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter (01:07:35):

Okay. Uh, thank you Mayor Millman for being here. If we can just go ahead and swear you in. Do you swear or affirm to tell the truth and the testimony you give here today?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:07:44](#)):

I do.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:07:45](#)):

Thank you. And if you could just please spell your name for the record.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:07:48](#)):

Uh, my name is Mike, MIKE, last name Millman, M-I-L-L-M-A-N.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:07:54](#)):

Great. Mr. Malkin, you can proceed when you're ready.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:07:57](#)):

Thank you. Uh, Mr. Millman. Good morning. Uh, can you tell us please your current occupation and how long you have occupied that position?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:08:07](#)):

Um, currently the Mayor of Woodinville, and that's been since early mid-January of 22.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:08:16](#)):

All right. And we, uh, spoke with your wife a moment ago, but, um, could you just remind us please, to whom you're married?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:08:25](#)):

Uh, my wife is, uh, Michelle Millman.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:08:27](#)):

And how long have you and she been married?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:08:29](#)):

Uh, 27 years.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:08:31](#)):

And Michelle mentioned when she testified that you and she have two sons. Can you tell us briefly what each of those boys, uh, each of those boys, young band, excuse me, what each of them does?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:08:44](#)):

Uh, yes. My oldest son, uh, is right now in the middle of interviewing, uh, for medical school. Um, he graduated UDub with a degree in neuroscience and wants to attend medical school. My youngest son is just around completing his first year as a King County Sheriff.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:09:03](#)):

And, um, prior to assuming the position of mayor of Woodenville, sometime in the mid or late portion of January, 2022, uh, how were you employed?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:09:16](#)):

Uh, prior to 22, um, I was on City Woodinville City Council.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:09:22](#)):

And I'm sorry, I, I asked a, a confusing question because when you're on, when you're the mayor of Woodinville, you're also a council member. My question was, prior to becoming mayor prior, prior to being elected mayor by your colleagues, uh, in, in January of 2022, what were you doing?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:09:41](#)):

Um, I was city council member.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:09:43](#)):

And when, how, when did you first, uh, when did you first join the city council, if you remember?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:09:48](#)):

Uh, I don't remember the exact date, but it was early 21.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:09:55](#)):

Okay. And I, I don't think I've ever asked you this question, and, and it's of interest, are council members in Woodenville, are those positions elected at large or do you represent particular districts?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:10:11](#)):

No, we're not districted. Um, we have seven council members that represent the entire city.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:10:15](#)):

All right. And before being elected to City Council in February of 2021, what were you doing?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:10:24](#)):

Uh, I served on a voluntarily, uh, voluntary role on City Planning Commission.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:10:31](#)):

And that was a voluntary position, I think you said. Were you also, uh, employed at the same time doing something else full-time

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:10:41](#)):

In, uh, no. I think at that time I had already retired from the fire service.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:10:47](#)):

All right. And was the fire service your prior full-time job before join joining the planning Commission?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:10:54](#)):

Yeah, I served almost 30 years in the, in different leadership roles in the, uh, uh, fire EMS service.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:11:00](#)):

And where did you serve as a, uh, a fire officer, fire person,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:11:05](#)):

<laugh>, I lived in, I, I lived in Woodville, uh, but I, uh, actually worked for the City of Everett Fire Department.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:11:11](#)):

And what motivated you to seek elected office and run for city council in Woodville in 2020 and 2021?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:11:21](#)):

Well, I think, I think it started with my father. My, my dad, who I grew up with, um, was a civil engineer. And he, growing up with him, he worked on lots of infrastructure projects, uh, in the sixties, seventies, eighties, uh, around, and I really took pride in him doing that. And I, I enjoyed his stories. Uh, I went into the fire service, um, because I enjoyed, uh, I wanted to serve the community. I, I enjoyed helping people. Um, and after I retired, well, actually during my, during that time, I, I actually volunteered in schools. Uh, we, I moved to the Woodinville, 'cause the school districts, I wanted to help the school district. I served on our HOA board. I coached for over a decade, uh, kids. So I've always wanted to serve the community. Um, and so after I retired, I looked around for different ways that I could serve the community and help, uh, Woodinville, uh, with their infrastructure and parks and trails and, and public safety. Um, so that's, that was my motivation.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:12:30](#)):

And are there any particular achievements during your tenure as mayor, of which you're particularly proud?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:12:35](#)):

Yeah, I, I, I'm particularly proud of, uh, uh, I, I led the way in, uh, improving our public safety on both the police and fire side, on the fireside in particular. Uh, we improved our, our, our service to their community, and we also lowered, uh, our tax collection rate by 21% while doing that. So we lowered the costs and improved the service. So I was proud of that. Um, I, uh, I, I led the way in, in, uh, um, in, in getting Woodinville to do its first, second, and third, uh, climate action initiatives. Uh, one was solar panels. Uh, we also are transitioning to low emission vehicles, and we, we, uh, formed and signed, voted on our climate action, uh, commitment.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:13:25](#)):

And how about, uh, in terms of, um, federal money, uh, available to the city of Woodinville? Did you play a role since becoming mayor in bringing any federal funds to the city?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:13:39](#)):

Yeah, I, I, I didn't want to go on <laugh> at length, uh, patting myself on the back. But, um, yeah, one of the things when I got involved with City, we, Woodinville was, had a real insular, uh, reputation. And, um, I led the way to, uh, interacting on both a regional, local, regional county state and, and federal for the first time federal level. So I went back to Washington DC uh, twice and, uh, led the way in procuring, uh, uh, almost \$22 million over two years, my first two years as mayor. And, um, that's where our infrastructure projects and parks and trails, and that \$22 million is, I'm proud to say is, is more than Woodville has. That's our first federal grants, and that's more than Woodinville has been able to, uh, receive in its entire history combined.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:14:38](#)):

And Mayor Millman, do you consider yourself to be an ethical elected official?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:14:42](#)):

Absolutely.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:14:43](#)):

How have you tried to, um, how have you followed or tried to follow specific practices to attempt to ensure that your conduct while an elected official is beyond reproach?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:14:57](#)):

Um, I, I have tried to be, and have had many people comment, uh, about my transparency. Uh, I tried to always tried to inform the public on what we are, uh, advocating for, what we're doing, what we've done, um, and also receive information from the public, uh, to inform our decisions. Uh, I think it's on a level that I don't think Wood Mill's ever seen. Um, and also I have routinely, and by practice, I do not accept, uh, things free from any businesses or constituents around Woodinville. So that I, I don't have any conflicts of interest.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:15:32](#)):

Have you ever had ethics complaint lodged against you in your capacity as an elected or appointed official prior to the complainant's complaint about you related to the Chicago concert at Chateau San Vhel in 2022?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:15:46](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:15:47](#)):

Do you recall receiving the Woodinville code of ethics at some point after being sworn in as a member of the city council in February of 2021?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:15:55](#)):

Yeah, I think that was during Covid and I, we received a, I remember receiving a large packet that had rules, OPMA rules, Roberts Rules of Orders, council Rules and Ethics Rules. I believe in it was a large packet though.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:16:09](#)):

And do you recall receiving any training on the code of ethics as part of your onboarding as a city council member?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:16:15](#)):

No, I think, I think some of that probably is because of, uh, remote meetings and the challenges of that, but no.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:16:23](#)):

What about any annual refresher training on the code of ethics since you've been in office?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:16:27](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:16:28](#)):

Have you ever been cited for anything more serious than a parking ticket or a moving violation? No,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:16:33](#)):

Never.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:16:35](#)):

Let me shift focus for a moment if I could. Do you know the complainant, the person who filed this ethics complaint against you?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:16:43](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:16:44](#)):

And how do you know that individual?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:16:46](#)):

Uh, he is the spouse of a sitting Woodinville council member. Um, that we, at one point, my wife and I, I and my wife and I had socialized with and had, uh, were colleagues on city council.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:17:03](#)):

And you said at one point you and your wife had socialized with, is that, is that relationship no longer a, a social one between you and the complainant and his wife?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:17:13](#)):

Yes. It, it turned, uh, it turned very acrimonious, uh, the night, the day, the night, uh, that I was elected mayor.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:17:21](#)):

And how did that, how did that happen?



Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:17:23](#)):

Well, um, I had been approached, um, by some on council, uh, to that they indicated that they wanted me to become mayor. Um, council member Bess Campbell, the complainant's wife was advocating, uh, was lobbying to become mayor. And, um, I think that me being elected mayor did not sit well with her. And then also I cast a vote, um, that, uh, I voted for the current deputy mayor and not her. So she wasn't deputy mayor either. And, yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:18:02](#)):

And, and you, you raised something that I had meant to ask you about. You said your, some of your colleagues on the city council, um, approached you about running for mayor. What, what's the process by which a city council person is elevated to the position of mayor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:18:18](#)):

Um, what we do is we meet, we met in that early January. I don't remember the date, but we met in that early January. And the first order of business was to elect a mayor and then elect a deputy mayor by the council.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:18:32](#)):

And you mentioned some of your colleagues approached you. Had you expressed interest as a relatively new city council member in running for mayor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:18:41](#)):

No, it, it, it never occurred to me. Um, it never occurred to me, uh, prior to them approaching me. In fact, I had reached out to the existing mayor that I supported him, uh, being mayor, uh, again, except he lost that election. So that support, uh, didn't hold,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:19:00](#)):

Uh, back to the complainant for a moment. Do you know if that individual has filed one or more public Records Act requests for your electronic communications as either a city council member or as mayor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:19:13](#)):

Uh, numerous, numerous public disclosure requests of me and, and, uh, neighboring cities, county, state, and, uh, other officials.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:19:25](#)):

And are you typically notified when a Public Records Act request has been made for your, your electronic communications?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:19:32](#)):

Uh, when I am, when it's a focus of yes, me, yes. Um, I did have other people, uh, reach out and say, who is this? When other public disclosure requests were asked for in other jurisdictions.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:19:48](#)):

And did you say that there's been more than one Public Records Act request, uh, uh, filed by the complainant in this case for your electronic records? I,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:19:57](#)):

I don't know the number, but it's been a lot.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:20:00](#)):

And what if you know, appears to be the basis for the complainant's interest in your official communications?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:20:06](#)):

I think it goes back to the acrimony that I pointed to when I was elected mayor. Um, because all of the PDs and social media and other, uh, other efforts all started, uh, early on in 22, shortly after I became mayor.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:20:25](#)):

And have any other members of the complainant's family become involved in his interest in your tenure and actions while serving as mayor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:20:33](#)):

Yeah, unfortunately, uh, the, the, it seems like the entire family has become involved. Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:20:38](#)):

Any, anyone in particular that you've had personal contact with?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:20:42](#)):

Uh, yeah. Her father has came to a couple of council meetings and, uh, attended and, uh, we had a acrimonious interaction, uh, on a couple occasions.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:20:56](#)):

And my question was, any members of complainant's family, you said her father, do you mean then that the father-in-Law, the Father-in-Law of the complainant?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:21:05](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:21:06](#)):

Okay. Um, I'd like to, I'd like to move on now to the, uh, 2022 concert to which you were invited. Do you recall receiving an invitation from Chateau Semi Michel to purchase tickets for a 2022 summer concert at the winery?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:21:27](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:21:28](#)):

And, um, I'd like to, I know you have hard copies for your convenience, uh, but we're also gonna screen share them for the benefit of the, of the video. So I'd like to show you exhibit number one and ask you to review it and just start by as, by telling me if you recognize exhibit number one.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:21:55](#)):

Okay. I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:21:57](#)):

Um, and before I ask you any substantive questions about that exhibit, um, let me ask you, do you recall if exhibit number one is a document that you provided to the city in response to the complainant's, one of the complainant's Public Records Act requests?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:22:17](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:22:18](#)):

And number two, the second question I have, before we go into the specifics of exhibit number one, can you provide some context for Mr. Sorter concerning what life was like for you as mayor of Woodinville in April, 2022, around the time that you received Exhibit one from Chateau Semi Michel?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:22:39](#)):

Yeah. Um, I, I remember this because, I mean, a pun was intended, but in my transition from my role as council then to mayor and all the, all the things that, that entailed, I characterized it to several people, uh, that I felt like I was drinking from a fire hose with all the, all the new responsibilities of running the meeting, learning to navigate, and, uh, the meetings, uh, Robert's rules of order, the rules of our council. Um, I was also defacto, uh, member on North King County Mayors Association, east Side Mayors, uh, Alliance of Washington City's Sound Cities Association. I was meeting with, um, chamber of Commerce and Woodinville Wine Country and doing ribbon cutting cuttings, uh, for opening businesses. And had I had lots of people, including the media reaching out to me as the new mayor. Um, and it, it was a lot. I had numerous emails and texts and calls, and there was just a steep learning curve at that time. Uh, it was very, very chaotic. I don't have any, I I don't have an assistant, I don't have staff. So it was just me with lot juggling, lots of issues all at the same time. And

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:23:59](#)):

Is exhibit number one an invitation to you from Chateau San Michel in connection with the upcoming 2022 summer concert season?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:24:09](#)):

Yes, it is.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:24:10](#)):

And to the best of your recollection, had you done anything to solicit this invitation from Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:24:18](#)):

No, it came out of the blue.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:24:19](#)):

Okay. And, and I, I, I stated something that wasn't yet, uh, in evidence. Um, who is the, who is, did the email come from?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:24:28](#)):

Uh, Kara Connor.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:24:29](#)):

Okay. And let me ask the question again. Had you had any communication with Ms. Connor prior to receiving Exhibit one that led to her sending you this invitation?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:24:39](#)):

No, but she was on the Chamber of Commerce board, and so I was at different chamber of events and functions, luncheons and breakfasts and where she sat on the board. So I'm sure I talked to her about, uh, things going on in Woodinville, but I, I don't believe we talked about concerts.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:24:58](#)):

Okay. And what do you recall what Ms. Connor's, uh, position was at Chateau Se? Shell, in addition to being their representative on the chamber board?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:25:08](#)):

