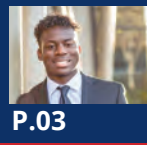


LYNNWOOD TIMES



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Real News ⚡
Real Impact

Lynnwood Local Eat's Spotlight: Bobby's Hawaiian Restaurant honors his legacy



Bobby Jr. talks about Hawaiian Cuisine, his father's legacy, the Aloha Spirit, and working with his family.

Restaurateur Bobby Nakihei Jr.

“I’m blessed to get to see my mom every single morning — to see my sister every afternoon. And that’s such a blessing, especially after what happened”

By **BO JOHN BRUSCO**

LYNNWOOD, Wash. – First Impressions of Bobby’s Hawaiian Restaurant Bobby’s Hawaiian Restaurant is a culinary oasis off Highway 99 in Lynnwood, Washington. Walking through the doors hushes the background hums of traffic as you’re greeted with relaxing Hawaiian music and a friendly “Aloha!” from the staff.

The breezy tunes combine with the sizzle of Kalbi Ribs from the kitchen. The interior is painted with tropical colors, and there’s island decor everywhere you look. And while the building is slightly older, the dining area is im-

maculately clean.

Going to Bobby’s is probably the closest anyone in Lynnwood can get to feeling like they’re actually in the Aloha State.

Bobby Jr. honors his father’s legacy

Tragically, the shop’s original owner Bobby Nakihei passed away last month. Now his son, Bobby Jr., is overseeing operations, taking up the mantle his father left behind.

“What’s funny is I don’t even cook at my own house, so everything I learned I learned here,” Bobby Jr. said when

asked if his father taught him how to cook. “It’s a great thing because I didn’t have any bad habits coming in — I didn’t have my own way of doing things. So everything I was taught is just mimicking exactly what he was trying to get through to me.”

Bobby Jr. says his dad ran a tight ship and that his attention to detail wasn’t just from his experience in the Navy but also the lessons life taught him. “In the islands, we didn’t have a lot of money, you know? We weren’t one of the rich people. So you just learn to take care of what you have,” says Bobby Jr.

Bobby’s Hawaiian Restaurant has long been a family business. Bobby Jr. gets to work with his mother, Diana, and sister, Psalms, by his side. Diana is the genius behind the humongous slices of cake sold at the shop, while Psalms leads the grill in the kitchen.

When asked what it’s like to get to work with them every day, Bobby Jr. said, “It’s the greatest gift I have.”

“I’m blessed to get to see my mom every single morning — to see my sister every afternoon. And that’s such a blessing, especially after what happened,” he said. Explaining that a lot of people have to make time for their

Continued **PAGE 09** >>



Christine Frizzell
Mayor of Lynnwood



Thank you to the many voters of Lynnwood for your trust in me! I have met so many wonderful people at your own front door as I have walked and talked in every precinct over the last six months and am grateful for your conversations and your vote!!

I am looking forward to continued conversations and making Lynnwood the best it can be for all who live, work, and play here.

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Inslee appoints Senator Steve Hobbs as Secretary of State



By MARIO LOTMORE

OLYMPIA, Wash. NOVEMBER 22, 2021 – On NOVEMBER 22, 2021, Washington state Governor Jay Inslee announces local Snohomish County resident and State Senator Steve Hobbs (LD-44) to replace Kim Wyman for Secretary of State who has accepted a job with the Biden administration.

The Washington Secretary of State

preserves the integrity of elections in Washington state; safeguards vital government records, documents, publications and process; provides the business community and public with easy access to information about corporations and charities; and performs public outreach to improve civic knowledge and participation.

Senator Hobbs, a native Washingtonian, has represented the 44th Legislative

District in the state Senate since 2007. He currently serves as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Washington State National Guard. Hobbs served for more than 32 years in the U.S. Army, serving in Kosovo and Iraq. He enlisted as a private and eventually worked his way up to Lt. Colonel.

“Steve is a dedicated public servant. He has a strong national security perspective from his work in the Army and National Guard. His knowledge of cyber-security will be crucial as election systems around the country continue to face threats,” Inslee said.

“Importantly, Steve has demonstrated political independence. That is crucial during this time of political polarization and distrust. He is a moderate who has worked effectively with people of all political perspectives. He is not afraid to challenge both Democrats and Republicans. Steve has worked to protect democracy and will continue that noble pursuit as Secretary of State.”

Hobbs has both a Master of Public Administration and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Washington. He recently completed Defense Information School through the U.S. Department of Defense and has additional training for officers from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

Inslee’s appointment of Hobbs is effective Monday, November 22nd and will run in a statewide special election in November 2022 to complete the last two years of the secretary of state’s term.

A replacement for Hobbs’ current senate seat will be made by Snohomish County per RCW 42.12.040 after the Democrat Precinct Committee Officers of the 44th Legislative District present three names to the Snohomish County Council. Unconfirmed rumors state that State Representative John Lovick (LD 44) is being considered as Hobbs replacement.

Education Levy bridges funding gap, comes to Feb. 8 ballot

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Edmonds School District Board of Directors voted to place an Education Levy on the Feb. 8, 2022, ballot. This would be a replacement of the existing Educational Programs & Operations Levy, not a new tax.

“As a parent and board member, I am thankful our district offers a high level of academic enrichment and services to our students, beyond what the state provides. Renewing this levy is critical to maintain that level of service,” said School Board President Dr. Deborah Kilgore.

The Education Levy bridges the gap to cover costs not provided by state or federal dollars.

“The levy funds programs like high quality fine arts and performing arts, athletics, college in the high school, STEM, International Baccalaureate and more than four times the number of nurses the state funds for our district. These critical programs and services are an investment in our students and their future,” said Edmonds School District Superintendent, Dr. Gustavo Balderas.

This levy is the second largest revenue

source for the Edmonds School District, making up about 15% of the budgeted general fund.

If approved by voters, the replacement levy would maintain a consistent tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed home value.

If the levy does not pass, it would mean significant reductions in staff, programs, and services for students.

For more information about the levy or to learn about participating in a pro or con committee, visit the Education Levy website: bit.ly/ESD2022Levy

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LYNNWOOD TIMES

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Special Education
Staff and services for students.

Extracurricular programs
Art, drama, music and athletics.

LEARN MORE

bit.ly/ESD2022Levy

Binda fails to provide supporting documents required by state law



By MARIO LOTMORE

LYNNWOOD, Wash. – Lynnwood City Councilman-elect Joshua Binda fails to produce the supporting documentation required by Washington state law, during the public inspection of books of account (RCW 42.17A.235.8 and WAC 390-16-043 Section 6) requested by the Lynnwood Times. Binda also fails to meet with the Lynnwood Times within the required 48-hour deadline to publicly inspect financial records (RCW 42.17A.235.6.a and WAC 390-16-043 Section 4). Towards the end of the meeting with the Lynnwood Times, Binda asked, “Why couldn’t you have waited to release the story until after the election?”

This Lynnwood Times article is the second segment in our series of the ongoing investigation into \$10,000 in suspicious campaign expenses reported by Lynnwood City Council Candidate-elect Joshua Binda who is endorsed by the Everett Herald.

It was reported first by the Times that Lynnwood City Council candidate and BLM activist Joshua Binda, 21, recorded almost \$4,848.19 in expenditures towards rent, towing fees, concert tickets, jewelry, laptops, airfare, groceries, dental work, haircuts, and office furniture. In addition to these suspicious expenses, another \$4,952.12 was lumped together and recorded as “Expenses of \$50 or less.”

The Lynnwood Times sent a request at 2:47 p.m. on Saturday, October 30 to the Treasurer’s email address, in accordance with Washington state law (RCW 42.17A.235), to publicly inspect the books of account for the Elect Joshua Binda campaign. A telephone call to Joshua Binda to confirm the receipt of the email occurred at 2:49 p.m. on October 30 – the same day. During that telephone call, Joshua Binda was informed of the email request and its’ intent to inspect his campaign’s books of account, which Binda agreed to meet.

When questioned on the telephone about campaign expenses being recorded to pay for rent and a \$163 haircut, Binda told the Lynnwood Times, “I am not the only one that runs my account, so I would have to

ask my campaign manager and would have to talk with him about all of my expenses.”

When then asked if someone is advising him on recording Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) expenses, Binda abruptly ended the conversation stating he is about to enter a meeting and asked if he can call back later to further discuss which he never did.

It was agreed to meet 1 p.m. on Monday, November 1 at Starbucks located at 6208 196th St SW in Lynnwood. At 12:39 p.m. on November 1, an email was sent from Joshua Binda rescheduling the meeting for 4 p.m. The Lynnwood Times was unaware of this email as the reporter left at 12:30 p.m. to meet with Binda at the agreed location and time.

After texting Binda at 1:05 p.m. inquiring on his whereabouts, Binda notified the reporter that he sent an email to reschedule for 4 p.m., beyond the 48-hour timeframe required by Washington state law. The Lynnwood Times agreed to reschedule the meeting at the same location at 4 p.m.

During the rescheduled meeting, Binda informed the Lynnwood Times that “they” needed more time to prepare as the reason he couldn’t make the original 1 p.m. meeting.

THE BOOKS OF ACCOUNT MEETING

Binda was joined by campaign consultant and principal partner Riall Johnson of Prism Washington who Binda uses for campaign services. According to its website, Prism Washington “is a consulting group

focused on providing opportunities and services for electoral campaigns centered on social justice.”

Prism was formed by Johnson on January 2, 2020, and has provided campaign services to many high-profile candidates such as: Seattle City Attorney Candidate Nicole Thomas Kennedy; Bellingham City Council Candidate Kristina Michele Martens; Bothell City Council Candidates Han Tran, Jenne Alderks, and Rami Al-Kabra; and Snohomish County Council Candidate Brandy Donaghy to name a few.

According to the PDC’s follow the money online database, Prism Washington began receiving monies for campaign services in 2018 and by 2021 has recorded over one million dollars in payments from 41 campaigns throughout Western Washington.

At the start of the meeting, Johnson informed the Lynnwood Times that there are a “bunch of mistakes” and ensured the Times that all of the \$4,952.12 recorded as “Expenses of \$50 or less” were “campaign related.” He also wanted to make it clear that he is not a treasurer and is there to help Binda fix the issues.

Binda shared that he confused his campaign debit card with his personal debit card, stating they look similar, as the reason for some non-campaign related expenses such as a plane ticket and concert tickets. He also shared with the Lynnwood Times that he gave a “campaign volunteer” access to the campaign’s debit card which the volunteer used for non-campaign related expenses.

He confirmed with the Times that there is only one campaign debit card and that he will be reimbursing the campaign thousands of dollars in non-campaign related expenses. Binda would not disclose the name of the “campaign volunteer” who used the campaign debit card.

Both Johnson and Binda stated that the towing expenses and associated impound fees were for Binda’s vehicle. According to Johnson, “Josh has car troubles” and he called to have his vehicle towed when it was inoperable after campaign/client meetings. For the record, in addition to the \$922.23 expenditures recorded as towing on the original C4 report, The Lynnwood Times saw another towing related expense for over \$130 for an impound

Continued PAGE 11 >>

COUNTY	2018	2019	2020	2021	TOTAL
KING		\$87,900	\$56,145	\$629,404	\$773,450
PIERCE			\$18,416	\$7,477	\$25,893
SKAGIT			\$110,203		\$110,203
SNOHOMISH		\$3,891	\$17,022	\$13,351	\$34,264
THURSTON	\$3,058		\$35,832		\$38,890
WHATCOM				\$46,409	\$46,409
(blank)	\$544			\$4,500	\$5,044
Total	\$3,602	\$91,792	\$237,618	\$701,142	\$1,034,153

TABLE 1: Monies paid to Prism Washington for campaign services from 41 campaigns. Source: PDC’s follow the money online database.

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Thanksgiving dinner without the hassle



By KIENAN BRISCOE

Thanksgiving is a holiday centered on gratitude and food, but it can also be expensive and stressful to spend hours in the kitchen whipping up a feast for friends and family. Luckily for residents in the area, many local businesses are offering to do the heavy lifting.

What better way to say thanks to the emergency workers in our area than to support local businesses while giving yourself an easy, stress-free season for the whole family?

TAKEOUT MEALS FOR THE HOLIDAY

Lynnwood

The following is a list of Lynnwood-based food services that offer ready-to-eat Thanksgiving meals this year for your convenience.

