

## James Pruett

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**From:** Sabrina Brennan Personal  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** James Pruett  
**Cc:** Sabrina Brennan; John Moren; Julie van Hoff; Lori Milward  
**Subject:** Fwd: Shaw Law Group

Hello Jim,

As I mentioned on our call yesterday, I'm concerned there were Brown Act violations at the June 15, 2020 Special Meeting related to Item B and Item C.

Based on your emails below it's clear that board members directed General Counsel to terminate the Shaw Law Group retaliation investigation in Closed Session (Item C). The Shaw Law Group termination and the termination of a retaliation investigation was not reported out and those decisions were not consistent with the Closed Session agenda item description.

See attached screenshot of June 15, 2020 Special Meeting agenda.

Note that Item C indicates that "Sabrina Brennan" brought a claim against the Harbor District. This is untrue information. I've never brought a claim or a lawsuit against the District and I've never threatened the District with a claim or a lawsuit and I've never hired an attorney to communicate on my behalf with the District.

In 2019, I made a retaliation complaint to the District general manager against Commissioners Tom Mattusch, Virginia Change Kiraly and Nancy Reyering. The District hired the Shaw Law Group to conduct an investigation into my complaint per the District's Harassment and Retaliation Policy. Just as the investigation was getting underway in June 2020 the board apparently decided in Closed Session on June 15, 2020 to terminate the investigation. And as I stated above nothing was reported out of Closed Session and the discussion was not consistent with Agenda Item C.

## B) Public Comment

Regarding closed session topic.

## C) Closed Session

### CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATE

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph Government Code Section 54956.9 (one case – claims brot

## D) Adjourn

The next Regular meeting will be held on June 17, 2020 at Harbor District Office at 504 Avenue Alhambra, Suite 200, 6:30 PM.

Please also note that Public Comment on items not on the agenda was prohibited at the June 15, 2020 Special Meeting. This appears to be a Brown Act violation and should be corrected.

**Please publish this email on the Harbor District website with the July 2, 2020 Special Meeting Agenda as a written comment and provide it to the Board of Harbor Commissioners.**

Sabrina Brennan

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** James Pruett <[jpruett@smharbor.com](mailto:jpruett@smharbor.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Shaw Law Group  
**Date:** June 29, 2020 at 4:28:03 PM PDT  
**To:** Sabrina Brennan Personal <[sabrina@dfm.com](mailto:sabrina@dfm.com)>  
**Cc:** Sabrina Brennan <[sbrennan@smharbor.com](mailto:sbrennan@smharbor.com)>

Sabrina,

I was notified via email by General Counsel on June 15<sup>th</sup> that the Board directed me to terminate the investigation and to terminate the contact with Shaw Law Group.

Jim

James B. Pruett, General Manager  
San Mateo County Harbor District  
P.O. Box 1449 El Granada, CA 94018  
D-650-583-4962 C-650-822-4144

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**From:** sabrina brennan <[sabrina@dfm.com](mailto:sabrina@dfm.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 2:49 PM  
**To:** James Pruett <[jpruett@smharbor.com](mailto:jpruett@smharbor.com)>  
**Cc:** Sabrina Brennan <[sbrennan@smharbor.com](mailto:sbrennan@smharbor.com)>; John Moren <[jmoren@smharbor.com](mailto:jmoren@smharbor.com)>;  
Julie van Hoff <[jvanhoff@smharbor.com](mailto:jvanhoff@smharbor.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Shaw Law Group

Hello Jim,

Could you please explain when the board provided direction to end the Harbor District's investigation into my 2019 retaliation complaint against Commissioners Mattusch, Virginia Change Kiraly and Nancy Reyrering?

Who specifically communicated board direction to you and on what date? Did the board send you a letter or an email?

Thank you,  
Sabrina

On Jun 19, 2020, at 8:55 AM, James Pruett <[jpruett@smharbor.com](mailto:jpruett@smharbor.com)> wrote:

Sabrina,

The Board directed me to terminate the contract this week. At this time, there is no active investigation.

Jim

James B. Pruett, General Manager  
San Mateo County Harbor District  
P.O. Box 1449 El Granada, CA 94018  
D-650-583-4962 C-650-822-4144

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**From:** sabrina brennan <[sabrina@dfm.com](mailto:sabrina@dfm.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 1:59 PM  
**To:** James Pruett <[jpruett@smharbor.com](mailto:jpruett@smharbor.com)>  
**Cc:** Sabrina Brennan <[sbrennan@smharbor.com](mailto:sbrennan@smharbor.com)>; Julie van Hoff <[jvanhoff@smharbor.com](mailto:jvanhoff@smharbor.com)>; John Moren <[jmoren@smharbor.com](mailto:jmoren@smharbor.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Shaw Law Group

Hello Jim,

I was interviewed by Megan Donaghey attorney with the Shaw Law Group on May 20, 2020.

When did the board provide direction to terminate the Shaw Law Group?

What is the current status of the investigation into my retaliation complaint against Commissioners Mattusch, Virginia Change Kiraly and Nancy Reyring?

Sabrina

**From:** James Pruett <[jpruett@smharbor.com](mailto:jpruett@smharbor.com)>  
**Date:** June 18, 2020 at 8:44:58 AM PDT  
**To:** Sabrina Brennan  
<[sbrennan@smharbor.com](mailto:sbrennan@smharbor.com)>  
**Subject:** Shaw Law Group

Sabrina,

At the direction of the Board, the contract with Shaw Law Group has been terminated.

Jim

James B. Pruett, General Manager  
San Mateo County Harbor District  
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