Uh, community relations, something is the best of my recollection. Recollection.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:25:14](#)):

Alright. And did you say a moment ago that the majority of your interactions with her were in that capacity or her capacity as the community relations manager at, at the Chateau?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:25:25](#)):

No, it was, uh, up till that point it was exclusively, uh, with the Chamber of Commerce.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:25:32](#)):

And, um, Chateau Se Michel, uh, has it been an important, has it been important to the economic vitality of the city of Woodinville over the past decade?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:25:45](#)):

<laugh>? That would be, uh, a real understatement.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:25:48](#)):

And what do you mean by that?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:25:50](#)):

Uh, Woodinville Woodinville gets 52% of our operating revenue from sales taxes, which a large part of that is our tourism related to wine tasting. And the driver of that wine tasting tourism is Chateau Michelle. So all of the wine tasting, tourism dollars, concerts, all that, uh, originates from Chateau San Michel.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:26:15](#)):

Between the time that you were elected to the City council in February of 2021 and receiving exhibit one from Ms. Connor on April 22nd, 2022, do you recall ever inquiring of anyone at Chateau San Michel, including Ms. Connor about the possibility of complimentary tickets to a Chateau San Michel concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:26:41](#)):

No, never.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:26:43](#)):

Now, as far as, um, Ms. Connor's invitation to you exhibit number one, um, have you had a chance to read it?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:26:53](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:26:53](#)):

Okay. I just have a, uh, several questions for you. Um, was the Chateau position on whether it could offer government employees complimentary concert tickets clear to you from the invitation?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:27:07](#)):

Absolutely.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:27:08](#)):

And what was that, what was the position that was articulated in Exhibit one?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:27:12](#)):

Uh, it was articulated that I would be buying concert tickets. Okay. Of my choice of a, of upcoming concert series.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:27:21](#)):

And when you say of your choice, that was my next question. Did you understand from the invitation that it applied only to certain concerts or to any concert that you were interested in attending?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:27:33](#)):

Uh, it was my understanding that they had recently probably came out with our concert series that I could pick from that concert series, anyone that they had.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:27:43](#)):

Okay. And in fact, if you look at the second paragraph, second full paragraph of Ms. Connor's email to you, um, do you see where it says in the second line, pleased to offer you presale access to purchase two tickets to the concert of your choice? Did I read that correctly?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:28:03](#)):

That's correct.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:28:05](#)):

What about your understanding as to whether Chateau Semi Michel could or couldn't provide complimentary access to the pre-con reception discussed as part of the package that the winery was offering?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:28:18](#)):

Um, they had also mentioned, or she had also mentioned a pre-con reception, uh, that they were offering along with the concert.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:28:27](#)):

And do you recall, and please feel free to take a look at Exhibit one. Do you recall what exhibit one, what Ms. Connor told you about the Chateau ability to offer that pre-con reception as part of the package?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:28:43](#)):

Um, yeah. She states and we invite you both to our VIP pre-Con and both means, uh, meant my wife, um, to our VIP pre-con reception. Um, the combined value of this package falls below the \$50 gift limit.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:29:00](#)):

Okay. What about, um, information in that email, uh, about how to actually go ahead and purchase tickets, assuming you were interested in doing so, was there anything in the email that told you how to do that?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:29:18](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:29:19](#)):

Nothing. Um, and did you eventually select a concert? Were you able to select a concert based just on the information that you received from Ms. Connor in exhibit number one?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:29:29](#)):

Not on this email, no.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:29:30](#)):

Why not?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:29:32](#)):

Uh, I, I don't remember specifically, but there was no process indicated to me to go ahead. I I wasn't even aware what was in the concert at the series at that time.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:29:42](#)):

Well, and that, that was, that was, I guess what I was trying to get at. Ms. Ms Connor mentions, um, a link to the, um, concert, um, to the concert, um, lineup. Uh, did she provide that link in exhibit number one?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:30:00](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:30:04](#)):

Um, as follow up to exhibit number one, um, do you recall whether Ms. Connor actually did send you the concert lineup link?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:30:17](#)):

I think she, a day or later that day or a day or two later, she provided a, a, a link?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:30:23](#)):

Yes. Okay. Let's, if we can take a look at exhibit number two.

([01:30:33](#)):

Tell me when you've had a chance to take a look at exhibit

([01:30:36](#)):

Number two.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:30:37](#)):

I got it.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:30:38](#)):

Okay. Now, exhibit number one, which we just looked at is dated April 22nd. And you just said a moment ago that you think Ms. Connor followed up a day or two later with the link. Is that accurate?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:30:51](#)):

Uh, no. Uh, later on it looks like that day she said, I left out your concert schedule link. Here you go and provided a link.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:31:00](#)):

Okay. And do you recall whether that link, um, did anything more than provide you the lineup with, did it enable you to actually purchase tickets?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:31:11](#)):

No, I, I believe my recollection is it just showed who the artists were for their concert series.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:31:18](#)):

Okay. And what, if anything, did you do after receiving exhibit number two with the link to the concert lineup?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:31:27](#)):

Uh, I, I can't, I, I'm pretty sure that I discussed with my wife are busy schedules and, um, which dates and concerts and artists would be most, uh, enjoyable by the, the two of us.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:31:45](#)):

Okay. Let me show you, uh, or have projected on the, on the screen, and also ask you to take a look for a moment exhibit at exhibit number three, and just tell me when you've had a chance to familiarize yourself with exhibit number three.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:06](#)):

Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:32:07](#)):

Alright. Um, do you recall sending exhibit number three to Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:12](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:32:12](#)):

And would this have been the next day, April 23rd, after you received exhibit number one and exhibit number two?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:19](#)):

Yes, later, the next day.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:32:20](#)):

Okay. And could you read aloud, please? The first full paragraph that begins. Thank you so much.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:28](#)):

Uh, yes. Thank you so much for reaching out to me. My wife and I love the concerts there and would love to see Chicago. September 3rd question.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:32:36](#)):

And did you request or suggest in your response to Ms. Connor, that first paragraph that you just read, that you were looking for or interested in complimentary tickets to the Chicago concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:51](#)):

No, absolutely not.



Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:32:52](#)):

And why was it your intent? Was it your intention, I should say, to purchase the tickets to the concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:32:58](#)):

Always is that's would be my practice, and is that, that's what they indicated that I would, would be doing.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:33:03](#)):

Okay. And when you say that's what they indicated you'd be doing, are you referring to exhibit number one telling you that, uh, the Chateau Hel could not provide you with, uh, free tickets? Correct. Okay. Um, and then if you would go on and read the second full paragraph of your response to Ms. Connor in exhibit number three.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:33:25](#)):

Uh, I also wonder if we could talk about the proposed site of a transfer station near the Chateau. I'm interested in organizing community and business opposition to the process and proposed sites by King County. Thank you, Mike Millman.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:33:37](#)):

What was the purpose of the discussion that you were inquiring about setting up with Ms. Connor and Chateau Hel

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:33:46](#)):

W Well, as I indicated earlier, um, it was, uh, it was efficiency. I, they had reached out to me about, uh, the concert series, and now I had an email and somebody that worked for Chateau San Michelle that I knew opposed the, the, the Chateau. So I wanted to see if I could talk to them, uh, again, organizing community and business opposition in the process.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:34:11](#)):

And where was the transfer station possibly slated for Woodfield going to be located? Uh, relative to Chateau Hel. I,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:34:20](#)):

I don't know the exact distance, but it's very close. Um, I did time it at one point when I took, uh, king County Council member on a tour. It's, it was literally less than a minute north by car, um, from Chateau San <inaudible>, half mile maybe.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:34:36](#)):

And had you already publicly announced your opposition to locating a new transfer station in Woodinville by the time you received Exhibit one, the Winery's invitation?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:34:48](#)):

Oh, yeah. Several times.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:34:50](#)):

And do you recall when you first cast a vote as a council member related to your opposition to the transfer station in Woodinville?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:34:59](#)):

I don't remember the exact date, but it was shortly after I, um, I was on council. We had a vote, um, March of 2021, uh, which I voted in favor of our opposition.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:35:14](#)):

Uh, I'd like you to take a look if you would, and, uh, be shown on the screen exhibit number ([01:35:20](#)):

12.

([01:35:25](#)):

And tell me when you've had a chance to look at exhibit number 12. Take your time. Okay.

([01:35:44](#)):

Um, now taking a look at the first page of exhibit number 12. Um, these are city council regular meeting minutes of a meeting on March 16th, 2021. Is that accurate?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:36:01](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:36:02](#)):

And looking at the first page, can you see whether you were in attendance at that meeting?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:36:09](#)):

I

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:36:09](#)):

Was. Okay. And if we could jump ahead to give me one second to the sixth page of Exhibit 12. There's an agenda item at the top of the sixth page that says, approval of Northeast Recycling Transfer citing letter. Do you see that? I do. Um, and this appears to have been in connection with a staff report. Can you tell me what, what that means?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:36:48](#)):

Um, yeah. This was a, again, this was an important issue in Woodinville staff had put together, um, uh, a letter, uh, stating our opposition to the sighting of a King County transfer station in Woodville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:37:04](#)):

And there was a report by a staff member to the city council, is that correct?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:37:08](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:37:09](#)):

Okay. And could you read the first paragraph, um, of the minute notes summarizing this particular action item? Just the first paragraph

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:37:18](#)):

Under staff report?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:37:19](#)):

Yes, sir.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:37:20](#)):

Uh, governmental affairs coordinator Diana Hart, reviewed the Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station process, the top four sites under consideration, and the draft letter from Woodville opposing the Winsome trading site advancing into the, uh, EIS for the NRTs project, which is Northeast Regional Transfer Station project, and expressing a preference for the existing remaining in the existing Houghton Station site in Kirkland.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:37:46](#)):

So, do I understand this correctly, that the, the staff had prepared a draft letter from the Woodinville City Council to the citing authorities stating the city's opposition to the location of a transfer station,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:04](#)):

Uh,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:38:04](#)):

In Woodinville?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:05](#)):

Yeah, that's correct. They, they outlined, uh, a letter, uh, summarizing our opposition and, uh, seeking approval to forward that letter.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:38:16](#)):

And do you recall what the council's vote was in favor of moving forward with that letter opposing the transfer station?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:23](#)):

I think it was unanimous. I'm pretty sure it was unanimous, um, including the complainant's, uh, spouse council member, uh, Bess Campbell.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:38:32](#)):

And was the public was the, was the vote taken in public session?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:36](#)):

It was.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:38:36](#)):

Okay. And how did you vote?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:38](#)):

I voted in favor of the opposition. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:38:41](#)):

Um, did your opposition to the transfer station ever change following your first recorded vote during the March 16th, 2020 first meeting? Or have you remained consistently opposed?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:38:56](#)):

Uh, consistently opposed, and actually it became more adamant as we dug in deeper into the process and the logistics and the harm, uh, to Windell.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:39:07](#)):

And by April of 2022, uh, when you received Chatto, Sammy, she's invitation, uh, is it your recollection or let me just ask you, do you have a recollection of whether there was already significant opposition to the transfer station within the Woodenville community?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:39:26](#)):

Oh, the, in, in politics, this is one of the rare issues where it's almost unanimous, where nobody that I talked to, uh, was in support of a transfer station in our tourist district in Woodinville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:39:40](#)):

And at the time that you received, uh, exhibit number one, the invitation from Chateau San Michel, had you commenced efforts to organize community opposition, um, to the transfer station consistent with the vote that you would cast a year prior?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:40:00](#)):

Absolutely. This was a, one of the top priorities of Woodville at that point.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:40:03](#)):

And can you, do you remember any steps that you had taken, um, to, to organize, uh, community opposition or register the city's opposition?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:40:13](#)):

Uh, yeah. I, I had been to different, uh, chamber events, uh, wi Go Wine Country, which is our, uh, wine tourism advocacy group. Um, also on counsel. I had advocated to hire a, uh, land use attorney, um, to help guide us through the, uh, process. 'cause we had some, some concerns or I had some concerns that I advocated for that, um, the, the process for choosing our site. And also there was some concerns about, uh, king County's ordinance not being followed, uh, overburdening any one area with solid waste.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:40:52](#)):

And do you recall by the time that you received Exhibit one, which was Chateau Semi Michel's invitation, do you recall whether you believed that you were aware that Cha Chateau Semi Michel had come out in opposition Oh, absolutely. Of transportation?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:41:07](#)):

Absolutely.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:41:08](#)):

Now, prior to receiving the invitation, had you been invited to any Woodville Chamber of Commerce events at which you voiced your opposition? I think you just said you had

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:41:17](#)):

Yeah, several.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:41:18](#)):

Okay. And do you recall Ms. Connor being present at those chamber meetings? One or more of them?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:41:25](#)):

Uh, more than one. I, I don't know the exact number, but yes, she was present at a, a few.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:41:32](#)):

And do you recall a conversation or or other communication with Ms. Connor between the time you joined the city council in February of 2021 and the date of the Winery's invitation in which you believe you informed her or publicly expressed or discussed with her your opposition to the transfer station?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:41:53](#)):

Absolutely. This was a big topic of conversation, uh, that the Chamber and Chateau had interest in, and the city had solid opposition. So we, we, uh, discussed it on several occasions.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:42:06](#)):

Why did you decide to ask about a meeting with Chateau San Michel to discuss the possible sighting of a transfer station in Woodinville in the same email that you sent Ms. Connor regarding your interest in purchasing tickets to see the Chicago concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:42:23](#)):

I think that early on as mayor, I didn't have, uh, I, I probably, I'm not even sure I had her direct email. Um, so when she emailed me, I took the opportunity to respond, uh, to, uh, their offer for me to buy concert tickets. Uh, and I just a matter of efficiency, I responded, uh, with our mutual, um, our mutual interest in, uh, gathering opposition to the sighting of a transfer station, particularly with Chatto San Hel being our, probably our most well-known business in Wood Mill,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:43:03](#)):

Were the two subjects that is the concert tickets and a meeting about the transfer station otherwise linked in your mind, other than the fact that Ms. Connor was sort of, uh, involved in both of those topics?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:43:17](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:43:18](#)):

Was your intent in including both subjects in your email exhibit number three to suggest that you would meet with Chateau Hel about the proposed transfer station, but only if Chateau Hel made tickets to Chicago available?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:43:35](#)):

No, that's, that's ridiculous.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:43:38](#)):

Let's take a look. If we could, at exhibit number four, let me know when you've had a chance ([01:43:45](#)):

To take a look at that. Okay.

([01:44:02](#)):

Uh, do you recall this email from Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:04](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:05](#)):

And you've had a, you've taken a, you've had a moment to read it?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:08](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:09](#)):

Okay. I'd like to focus your attention on the last paragraph of Ms. Connor's email to you. Is it a fair reading of that paragraph that in response to your, um, letting her know that you'd be interested in seeing Chicago, that she first of all, asks you if you already have tickets to the concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:33](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:34](#)):

And did she also inform you that the concert was already sold out?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:38](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:39](#)):

Um, but did she tell you that quote unquote, we may have some options as these need to be purchased by you?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:46](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:49](#)):

Was there any discussion in this email as to what those options might be?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:44:54](#)):

No.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:44:55](#)):

Were you surprised when in response to your saying that you'd like to see the Chicago concert that Ms. Connor told you it was sold out? Uh, I was. Why were you surprised?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:45:07](#)):

Well, it was fairly recently that they had offered, um, me a, a path to purchasing tickets and, and, uh, shortly thereafter, they, I was informed that it was sold out.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:45:20](#)):

And what about, um, Ms. Connor's question to you about whether you already had tickets to the Chicago concert? Did that surprise you?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:45:29](#)):

Um, yeah, because I had never, we had talked about personally tickets, but I'd never had a option or a path to purchasing those tickets. Um, so that her asking me if I already had tickets struck me as unusual.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:45:42](#)):

All right. Um, let's take a look for a second. Um, at exhibit number five, tell me when you've had a chance to consider exhibit number five.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:46:08](#)):

Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:46:10](#)):

Um, do you recognize exhibit number five to be Ms. Connor's response? Uh, I'm sorry. Do you recognize exhibit number five to be your response to Ms. Connor telling you that the Chicago concert was sold out?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:46:24](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:46:25](#)):

Could you read your, um, response aloud?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:46:29](#)):

Uh, hi, Kara. I think I misunderstood the prior email. No, we don't have tickets, but that is Okay. As far as the transfer station issue, I would like to meet with you and Adam at both of your convenience if you want to get together with Adam and throw out some dates that work. Question. Thanks, Mike.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:46:45](#)):

Now, when you wrote, uh, the very first of your response to Ms. Connor, quote, I think I misunderstood the prior email, which prior email from her were you referring to?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:46:59](#)):

Well, I think a lot of it was confusing, but particularly the first email where they said that I could purchase tickets, uh, of my choice to their concert series, and then, um, all of a sudden they were sold out and I never had that opportunity.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:47:15](#)):

Okay. And you continued writing to Ms. Connor, and, and you wrote quote, no, we don't have tickets, but that is, okay, close quote, what did you intend to convey to Ms. Connor by writing? But that is okay.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:47:29](#)):

Um, that if, if they were sold out, I was okay with that. Um, and then I, uh, just wanted to convey, you know, sort of a, a plight appreciation for the offer. And, and, uh, then I moved on.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:47:44](#)):

Now, after telling Ms. Connor that you and your wife were quote unquote okay, not attending the concert, what, what did you add? What, what did you write after that? The next sentence

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:47:55](#)):

After? Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:47:56](#)):

Yes, sir.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:47:57](#)):

Um, as far as the transfer station issue, I would like to meet with you and Adam at both of your convenience, if you want to get together with Adam and throw out some dates that were question.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:48:06](#)):



So, is it fair to say that you remained interested in and willing to meet with Chateau San Michel to discuss the transfer station, even though at that time you thought you were not going to be able to go to the Chicago concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:48:20](#)):

Oh, absolutely. That, that was a yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:48:22](#)):

Okay. Let's take a look at exhibit number six, if we could tell me when you've had a chance to look at that.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:48:48](#)):

Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:48:50](#)):

Um, do you recall exhibit number six? Do you recall getting that from Ms. O'Connor? I do. Or from Ms. Connor, excuse me. Um, is that her response to your email, letting her know that you were, quote unquote Okay, not attending the Chicago concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:49:04](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:49:04](#)):

Okay. And what did, what did she say? First of all, in the first paragraph,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:49:08](#)):

Uh, she says, yes, we do have the restrictions of gifting government employees over a certain amount, so we are not able to give you concert tickets. Uh, believe me, would love to, but can donate the pre-con reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:49:22](#)):

Did it strike you as odd that Ms. Connor's response started off by repeating that Chateau Sam Michel can't give free tickets to government employees?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:49:32](#)):

Yeah, I don't, I don't know where that came from, because at no time did I show interest in donated tickets, nor did they ever offer me, uh, donated tickets. So, yeah, I thought that was, uh, an, I thought that was odd. And,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:49:47](#)):

And what did, what did you say Ms. Connor said about the pre-con reception to which she previously invited you?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:49:54](#)):

Uh, she said, but can donate the pre-con reception.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:49:57](#)):

Okay. So, so in contrast to the tickets, she was saying that the Chateau can provide, um, the pre-con uh, reception. Is that correct? Correct. Alright. Um, do you recall if attending that reception was something in which you and your wife, um, were particularly interested?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:50:17](#)):

It was, um, I would characterize it as very casual, uh, thing that I kind of felt I should make an appearance at, but it was not a high priority and, um, it was not a high, high priority or importance to us.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:50:39](#)):

All right. Now, in the second paragraph of exhibit number six, did Ms. Connor provide further information about ticket availability for Chicago?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:50:49](#)):

Uh, yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:50:50](#)):

And can you, uh, first of all, had you asked for any additional information about ticket availability?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:50:55](#)):

No, I did not.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:50:56](#)):

Okay. Would you read that second paragraph please?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:51:00](#)):

Uh, we have a block of GA tickets on hold just for this purpose. So if you do want to go, we would arrange payment for the tickets. Just let me know at any time if you want to do this.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:51:10](#)):

Okay. And, um, did you, do you recall how you interpreted that, um, quote, a block of general admission tickets on hold for just this purpose?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:51:22](#)):

I, as I stated earlier, I was super busy. I don't remember putting a lot of thought into that. I just took it as that they have some internal process that they have, um, or tickets to be purchased.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:51:36](#)):

And you'd made it clear by this point that it was your intent to purchase tickets, correct? Always. Okay. Um, Mr. Sorter, I, I've got maybe five more minutes or so, uh, but I know you were conscious of, uh, possibly taking a break at noon. So let me just ask you what your preference is.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([01:51:55](#)):

Um, if you've got five minutes, let's go ahead and get through your questioning and then we'll take a break, uh, okay. Before I ask any questions? Yeah.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:52:03](#)):

Great. Thank you. Um, mayor Millman, if I'd like to share with you on the screen and ask you to take a look at Exhibit seven,

([01:52:13](#)):

Let me know when you've had a chance to read that <affirmative>. Okay.