Navi's Catering Kitchen, 5903 196th Street Southwest, Lynnwood, Tele.: 425-712-0312.

Navi's Catering Kitchen will be providing hot, made-from-scratch, family-style meals on Thanksgiving day between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. The meals include herb-roasted turkey (pre-carved dark meat and white meat), honey-glazed ham, dinner rolls with sweet honey butter, cranberry jelly, turkey gravy, and individual pecan pies.

To order a dinner package, click here and select your pickup time slot and three sides from the following options:

- Garlic mashed potatoes
- Candied sweet potatoes
- Roasted Brussel's sprouts topped

with bacon and homemade breadcrumbs

- Sweet potato and carrot smash
- Greenbean casserole
- Traditional sage stuffing

As well as the three sides included in a meal package, additional sides can be purchased for \$7 per person, and sweet cream berry biscuits can be added on for \$3 per person.

Dinner package prices are as follows:

- Dinner for two: \$110 (plus tax and 10% gratuity)
- Dinner for three: \$165 (plus tax and 10% gratuity)
- Dinner for four: \$220 (plus tax and 10% gratuity)

Meal packages are built for two people minimum and as many packages can be purchased to meet the needs of any family size.

For more information or to place your order, visit www.naviscateringkitchen.com.

Chef Dane Catering, 19514 44th Ave W #A, Lynnwood, Tele.: 206-794-0812

Chef Dane Catering will be offering Thanksgiving catering meals including roasted turkey with sage gravy, classic creamy mashed potatoes, traditional stuffing with celery and onions, roasted Brussel Sprouts balsamic with pine nuts, harvest salad (mixed greens, roasted delicate squash, pepitas, dried cranberries, and apple cider vinaigrette), orange zest cranberry sauce, and molasses oat rolls.

Dessert options include pumpkin cheesecake with a chocolate crust (\$8 per slice /\$60 whole pie), cranberry tart with orange glaze and an almond crust

(\$8/\$60), and seasonal cookies and bars (\$30 per dozen).

Additional add-ons can also be purchased, including the vegetarian entree quinoa stuffed delicate squash with parmesan and pecans (\$8), bacon-wrapped dates stuffed with blue cheese (\$36 per dozen), spinach artichoke dip crostini (\$16, serves four).

Catered Thanksgiving meals from Chef Dane are \$35 per person and must be ordered by Monday, November 22. Meals can be picked up at their kitchen in Lynnwood on November 24, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. or delivered for a \$15 charge.

For more information or to place your order, visit <http://www.chefdane.com/>.

Whole Foods Lynnwood, 2800 SW 196th ST Ste 100, Lynnwood, Tele.: 425-775-1320.

Whole Foods location in Lynnwood are offering take-out Thanksgiving meals for families of 4 to 12.

The dinner for twelve includes a classic whole roasted turkey, spiral sliced ham, green beans and roasted shallots (vegan), creamed spinach and kale, roasted butternut squash with cranberry and sage (vegan), creamy mashed potatoes, traditional herb stuffing, turkey gravy, spiced brown sugar ham glaze, cranberry orange sauce (vegan), brioche rolls, apple pie, and pumpkin pie – all for \$299.99.

The dinner for eight includes a salt and pepper prime rib roast, creamed spinach and kale, cider-roasted Brussels sprouts and pepitas, truffle parmesan mashed potatoes, and red wine jus – all for \$229.99.

The dinner for four includes beef wellington, creamed spinach and kale, cider roasted brussels with pepitas (vegan), truffle parmesan mashed potatoes, and red wine jus – all for \$139.99.

Whole Foods is located at 2800 SW 196th street in Lynnwood. Thanksgiving meals must be placed 24 hours in advance and can be ordered at <https://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/>.

City of Snohomish

Trails End Taphouse and Restaurant, 511 Maple Ave Ste. B, Snohomish, Tele.: 360-568-7233.

Trails End Taphouse and Restaurant will be closed on Thanksgiving Day but is offering to-go Thanksgiving meals that can be picked up Wednesday, November 24. Their meals include turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, milk rolls, and stuffin' muffins. Dessert options can also be added, including pumpkin cheesecake and peanut butter pie. The price is \$40 per person.

To submit an order, visit <https://trailsendtaphouse.com/thanksgivingdinnertogo> and a member of their catering staff will reach out to you Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday for payment.

City of Everett

Emory's on Silver Lake, 11830 19th Ave SE, Everett, Tele.: 425-337-7772.

Emory's on Silver Lake will be serving Thanksgiving dinner at their restaurant in Everett from 12 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on

Afghanistan Refugees' Plight in Lynnwood

By **BO JOHN BRUSCO**

As refugees from Afghanistan arrive in Washington, the Lynnwood Times took the opportunity to speak with the Executive Director of Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest, Van Dinh-Kuno, a beacon of hope and strength to so many on their journey to rebuilding their lives.

For more than thirty years, Director Dinh-Kuno has led refugee services in Snohomish County. As a former refugee from Vietnam, she knows firsthand what it is like to immigrate to a foreign country on the other side of the globe, and the unique struggles that come with such a transition.

Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest, is a refugee led, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural organization whose mission is to “empower refugees, immigrants and their families to become self-sufficient and healthy, contributing members of society.”

Snohomish County and Lynnwood: the new home to many Afghan refugees

“We’re probably close to 60 families in Snohomish county,” Dinh-Kuno said, referring to refugees from Afghanistan. Afghan families have five members on average, though she is currently trying to house a family of nine.

Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest team. Source: Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest. Of those 60 families in Snohomish County, 35 of them reside in Lynnwood. Lynnwood is sort of the ideal location for Afghan refugees because it’s near Seattle and has ample housing availability. “We have built a good relationship with apartment managers,” Dinh-Kuno added.

With roughly 120 Afghan refugees in Lynnwood today, Dinh-Kuno says, “you have new arrivals coming in almost every day. This is just the beginning.”

Arriving in the States

Director Dinh-Kuno explains what the typical journey of a Afghan refugees to Lynnwood looks like, saying, “They go through countries like Germany, Italy, or Bosnia before they arrive at a military camp in the United States. They can stay there for a week or so, and then they head out to whatever state is willing to accept them.”

She also noted that Washington is one of the top states when it comes to housing refugees, along with Texas, New York, and California.

Once refugees arrive in Washington, “they go directly out to the community. If they have friends or family willing to take them in they can stay there, and if not, we find them a hotel or alternative form of housing,” Dinh-Kuno said. “We try to get housing as quickly as possible.”

Every weekend, more refugees arrive at a “Welcoming Center” in Snohomish County. The center is a



Executive Director of Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest Van Dinh-Kuno. Source: Mario Lotmore/Lynnwood Times.

partnership with many organizations, like Dinh-Kuno’s Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest, as well as Volunteers for America and dental and medical service providers.

At the Welcome Center, Dinh-Kuno says, “we do a deep assessment with [the refugees] to make sure we don’t miss any needs that they have.”

Assessing and meeting needs

After the Welcome Center processing and finding housing for the families, the next step is to provide them with food, which can be challenging given the large family sizes and their dietary needs.

Halal meat has been processed according to Islamic Law and is often part of a religious diet which many Afghan refugees follow. Luckily, the local Costco carries these products. “That’s good news,” says Dinh-Kuno. “We are very very grateful for Costco Business Center supplying us with halal meat for the Afghan families.” While the food isn’t free for refugees, Dinh-Kuno says that her organization is able to buy it at wholesale price.

The Lynnwood Foodbank has also been a huge support. According to Dinh-Kuno, “Each family got three boxes filled with appropriate food for Afghan people last Saturday.”

Councilwoman Julieta Altamirano-Crosby has played a significant role at the Lynnwood Foodbank. In addition to volunteering on a consistent basis, the councilwoman also helps identify and meet local needs through her connections with the community and organizations like the foodbank.

“We have to listen to one another,” Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby told the Lynnwood Times. “Through listening, we develop empathy to help others in our community.”

Last week, the Refugee & Immigrant Center Northwest, WAGRO Foundation, and the Lynnwood Food Bank conducted a coat drive, which brought in more than 60 coats for Afghan children.

Lynnwood Food Bank Afghan cost drive



Lynnwood Food Bank Executive Director Alissa with Elvia, Karina, and Councilwoman Julieta Altamirano-Crosby would like to thank everyone for their warm and generous support donating scores of coats for children of Afghan refugees. Source: Mario Lotmore/Lynnwood Times on November 6, 2021.

The Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office has also been involved in helping Afghan refugees. Last month, the office sponsored a donation drive to collect new household items for refugees. Their Facebook post about the drive reads, “Many of these individuals risked their lives to assist Americans in Afghanistan and help keep our service members safe during the last twenty years. They are translators, political allies, teachers, doctors, mothers, fathers and children. Their support for the United States placed them in imminent danger under the Taliban, and they are arriving here to seek safety for their families.”

Continued **PAGE 10** >>

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Groundbreaking ceremony for the Lynnwood Community Justice Center

LYNNWOOD, Wash. – Lynnwood’s new Community Justice Center held its groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, October 27 to signify the end of the planning process of the new facility after three years of planning and redevelopments.

The ceremony was not promoted as a public event to limit the number of attendees.

During the ceremony, Elizabeth Lundsford continued the project’s history of protest by splaying herself above the ground where fifteen contributors to the project ceremonially took shovels to the land, yelling, “This is what Jesus would do.” The group, which consisted of Mayor Smith, the Lynnwood City Council, Chief Nelson, and Court Director Paulette Revoir, among others, ignored her display and continued the ceremony without effect.

“This is white supremacy 2.0. It was really hurtful even acknowledging the systematic racism in our current justice system, and I’m sorry but incarcerating a person does not help a person no matter how you spin it,” Lundsford told the Lynnwood Times after her silent protest.

After a city council meeting was stormed by citizens on August 4, voicing their frustrations concerning the in-custody death of Tirhas Tesfatsion, a tragedy they attributed to lack of care within the current jail, council decided to postpone the vote on the justice center until September 13.

Within that time, representative Lauren Davis led a task force, meeting with Chief Nelson and redeveloping the original plans to include a mental health wing and adding behavioral urgent care, a crisis stabilization unit, and social services hub, all while reducing the number of beds from the originally proposed 100 to 84, still a significant upgrade in capacity from the current jail’s 46 allowed beds.



Groundbreaking Community Justice Center on October 27, 2021. Source: Lynnwood Times/Mario Lotmore.

While originally projected to cost \$64 million, due to its redevelopments the construction is now set at \$69 million, paid entirely from bonds and existing criminal justice taxes without a tax increase for the citizens.

Commander Cole Langdon of the Lynnwood Police Department took the podium before the ceremonial groundbreaking to note some other features the new facility will offer in addition to its mental health wing and added bed count. The features include:

- An Emergency Operations Center capable of providing the infrastructure necessary to support emergency operations for the growing city of Lynnwood and surrounding regions.
- A community room for police, community group use, and large police training, also including a space for the community health and safety section, crime prevention officers, and the nearly 80 volunteers that provide services

to the community.

- An evidence facility to return on-site to no longer have to transport evidence across the city and pay lease agreements for a facility the department does not own.
- An officer training area both for physical exercise and defensive tactics but also for officer wellness efforts.

- An improved, dedicated space for domestic violence victim coordinators to work with families in privacy during their most difficult times.
- A reimagined misdemeanor jail with a focus on partnerships with service providers to provide programming and medical services

