

Big Game Commercial Services Board
PO Box 110806
Juneau, AK 99811-0806

November 11, 2009

Board members,

My name is David Haeg and in 2004 I was prosecuted for numerous counts of same day airborne hunting as a guide. I was convicted and sentenced to a 5-year revocation of my guide license (after having already given up a year for a plea agreement that was broken by the State), forfeiture of \$100,000 in property, fined \$19,500, restitution of \$4500, and sentenced to nearly 2 years in prison. I had been a guide for 20 plus years with no criminal history of anything.

I was issued a permit to participate in the first experimental Wolf Control Program, which required same day airborne shooting of wolves; told by State officials its future depended on me taking more wolves than the 4 that had been taken in the first 4 months of the 6 month program; and told by State officials that if I ended up taking wolves outside the area to just claim they had been taken inside the area. The media attention and prosecution that followed was incredible, as were the death threats to my wife and children.

I was just informed by DNR they are no longer issuing leases for commercial hunting guide activities because of impending guide use concessions to be implemented in the near future. We have a commercial hunting lodge that depends on a commercial hunting guide lease.

I was later told that not only was a concession program near implementation I could receive additional sanctions of up to another 100 year license loss and fines from this board. See AS 08.54.600 (a)(3) DUTIES OF BOARD.

So when I get my license back in another decade or 10 we will not even be able to guide on the land around our lodge, as the concession will undoubtedly have been given to someone else.

The power you exercise over lives and livelihoods is an awesome responsibility. Before you deprive someone of providing for their family you are constitutionally required to provide them a full and fair opportunity to be heard. This means that before any non-emergency sanctions they must be given an opportunity to present evidence, witness testimony, and to confront the witnesses against them.

I will be attending your December 7-9, 2009 public meeting in Anchorage and respectfully ask to be allowed to testify about my family's plight. I respectfully ask this board require the attendance of State attorney Andrew Peterson (who regularly appears before this board) so he may publicly answer the included questions about my prosecution, conviction, and sentence (Mr. Peterson defended the State's conviction of me). See AS 08.54.595 BOARD ASSISTANCE. In addition, I ask that the formal hearing, to which I am entitled before this board considers my case, be scheduled as soon as possible after this meeting. I ask that I be allowed to fully exercise all rights in order that you may make an informed decision in my case. This would include allowing me to present evidence, witness testimony, and to confront the witnesses against me - and ask that needed adverse witnesses be subpoenaed.

In other words I am not asking for this board to forgo punishment without hearings – I demand the adversarial hearings that I have an undisputed right to in this case – so this board may make an intelligent and knowing decision.

Other issues I would like this board to address is whether I will be allowed to apply for a concession if my guide license is still suspended and what procedures are in place to address the injustice if my conviction is overturned but I was not given a concession because of it.

I am including documents that I beg you to carefully read, as they are the product of indescribable heartache and research - explaining what to many is an unimaginable injustice – allowing a full-time master guide with no previous violations to be destroyed by helping, at the State's urging, to manage Alaska's wildlife. The DVD is a program about my family's life that has been played numerous times on PBS in all 50 states.

My family and I have been through very nearly 6 years of hell already and throughout our journey we have received numerous requests from guides to get to the bottom of why guides end up with such incredibly unjust punishments. We beg for your help in ending this fundamental breakdown in justice.

I certify under penalty of perjury I have personal knowledge of the facts above and that the foregoing is true and correct. A notary public or other official empowered to administer oaths is unavailable and thus I am certifying this document in accordance with AS 09.63.020.

Executed on _____ in Browns Lake, Alaska.

**David S. Haeg
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Attachments:

Andrew Peterson Questions; Craig Medred email; Dale Dolifka's letter; PCR Application; PCR Memorandum; Waiste v. State; Alaska Bar Association Exam; Ineffective Assistance of Counsel cases; charging information; November 10, 2004 Anchorage Daily News article; May 17, 2008 Anchorage Daily News article; brochure; DVD