([01:52:44](#)):

Uh, do you recall sending that email to Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:52:48](#)):

I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:52:49](#)):

Okay. And, uh, how did you start off exhibit number seven? After having been advised that in fact, Chateau Semi Michel may have some, uh, additional tickets on, uh, available for the Chicago concert, I responded, my wife and I would love to buy tickets. Thank you. And, um, did you, um, mention to her in this email, um, something about your interest in getting together before an upcoming interview that you had scheduled with the Woodinville

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:53:26](#)):

Weekly? I, I do.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:53:28](#)):

And what, what, what if you can summarize, what did you say to her about that?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:53:32](#)):

Um, so I indicated that, uh, there was a King County meeting on the 12th of May, and that I was, I was arranging community business, governmental, and media outreach. I said that I think a proactive approach, which is basically my approach on everything <laugh>, uh, is needed at this moment. So if possible, before May 3rd at oh 9:30 when I meet with the Woodville Weekly, which is a local paper, uh, to do an interview on the transfer station,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:54:01](#)):

Do you remember whether that May 3rd meeting with the Woodinville Weekly is something that you had scheduled prior to receiving the Winery's invitation on April 22nd?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:54:15](#)):

Um, yeah. That, that was scheduled at least a month, maybe two prior to that, yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:54:21](#)):

Okay. Um, let me show you, uh, exhibit number eight.

(01:54:30):

Ask you to take a look at that. Yep. Could you just

(01:54:39):

Read, um, that brief email, just the, just the first paragraph, or actually you can read both paragraphs.

Defendant: Mr. Millman (01:54:46):

Uh, thanks. I was just drafting an email with schedules. Uh, this is from Kara Connor. Uh, thanks. I was just drafting an email with schedules, but helps to know about your interview. Let me see what works for Adam. I'll follow up on the ticket info.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:54:59):

Uh, it appears that Ms. Connor was not previously aware of your meet of the meeting that you had set up with the Woodinville Weekly to discuss your opposition to the transfer transfer station. Do you think that you had, uh, advised her about that previously, or would you have told her for the first time in exhibit number seven?

Defendant: Mr. Millman (01:55:19):

Probably for the first time in that email.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:55:21):

Okay. Um,

(01:55:26):

Could we look at exhibit number nine? Okay.

(01:55:49):

Um, do you remember this email from Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman (01:55:52):

Uh, yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:55:54):

And in addition to Adam, who you and she have discussed possibly meeting in addition to Chateau Shemi, Chateau Michel to discuss opposition to a transfer station, is she including somebody else here?

Defendant: Mr. Millman (01:56:09):

Uh, she mentioned, uh, Kimberly Ellertson and Troy Anderson both on, uh, the Chamber, Woodville Chamber Commerce Board of Directors.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin (01:56:19):

Okay. Um, and do I read this email correctly that it's an attempt to get all of you, all of your schedules sort of out there, your availability in hopes of getting together before that May 3rd, uh, meeting with the Woodinville Weekly?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:56:36](#)):

Yes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:56:37](#)):

And do you have a recollection, um, as to whether the meeting, uh, with Chateau Semi, she and the other entities ever took place before you met with the Woodenville Weekly?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:56:51](#)):

I, I don't believe so. Um, I don't have recollection of that. And, uh, in my article, uh, I, I didn't, I wasn't able to include any quotes that I was, you know, any organized, uh, things that I was indicating for the reason for that meeting.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:57:08](#)):

Okay. And, um, you just mentioned, um, you just mentioned the, uh, article, uh, or an article. Could we look at Exhibit 11 for a second, please?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:57:27](#)):

Yes. Do

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:57:28](#)):

You recognize that, um, that message from the mayor no. Dump in Woodinville?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:57:33](#)):

I do. Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:57:34](#)):

Are you the author of Exhibit number 11? I am. All right. Do you recall now this, what's the date of this article?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:57:43](#)):

Uh, May 6th, 2022.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:57:44](#)):

Okay. Do you recall if you started work on that commentary or that, uh, letter to the editor opposing the transfer station in Woodinville prior to receiving the wineries April 22nd invitation?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:57:58](#)):

Yeah, I started this at least a month or two, uh, prior to that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:58:02](#)):

And your commentary references, and I think you made a, I think you may have referred to this earlier in your testimony, your commentary references the fact that the city has hired an attorney to advise the

city regarding its opposition to the sighting selection process. Um, was the hiring of an attorney done at your direction or with your approval?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:58:23](#)):

Uh, I, I think the best way to characterize that, the, the, the hiring of a land use attorney was my suggestion and urging counsel, uh, to approve that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:58:33](#)):

And do you recall, um, when, in relation to the Chateau invitation, uh, on April 20th, 2022, you suggested that the city hire a land use attorney?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:58:47](#)):

I don't remember the exact date. Um, I'm sure that was an executive session, but it was well prior. It was well prior to the, uh, the aforementioned email.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:58:56](#)):

Okay. Uh, my last few questions for you, mayor. Um, did you eventually purchase two tickets from Chateau Semi Michel for the Chicago concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:59:06](#)):

I did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:59:07](#)):

Would you take a look at exhibit number 10, please?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:59:11](#)):

Okay.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:59:14](#)):

Does that one on unredacted line entry on your Fidelity credit card statement reflect the purchase of two tickets for \$144 to the Chicago concert? It does. And did you and your wife subsequently attend the Chicago concert in September? We did. And what about the pre-con reception? Did you and she also attend that?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:59:38](#)):

Yes. Uh, briefly.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:59:39](#)):

And when you say briefly, do you recall approximately how long you stayed at the reception?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:59:44](#)):

I, I don't remember exactly how long, but I probably longer than 15 minutes and shorter than 30 minutes.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([01:59:54](#)):

Alright. And do you recall what, what, if anything specifically you did while you were there?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([01:59:59](#)):

Um, there was, there was a dozen or more people milling about, uh, I, I shook hands with a few people, talked to a few people. Um, I don't remember specific issues, but, um, and then we, we left shortly thereafter.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:00:17](#)):

Did you notice any other elected state or local officials at the reception?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:00:22](#)):

I, I did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:00:23](#)):

I'm sorry.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:00:24](#)):

I did.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:00:25](#)):

You did. Um, and what about in terms of, um, the amenities that were offered? Did you or your wife consume any free food or drink at the reception?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:00:38](#)):

No, it was never intention to accept anything free, which we didn't in this case. And we just talked to a few people. And then, uh, shortly thereafter I left.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:00:49](#)):

Okay. And is one of the people you spoke to, the, uh, elected state or local official you referenced? Yes, it is. Alright. And what about after leaving the reception? Did you and your wife then just go right to the concert?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:01:01](#)):

Uh, we went to, yeah, we went pretty shortly before the concert started to find our seats.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:01:06](#)):

And after leaving the reception, do you recall if you or your wife, uh, purchased any food or drink?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:01:14](#)):

Yeah, I think I, I know that we bought a glass of wine, uh, uh, from a local vendor. And then after the concert, uh, I remember, uh, buying, uh, some gelato. Um, and I, I, I normally, you know, you wouldn't remember buying gelato, but it was a, a food truck or a, a cart that was set up by a, a gelato company

that was getting ready to open up a new gelato location in Woodville. And me being a, a gelato fan, <laugh>, I, um, I wanted to try out other gelato, um, just to see what was coming to Woodville.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:01:58](#)):

Okay. Mr. Sorter, I think this would be a good time if, if it's okay with you to take a break just to see if I may have missed any questions for the mayor and, and obviously for you to then follow up with any questions you may have.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:02:13](#)):

Sure. Let's go ahead and we'll take a, uh, 15 minute break, so we'll come back on right around 1225.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:02:21](#)):

Okay. Thank you very much.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:02:23](#)):

Great, thank you. Okay. I have, uh, 1225.