Continued PAGE 07 >>

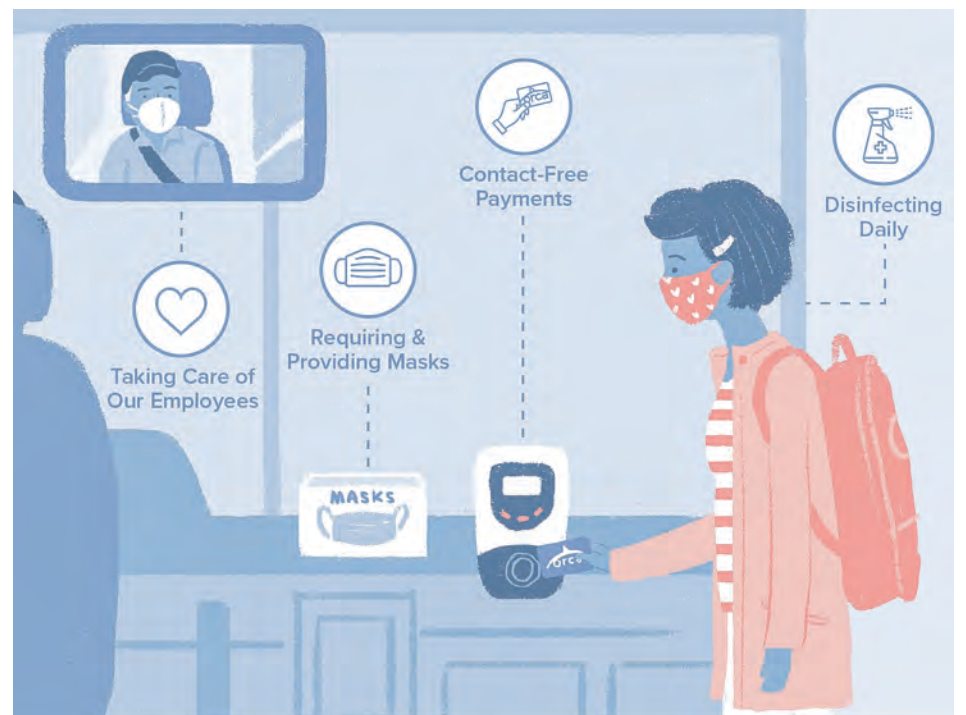
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from page 6 **GROUNDBREAKING**

to address underlying causes of criminal behavior to improve the quality of life for both incarcerated individuals and crime victims.

“I was born and raised in this community, and I remember walking from 184th and 44th, visiting friends when I was in fourth grade and walking by this building when it was a dental office. We used to stop by and get our jaw-breaker candies from the convenience store and play in the little field that was by here as well,” Commander Langdon said. “Here we are, 28 years later, to celebrate the groundbreaking of our community justice center.”

Sharing the podium with Commander Langdon was Chief Jim Nelson, Mayor Nicola Smith, Court Director Paulette Revoir, Councilmember Shannon Sessions, and Council President George Hurst who shared their thoughts on the project’s history, from sharing memories of walking by the old dentist building to the three years of planning before the ceremony held yesterday.

“I am proud of what we were able to accomplish and especially to provide the space for great men and women who work for the Lynnwood Police Department as they provide services to our community,” Chief Nelson said.



Designs of Lynnwood’s new Community Justice Center. Source: Lynnwood Times/Mario Lotmore.

Nelson acknowledged a partnership with the Community Health Center of Snohomish County for the work they have done from the beginning and have stayed throughout the design process, as well as retired Chief Tom Davis, the design team, Deputy Chief Chuck Steichen, Mayor Smith, and the Lynnwood City Council.

Council President Hurst spoke on Tesfatsion’s suicide, adding that the tragedy has educated him in his own biases and encouraged him to learn more

about misdemeanor law to ensure “true justice in Lynnwood.”

“The tragic death of Tirhas Tesfatsion in a city jail launched an effort that has created plans for a community recovery center,” Hurst said. “The city council must make sure that on these grounds we will have a community justice center, but we must also make sure that it is a center for justice for our community. For the past few years, we have heard the cry, ‘No justice, no peace’... The call is for justice; we must answer that call.”

Mayor Nicola Smith spoke on how the project has been a personal journey for her, as her own children have come in and out of jail over the years. To her, she has been working out how to bring the criminal justice center to conduct intervention and save lives.

“Thank you, and I’m proud to leave this as a legacy,” Smith concluded.

In 1959 the first police department was just an office and a couple holding cells in the basement of what was then city

hall on 194th and 56th. In 1969 city staff moved to a building next door, the original city hall, allowing the Lynnwood PD to take over the former city hall building. Police business and detectives’ offices were up on the main floor. The jail, dispatch, and patrol division were all located in the basement of this small building.

Fifty years ago, in 1971, the Police Department moved to the North Administrator Building, which is now where the Senior Center is located. On December 30 of 1993, the ribbon-cutting for the current Civil Justice Center was held, and now, 28 years later, the Community Justice Center will act as the city’s first facility dedicated to the Lynnwood Police Department in Lynnwood’s history, set to open in 2023.



LEGAL NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: NICHOLAS DORAN HUNDLEY, 4217 164TH STREET, APT. #C101, LYNNWOOD, WA 98087

In the Matter of the Welfare of the children of, Cynithia Zimmerman, Charles Deherra and Nicholas Hundley, Parents.

District Court CHIPS File No. 10-JV-20-227
District Court PERM File No. 10-JV-21-167
County Attorney File Number JC-20-55366

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: That a hearing will be held at the Carver County Government Center, Justice Center, 604 East Fourth Street, Chaska, Minnesota, 55318, on Wednesday, December 22, 2021, at 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, to determine the permanent placement of your children.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED: The children and the children’s parent, guardian, or custodian have the right to be present and to be represented by an attorney at the above hearing, and if they cannot afford an attorney, an attorney will/may be appointed at public expense for any and each one of them.

The Court will consider and decide the children’s need for protection or services and other disposition regarding the children including the possibility that the children may be removed from their parent and placed OR remain in permanent out of home placement and that your parental rights will be limited. Even with failure to appear in response to this notice, the hearing may still be conducted and appropriate relief granted on the petition or motion.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING, A DEFAULT ORDER GRANTING PERMANENCY AS RECOMMENDED BY CARVER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES MAY BE ISSUED BASED UPON ALL INFORMATION PRESENTED TO THE COURT.

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Discrimination lawsuit filed against Shoreline School District

By BO JOHN BRUSCO

On October 8, 2021, a lawsuit was filed against Shoreline School District in King County, WA. The suit issues multiple allegations ranging from negligence to racial discrimination against a now former employee of Shorecrest High School.

The allegations according to the lawsuit

The lawsuit begins by recounting what appears to be years of harassment and bullying of former Shorecrest High School Girls Basketball coaches. Essentially, another Shorecrest employee, a white man, began a campaign to remove the Girls Basketball team's head coach, Carlos Humphrey, a black man. However, the most concerning part of the story is the District's failure to address and resolve the issues.

