

Stacking The Deck  
Special to BC Free\*

Dear Editor,

In following Boulder City politics I have found that it is more important to watch what people do than to listen to the reasons they claim for doing it. The relationship between cause and effect can speak volumes without ever saying a word.

Take for example the second lawsuit against the petitioners on the term limits initiative (District Court Case # A-10-629989-C). The case was filed on 11/24/10. A decision, as to whether the city had legal alternatives to personally suing the petitioners, was to be given by the court on 3/18/11. This was the day before the start of early voting in the races for mayor and the two available council seats.

Paul Larsen, the attorney from Lionel, Sawyer & Collins requested that the matter be postponed. It was rescheduled by the court from 3/18/11 to 3/25/11. On 3/25/11 Mr. Larsen did not even show up at the courthouse until after the hearing was over. The matter was again rescheduled by the court, this time to 4/1/11.

The city retained the law firm of Lionel & Friends and not Mr. Larsen as an individual attorney. Lionel & Friends is a large law firm with many attorneys. Another attorney could have appeared in place of Mr. Larsen on either date. If the court found that the city was wrong and the petitioners were right would that have affected the vote? I think so and I think the impact would have been dramatic.

The Clark County Election Department reports that as of the end of early voting on Saturday, 3/26/11, 1,811 ballots had been cast in Boulder City. Will delaying the announcement of the court's decision on the term limit initiative make a difference? The final numbers will tell.

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