([02:17:02](#)):

Uh, Mr. Malkin, are you ready to proceed?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:17:07](#)):

I am, yes. I think I just have one, maybe two questions and, and then we'll turn it over to you, Mr. Sorter. Great. Uh, mayor Millman, I should have asked you this question, um, earlier. Were all of your communications with Ms. Connor about 2022 concert tickets at Chateau San Michel by email, or do you recall you and she having any conversations about the, um, about tickets?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:17:35](#)):

Um, e all the conversations that we had, uh, have been presented, presented by email, um, and I, I know this because up until later in maybe 23 or something, I, I didn't even have her cell phone number. So there's no possibility of anything other than email.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:17:57](#)):

Okay. And, um, I think those are all of the questions that I have for you, unless there's something else, mayor, that you'd like to add to your testimony before we turn it over to Mr. Sorter. Um,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:18:15](#)):

Yeah, I, I would just like to say that, um, I, I've always been, I've always prided myself on, uh, a high standard of ethics, um, and transparency. And I, I think it's ironic that, um, my transparency is, is part why we're here today. Because, um, I highlighted in a, a public meeting council meeting that I had spoken to a state senator about a Woodinville issue. Um, that contact actually, uh, resulted as at the, um, reception. Um, and, uh, I ha I reached out to him regarding a housing issue that was important to Woodinville, um, that, uh, in its current form, uh, coming out of the house would've been very detrimental to Woodinville. So, um, I I, I let in a public meeting, I let council and the city therefore know, um, that I was working for them. And, uh, and I let 'em know that I, I went to that concert, um, for that and, and just let him know that purpose of, of, because of that, that connection and that interaction.



Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:19:36](#)):

And, and just to be clear, I think what you were just saying was that you mentioned publicly at a city council hearing that you had attended the concert and the reception and at the reception had spoken to this elected state official about a, a matter of interest to Woodinville.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:19:57](#)):

Um, so it was at a public, it was a council meeting, which is a public meeting I had mentioned. Uh, subsequently later on there was a housing bill, uh, house bill 1110 that was basically subdividing everything. And we have an area that's, uh, on septic, large area on one acre, lots on septic. It would've been very difficult to subdivide for affordable housing. Um, so, uh, I had in, I had, uh, talked to the state senator, um, sometime later about this housing bill and how, um, how difficult it would be for Woodinville and detrimental to Woodinville, uh, in current form. And he, uh, actually floated an amendment to the house bill that passed that exempted cities under 25,000 and areas on septic. Um, so that was, uh, that was an important issue. So I, I raised that I wanted transparency. I wanted, uh, the council to know what my efforts were going towards, which was an adopted position by a city. I also wanted the public to know that, um, that I was working for them too. So I, I did, I did let, uh, everybody know that, that I attended the concert at a public meeting.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:21:16](#)):

That's all I have Mr. Sorter for now. Thank you.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:21:18](#)):

Great. Thank you. And, uh, thank you Mayor Millman for being here today, uh, based on Mr. Malkin's questions. I just have a few, uh, follow up questions I'd like to ask you. Um, I believe that, uh, you had testified that you, uh, expressed opposition to the sighting, potential sighting of this transfer station at, uh, chamber of conference meetings, uh, at which Ms. Connor was present. Do you recall, uh, approximately when those, uh, meetings took place?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:21:53](#)):

Um, I, I don't remember the exact dates, but they had frequent, uh, breakfasts and luncheons, uh, with the Chamber of Commerce, commerce and Attendance. Um, and I had attended several of those prior to April of that year, um, expressing. And I was a, a keynote speaker at one of them and expressing my opposition to the transfer station, uh, at several of them.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:22:17](#)):

But those were, those were clearly prior to the, the April 22nd, uh, emails that are at issue here?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:22:25](#)):

Absolutely. Several, several times prior to that, yes.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:22:28](#)):

Okay. Thank you. And then, um, uh, I think it's exhibit eight, if you need to refer to it. Um, I'll give you a second.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:22:40](#)):

Okay. Okay. Um, and I,

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:22:51](#)):

I, you can clarify if I'm wrong. I believe this is the last email communication, uh, referring to the tickets. Um, in, in any case, Ms. Connor says that she would follow up on the ticket info. Do you know how she followed up on that ticket info?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:23:11](#)):

Um, I, I don't recall. I know that there was a, um, customer service type of person. I don't know what their exact title would be, um, that, uh, they indicated I would have to reach out to in order to buy the tickets. Um, I, I, I don't remember exactly who that was or what, what the process was.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:23:38](#)):

Were there, I guess, uh, um, were there any other emails from Ms. Connor regarding the, the tickets?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:23:47](#)):

No.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:23:48](#)):

Or, okay. So, um, then, uh, apart from the, the exhibits that have been admitted in the record, uh, and you clarified that you didn't have any communications with Ms. Connor apart from, uh, email about the tickets, were there any other communications, email communications about these concert tickets? Apart from what I have in the record here,

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:24:16](#)):

Um, again, there could have been another staff member providing me a link or a direction that I don't remember on how I bought the tickets. Uh, and I, I, I think that's what Kara indicated previously. Um, so I think at some point I gave somebody my credit card info and they took it. Um, so I think that was the only other interaction I had with somebody taking my credit card info.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:24:45](#)):

Okay. And so, but to the best of your memory, nothing further from Ms. Connor?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:24:50](#)):

No.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:24:51](#)):

Okay. Great. Actually, that is the only questions I have for you. Um, Mr. Mulkin, do you have anything further based on those questions?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:25:01](#)):

I, I do. Just a couple, just a couple clarifications. Um, mayor Millman, uh, Mr. Sorter asked you about, um, remarks, um, or meetings at which, uh, chamber meetings, chamber of commerce meetings at which you may have spoken, um, or been in attendance where the, uh, subject of the transfer station

came up. Um, would those have been some of the breakfasts and, and other, um, meetings that were referenced in Ms. Ellerton Ellington's, um, declaration?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:25:34](#)):

Yeah, there was, there was several luncheons and breakfast, um, put on by the chamber between the time I became mayor, which I think was January 6th ish in 22. Um, between then and that April, they would've had, I was a keynote speaker and a state of the city. And, uh, so there's a state of the city, several luncheons, several breakfasts that I would've spoke at and would've indicated my opposition to, uh, our, not just mine, the city's opposition and my opposition to the, uh, sighting of the transfer station prior to that email.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:26:15](#)):

And then my, my other question was, Mr. Sorter asked about any other communications with, initially with folks at Chateau Hel, um, and you said that you believe that a customer relations person had been in touch with you subsequently. Do you remember I asked Ms. Connor if she had put another, uh, a colleague of hers in touch with you to arrange for your purchase of the tickets? Is that what you're referring to?