According to the suit, this campaign was a retaliatory move against Humphrey, who, in 2018, removed said employee's child from the team due to a rule violation. This action was "in accordance with school policies and procedures," as the suit states. After the incident, rumors and complaints about coach Humphrey began to circulate. And, as the team's assistant coach Jon Friesch was an outspoken supporter of Humphrey's, he also became a target.

The suit states that said employee "filed an estimated 30 complaints against [Humphrey and Friesch] since 2018, attended countless meetings with District administrators to complain about [them], and spread false or exaggerated allegations among parents, student athletes, and the greater area basketball community about [their] behavior."

It is noted in the lawsuit as it relates to the 30 filed complaints against Humphrey that "The District investigated each time and found no wrongdoing." And that "[n]onetheless, these complaints and investigations were noted on his year-end evaluations and resulted in a 'last chance agreement' which Coach Humphrey declined to sign."

A parent of a student athlete joined this same employee in their efforts to have Humphrey removed. The suit recounts how this parent spread rumors about Humphrey on social media. One particularly incendiary post warranted Assistant Coach Friesch to take legal action in June 2021.

An attorney from Admon Law Firm representing Friesch sent a document to this parent which read, "In the Post, you made false allegations against my client, amounting to actionable defamation."

"RCW 7.96 enables my client to pursue a claim against you for defamation. However, he is willing to allow you to correct/clarify your Post to avoid costly litigation and potential damages," the document concluded. "You must immediately correct the false statements in your Post."

Accusations against Shoreline School District

The lawsuit accuses Shoreline School District of neglecting to address ongoing instances of discrimination against Humphrey and Friesch. Examples of this neglect include failing to fulfill records requests, disproportionately enforcing rules, and neglecting its duty to protect its employees.

Records request failures

Regarding records requests, Humphrey filed a formal complaint of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) with the District. Since the District took no sufficient action afterward, Humphrey's union representative requested public records relating to the complaint.

The request was submitted in June of 2019, and since they did not produce the records until April of 2020, the District violated its own policy.

The lawsuit details this violation, stating, "Both school board policy and Washington law require resolution of Discrimination and HIB complaints within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint. (Shoreline School District Policy 3308P, District Policy 5010, WAC 392-190-065)."



Coach Carlos Humphrey teaching young girls the art of winning in basketball.

A discrimination complaint was then submitted on behalf of Coach Humphrey in January of 2021. But the investigation was quickly shut down by the District after it had begun, according to attorney Chris Williams, who represents the plaintiffs in this case.

The lawsuit details additional examples of Shoreline School District's failure to fulfill records requests in a timely manner.

For example, the District still has yet to produce public records requested in May of this year — when, at the time of the request, the District assured it would deliver within 30 days.

"Shoreline Public School District has yet to fully answer public records requests," says Chris Williams, who represents the plaintiffs in this case. "It has yet to close a discrimination complaint that was filed on January 21, 2021, and, by its own policies, must be completed in 30 days."

Williams continues, noting the District's discriminatory treatment of Humphrey and Friesch regarding these requests, saying, "The ongoing violations of the District's non-discrimination policy and the failure to comply with the Public Records Act all seem to be in furtherance of the active discrimination against our clients."

"Unfortunately, the time finally came where we had to step up and bring these actions to the attention of the court."

Discriminatory enforcement of rules

Another significant instance of discrimination detailed in the suit describes how the District enacted rules to keep the aforementioned employee separated from Coach Humphrey. As the harassment and rumors against Humphrey piled up, the District intervened. However, the rules established were both inequitable and inconsistently enforced.

According to the suit, Shoreline's Athletic Director Don Dalziel, who is now the interim coach of Shorecrest's girls basketball team, instituted rules requiring Humphrey's girls basketball team to change their gym and weight room time according to when this other employee was using these areas.

Additionally, this other employee was instructed not to sit directly behind Humphrey and his team during basketball games. The suit states that not only did the employee refuse to follow this rule, but that Director Dalziel sat next to this employee as they blatantly disregarded the specific instruction.

The suit explains how this employee "was permitted by the District to break or enforce these discriminatory rules" while Humphrey and Friesch "were simply subject to them."

Injury incident and protecting employees

Even more central to this suit is an incident that involved a student "injury" during practice in February 2020. The specifics thereof are omitted in this article to protect the students involved, but rumors and false allegations about Humphrey began

to circulate relating to how he handled this particular situation.

According to Williams, the District, instead of fulfilling its obligation to protect employees from discriminatory treatment, blindly sided with complaining parents who believed these rumors. The District even cited this incident in the "Last Chance Agreement" it sent to Humphrey, which he refused to sign.

Attorney William's comments

Commenting on the years of bullying, harassment, and discrimination detailed in the case, Williams says, "Shoreline's system is currently set up so when parents or kids make claims against a district employee, the school district isolates the accused employee while allowing the accusers to control the narrative."

"Controlling this narrative is even easier if the accuser is white and the accused is black, because it's easier to protect and believe the white accuser instead of dispelling all the stereotypes and prejudices that get attributed to people of color. Our system never questions the motivations of the white accuser, but an accused black man has to prove themselves at every step."

Noting how Humphrey was unfairly targeted, Williams continues, "Coach Humphrey adhered to district rules and standards, but that wasn't good enough. The school district made up new standards, specific to him, and made him follow those, too. But then they refused to follow their own rules when he and his assistant coach invoked those rules against them to stop the mistreatment."

The lawsuit also detailed Humphrey's plight during his years at Shorecrest, explaining how "Coach Humphrey sought to comply with the rules being imposed on him and feared anything else would be seen as him playing out the racist trope that he was an 'angry black man.' His complaints about the unequal treatment were widely ignored, however. At the same time, it was his employment that was threatened by the District."

"While Coach Humphrey stayed silent and was told to 'trust the process,'" Williams continues, "his antagonists were spreading damaging rumors that are slowly destroying our client's career, and the school district has not stepped in to communicate with our client or the public to dispel those rumors and clarify what is going on."

"Mr. Friesch tried to defend Coach Humphrey and was put under the same conditions and warned to disassociate himself from him by another staff person at the District," says Williams. Friesch did not distance himself from Humphrey but continued to support him in his role.

Resigning due to safety concerns

Due to the harassment and discrimination Coach Humphrey and Assistant Coach Friesch have faced, neither felt it would be safe for them to return to their coaching positions at Shorecrest High School during the 2020-2021 school year.

