

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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October 6, 2009

The Honorable Dale Washam
Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer
2401 South 35th Street, Room 142
Tacoma, WA 98409-7498

Dear Assessor-Treasurer Washam:

Thank you for your letter to Governor Gregoire detailing your investigation into allegedly falsified reports concerning real property tax records in Pierce County from 2001 through 2008.

It appears that you and your staff have conducted an extensive investigation into this matter which is well documented in the report you sent. Washington State Auditor Brian Sonntag believes that the situation uncovered by your investigation is being corrected with the help of the Department of Revenue. Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna indicates that the results of your investigation would be best handled by Pierce County Prosecutor Gerry Horne.

The Governor's Office concurs that the information uncovered by your thorough investigation should be reviewed by the county prosecution to determine if crimes were committed and if charges should be brought against the individuals involved. Since the allegations of misconduct are on the local government level, it is the locally-elected prosecutor's responsibility to take the lead in instigating further action.

Thanks again for your letter and report, and I wish you the best in resolving any remaining unanswered questions about these tax records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melody Younglove".

Melody Younglove
Constituent/Management Services Manager
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor