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:26:41](#)):

Yeah, somebody, somebody in the process. Uh, I, I, I gave, and honestly, I don't remember the process two and a half years ago, but I gave somebody my credit card information to purchase the tickets, tickets, uh, with Chateau San Michelle

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:26:56](#)):

And, and Mr. Sorter just, uh, just so that we're not omitting anything I obviously chose as exhibits, those that I thought were most probative and re relevant to the threshold determination. I'd like the opportunity if I could, just to make sure and answer to your question that there isn't something that, for whatever reason, I chose not to include because I didn't think it was relevant or that Mayor Millman has not remembered. So we can make sure we do that today.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:27:25](#)):

Okay. Yeah, that would be great. Uh, we'll, uh, perhaps we can address that, uh, following, uh, the conclusion of your, of your case here, and we'll discuss that.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:27:35](#)):

Sure. Thank you. I don't have any further questions.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:27:40](#)):

Okay. Uh, thank you Mayor Millman for being here. Um, does that conclude your witnesses today, Mr. Mulkin?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:27:48](#)):

Yes, it does. Mr. Sorter. Thank you. Okay.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:27:51](#)):

And then I, so I don't know if you, you, you wanna switch places with the mayor there and we

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:27:54](#)):

Can Sure. Absolutely. Yes, sir.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:28:04](#)):

So, uh, I do wanna thank, uh, you Mr. Mulkin for your, uh, professionalism today at, uh, our hearing. And, uh, I would like to thank the mayor and the witnesses for being available here today. Uh, normally at this point, uh, this is where I would allow you to present a closing argument. Uh, but it's my understanding that you may want to present a, uh, your closing in a written, written brief. Is that correct?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:28:27](#)):

Y yes. Uh, Mr. Sorter, it was my understanding through, uh, as a result of one of our pre-hearing conferences, that that was your preference, and that we'd be given an opportunity to review the transcript in, in, uh, preparation for that. So, yes, that, that would be our preference.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:28:44](#)):

And do you know, uh, how long you would need to, to prepare that? I'm open, so,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:28:50](#)):

Um, forgive my, uh, my technological, uh, ignorance, but I, is the, is the, uh, recording available to us immediately, or that's something we'll need to wait to get from Ms. Hanky, or

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:29:04](#)):

We can, perhaps Katie can hop on if she's available. My understanding is it, it, it's not a long process to get that.

City Clerk: Ms. Hanke ([02:29:13](#)):

Okay. It is, it is not. I intend to send it, um, shortly following the meeting.

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:29:18](#)):

Okay. And I, I wasn't suggesting that I needed it immediately. Um, I think I'd like, I don't know, maybe it, it is just because of the press of other, of other things, would 10 days, would 10 business days be, uh, um, acceptable

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:29:35](#)):

That, that would work for me. So, uh, I have 10 business days. Uh, I believe that would be the, the 21st. Is that your understanding

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:29:47](#)):

That I, I, you know, I, I should have, but I didn't consult a calendar beforehand. But let's, let's just say by close of business at 21st, I will make sure that works. Thanks

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:29:57](#)):

First. So, uh, and then as I did address, uh, at our pre-hearing, uh, conference, and, uh, uh, as I noted in my pre-hearing order, I, I do have the discretion to leave the record open to, uh, allow me to call for any additional witness testimony or compel the production of any other documentary evidence that I would deem necessary for just resolution of this matter. Um, based on my review of the exhibits that have been submitted thus far, and the, the testimony that presented that was presented today, uh, I don't, I don't feel the need to leave the record open for that purpose. If, however, in your review of the documents you have, if you believe there's anything pertinent, uh, I will allow you to submit that, uh, as well with your closing. Um, particularly of interest to me would be, uh, if there was any other communications, uh, between the mayor and, uh, any member of the, uh, winery staff regarding the, uh, concert tickets, even if they're just administrative in nature, I think it would be important to, uh, have those in the record, just in the interest of transparency,

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:31:12](#)):

A absolutely Mr. Sorter, and we won't wait until the 21st. We'll get those to you prior to that.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:31:19](#)):

So it is my intention to, uh, leave the record open until the close of business on October 21st, 2024, uh, for the limited purpose of, uh, allowing you to submit a closing brief. As I mentioned, I, I do not feel, uh, at this point, any need to call for any additional witnesses or compel the production of any additional documentary evidence. Again, with that, uh, caveat, I guess of, you know, I'll see what you submit, uh, re regarding those communications, and if something comes up, uh, I don't anticipate it will, uh, but then we'll address that at that time. So, and then, uh, following the close of the record, which we anticipate will occur on October 21st, 2024, uh, it's my intention to issue, uh, findings, conclusions and, uh, recommended disposition, uh, within 30 days of the record closing, uh, are there any questions regarding that, Mr. Maquette?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:32:21](#)):

Uh, no questions regarding that. Mr. Sorter, one question, and it may have been addressed, and if it was, I apologize for not remembering. Is there a page limitation on the closing statement?

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:32:33](#)):

Um, what I need to, uh,

([02:32:37](#)):

That's not, that's not what I would, I need to, to, to place a PA page limitation. Uh, you know, I, I obviously don't want a a to or anything like that. Um, uh, maybe if it's helpful, uh, do you think you could, uh, complete that within, uh, 15 pages? Maybe that limitation will help you actually <laugh>

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:32:56](#)):

Yes. No, no, no. Okay. I, I think that that's perfectly fair. And I think our presentations to date have been relatively consistent. So I don't anticipate that it'll take more, uh, more space than that, or more pages than that. And if it does, um, we will seek, leave to, to expand that limitation. But without seeking leave, we'll keep it to 15

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:33:17](#)):

Pages. Okay. Uh, yeah, I, I, I don't see the need to, to, to place a strict limitation. I know myself, sometimes that limitation helps me, it does, as a writer to be more concise. So we'll just go ahead and we'll say 15 pages. Uh, great for that purpose, if nothing else. Uh, is there anything else before, uh, I adjourn the hear this hearing today that we need to address Mr. Mulkin?

Defense Attorney: Mr. Malkin ([02:33:39](#)):

Uh, I don't think so, other than, again, to thank Ms. Ms. hanky for all of her assistance. And, and thank you for your time as well today.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:33:47](#)):

Thank you, Mr. Mulkin. And, uh, thank you, uh, mayor, and, uh, I hope you have a pleasant day. And with that, I'll go ahead and adjourn this hearing.

Defendant: Mr. Millman ([02:33:55](#)):

Thank you, Ms. Shorter.

Hearing Examiner: Mr Sorter ([02:33:56](#)):

Thank you.