Friesch coached at Shoreline for a decade, and while his full-time employment didn't begin until 2017, Humphrey has been training and coaching at Shorecrest for about six years. What's more, the very people who have led the campaign against Humphrey publicly advocated for Shorecrest to hire him in 2017.

The District's response

The Times reached out for comment from the Shoreline School District regarding this lawsuit against it. A public informant officer responded with the following: "Due to potential litigation, we are unable to comment at this time."

Note: Many supporting documents were shared electronically with the Lynnwood Times to verify claims in this story, including but not limited to: the lawsuit, screenshots from social media, a last chance agreement issued by the District, records of public comments from a school board meeting, and a correction demand by Admond Law Firm.

from page 1 **BOBBY'S HAWAIIAN**

loved ones, and he is fortunate enough to already have them near on a daily basis, he said, "So it's now just about caring for that and taking care of that blessing."

The Spirit of Aloha

One of the pillars of Mr. Nakihei's philosophy was sharing the Aloha Spirit. His son explained to the Lynnwood Times that the Aloha Spirit "is love in an action form. It's not just speaking it. It's not just knowing it. It's how to use that to communicate. So the first thing you should hear coming into my restaurant is 'Aloha!' The last thing you should hear is 'Mahalo!'"

"And those aren't just words," Bobby Jr. continues. "It's a way to connect."

Mr. Nakihei also spoke of the Aloha Spirit during an interview with The Times this past May. "Whether it's your first time or your hundredth time when you walk into our restaurant, we want to make sure you feel the aloha spirit – the love, and the food backs it up," he said.

THE FOOD

Mochiko Chicken

According to Bobby Jr., the Mochiko Chicken is a must-try. The chicken is basted in garlic sauce and then fried to crispy perfection, with rice and a sweet teriyaki dip on the side. Bobby Jr. says that this dish pleases everyone from 8-year-olds to 88-year-olds. He also explained that this item represents the iconic fusion of cultures that defines Hawaiian Cuisine since their Mochiko Chicken is derived from Japan but has a Hawaiian spin.

The chicken was perfectly executed. Sometimes fried chicken can be excessively oily and greasy, but not this Mochiko. The nuggets were perfectly

crisp with light garlicky shells. The chicken itself was quality, and combining it with some rice and sauce on the fork makes for a serious crowd-pleaser.

Kalbi Ribs

The Kalbi ribs are sensational. The cuts are thin but wide, and with all that surface area, each bite carries a lot of flavor. I didn't get the name of the exact sauce they grill them with, but it was a sweet, teriyaki-esque flavor — and mixed with the flames on the grill, they come out with a subtle smokiness too. They're chewy, juicy, and tasty. The balanced flavor profile of sweet and smokey makes the Kalbi Ribs my personal favorite (so far).

Guava Cake

After the chicken and ribs, I barely had room for dessert. But seeing how massive these slices were, I had to give it a try. Now I'm not the biggest fan of cake solely because it can often be too sweet or dry, but this Guava Cake was neither of those. Each bite was so moist it reminded me of a tres leches cake, and the Guava flavor was fruit-forward which made for a really refreshing dessert. If you're looking to make someone say "WOW" on their birthday or any occasion, I recommend picking up one of these slices.

RATING

Rating Bobby's Hawaiian Restaurant is interesting for me because this was my first experience with authentic Hawaiian food. But without a doubt, I am converted. Every item I tried was light and flavorful, and I will definitely be ordering them again. The atmosphere was charming because of the decor and cleanliness and how incredibly cooperative and friendly the staff was.

Ultimately, I'm going to give Bobby's Hawaiian Restaurant a huge "ALOHA!" Bobby's food captures the aloha spirit, and I felt the love when I tried it.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR BOBBY'S HAWAIIAN RESTAURANT

With the holidays coming up, Bobby Jr. is looking to help families out with their catering services. "This Thanksgiving and Christmas we will be doing our version of Thanksgiving and Christmas by allowing people to order from us for those events," he said.

"Usually we shut down and kind of do our own thing, but we realized that a lot of people would like to use our food as one of their Thanksgiving spreads. So call us up or come by and we can take care of one of your dinners for you. We

can take only a limited amount, but we would love to be able to share that with you guys."

Bobby Jr. said that the restaurant will only be open till noon for pick-ups on those holidays. Readers interested can call the shop at (425) 259-1338, order online at bobbyshawaiian.com, or swing by in person. They're located at 14626 Highway 99 STE 101 Lynnwood, WA 98087. Click here for business hours.

Look for the video review on Wednesday, November 17, on the Lynnwood Times' website - lynnwoodtimes.com.

from page 4 **THANKSGIVING**

Thanksgiving Day. The Thanksgiving menu includes roasted turkey with turkey gravy, savory sage dressing and cranberry chutney, accompanied with bistro mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables. The price is \$36 per adult and \$18 for children under 12.

They are currently accepting reservations for parties 12 or under. To check availability, call 425-337-7772. To view their entire menu, which will also be available Thanksgiving Day, visit <https://www.emorys.com/thanksgiving-dinner/>.

Edmonds

Demetris Woodstone Taverna, 101 Main Street, Edmonds, Tele.: 425-744-9999.

Demetris Woodstone Taverna is offering "reheat n' serve" Thanksgiving meal kits this year which include all of the following items (modifications can not be made):

- Roasted turkey breast
- Turkey leg confit
- Sliced honey glazed ham
- Seasonal salad
- Four cheese baked mac
- Vanilla yam puree
- Garlic mashed potatoes
- Country gravy
- Brioche truffle stuffing
- Bacon jam fried brussels sprouts

- Orange cranberry sauce
- Fresh baked rolls with honey butter

Customers can also choose to add on apple pie and wine options. The price is \$47 per person with a 4 person minimum. Pre-order your meals by Tuesday, November 23, and pick up Thanksgiving Day between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Demetris urges whoever is interested to place their orders quickly as quantities are limited. To order, visit <https://www.demetriswoodstonetaverna.com/thanksgiving-meal-kit-pre-order>.

FREE MEALS AROUND SNOHOMISH COUNTY

The past year has been a trying time for many, but no one should be left hungry on Thanksgiving or any other day.

For those in search of free meal services in Snohomish County, the following services are available, many of which would not be made possible without the hard work and donated time of their volunteers.

Everett

Volunteers of America will be holding a drive-thru Thanksgiving at the Everett Mall from 2-5 p.m. on Friday, November 12, and Friday, November 19.

Free Thanksgiving meals will also be

given away at the Everett food bank on Broadway, compliments to the Volunteers of America, on November 15, 17, and 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Volunteers of America are always looking for volunteers to aid in their over 400 programs and services throughout the nation. If you are interested in helping, visit www.voa.org/find-an-office.

Edmonds

Westgate Chapel Church is happy to announce that they are returning to host their free Thanksgiving dinner on 22901 Edmonds Way. The event is free, offering a homemade Thanksgiving dinner including turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, and pumpkin pie. Everyone is invited and welcome. The church urges those interested to arrive early as there are no reservations.

"We look forward to seeing many families gather together at our table," Susie Pravitz of Westgate Chapel said.

The Edmonds Food Bank is currently looking for volunteers to help Mondays and Tuesdays and drivers to pick up food 7 days a week. It takes over 150 volunteers and over 3,000 volunteer hours to keep the Edmonds Food Bank running. You can download an application and background check by visiting <https://edmondsfoodbank.org/>

volunteer/, and you can donate to the food bank on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Edmonds Food Bank will be distributing food Monday, November 22, from 3-5:30 p.m., and Tuesday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. before Thanksgiving. Delivery options are also available to ADA Edmonds area residents or those 60 years or older.

Lynnwood

Lynnwood Food Bank will be offering free Thanksgiving meals on Saturday, November 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. by last name. Below is the schedule for meals:

- 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.; S-Z
- 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; M-R
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; A-F

The food bank is currently looking for volunteers to help sort dry goods and organize the food bank on Mondays, sorting fresh and frozen on Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings, and distributing food on Wednesday and Friday mornings. For information on signing up, visit <https://www.lynnwoodfoodbank.org/get-involved>.

TO BE FEATURED

If your business or organization would like to be added to the online page, email the Lynnwood Times at editorial@lynnwoodtimes.com.

from page 5 **AFGHAN REFUGEES**

Dinh-Kuno also mentioned Mayor Nicola Smith when talking about local leaders who are actively assisting refugees. “Nicola Smith is involved with the refugees in her city,” she said. “She and her family help collect clothes for the refugees.”

Aside from Mayor Smith and Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby, Dinh-Kuno says she doesn’t have any contact with the city. “I think they should do something because I see more Afghans staying in Lynnwood than they do in Everett.”

“I would also like to see Lynnwood have some funding to support refugees and immigrants,” she continued. “They need to work with organizations that actually have a connection and a trust with refugees and immigrants.”

She also noted how some organizations that have received funding for this cause haven’t been held accountable for the funds they have received. “So they need to think outside the box,” she said.

For readers who are interested in helping Afghan families, the contact information for Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest is at the end of this article. Any help is welcomed, and they are looking to connect with employers and landlords.

“We’d love to move families to apartments so that children can have stable housing and focus on their studies,” said Dinh-Kuno.

Don’t forget about the Afghan women

Director Van Dinh-Kuno emphasized the importance of helping Afghan women. “My worry is, I hope every social service agency, every government entity, when you’re helping the Afghan people, don’t forget about the women,” she said. “We tend to focus on the men and we leave the women behind.”

“In our country, the needs of men and women aren’t that different. But because of the culture of the Afghan people, the women are always deferring decisions to the men,” she explained. “You’ll never see them saying ‘I want this and I want that.’ And if they do, they’ll say it behind the curtains. They’ll probably tell the husband, but they won’t tell you.”

She also spoke to the fact that, under 20 years of Taliban rule, Afghan women often “have no education at all.” When the U.S. Government stepped in, she explained how “they focused on the young women. But the older women got left behind. By the time we got into Afghanistan, any woman 20 years or older, they got left behind because they were already married with children.”

“And now they arrive in our country and they have very limited education with them. So we need to focus on English language learning, training, driving, and education,” she said.

According to Dinh-Kuno, these needs are compounded by the fact that Afghan men usually marry younger women. “So when their husband dies, what are they going to do if they don’t have some of these skills like language skills and driving skills?” (Dinh-Kuno noted that about 50% of the Afghan refugee men speak English, but none



Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest team. Source: Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest.

of the women do).

She recounted a time in the early 1990s when she helped a small group of Afghan women earn their driver’s license. From that experience, she learned that group learning was especially beneficial as it fosters support, encouragement, and a sense of community.

“We need to be creative with the services we provide,” she concluded. “If the mother is healthy and well educated, the children will be healthy and well educated. So we’re not just talking about one generation, but two generations that will benefit from whatever we do today.”

Pathway to Citizenship and the Workforce

Over 95% of Afghan refugees say they want to work, according to Dinh-Kuno, but the process of a refugee becoming a contributing member of society can be extremely long. When they arrive in the U.S., refugees are given the Humanitarian Parole status — a status which prevents them from being productive members of the community.

“Within two years they have to apply to become Asylum and then it goes from Asylum to Green Card,” she explains. Five years after obtaining a Green Card, refugees can finally apply for Social Security. However, as Dinh-Kuno repeatedly stressed, “nothing is guaranteed” during this process.

In their Humanitarian Parole status, refugees receive monthly funds from the Department of Social and Health Services. According to Dinh-Kuno, it’s about \$375 a month for a single person. “And even in a family of four, you’re barely getting \$600. You can’t even pay one half of your rent with that,” she said.

“The average refugee comes to this country and will rely on Social Services for about six months or less. And when they go to work the percentage of [them] that return for public assistance is less than three percent.”

“Don’t you love when you invest in the stock market and you have a 97% return?” Dinh-Kuno laughed. “I would throw hundreds of thousands into the stock market if the returns were that good!”

She concluded by saying, “They all want to work. They want a better life.

They want to contribute to this community. They’re hoping that someday they can own a home. And every refugee and immigrant, that’s what they are.”

For those curious to know how refugees contribute to the community, Dinh-Kuno suggests driving down Highway 99.

Message about refugees

When asked why some people are unwelcoming, fearful, and even hateful towards refugees, Dinh-Kuno said, “*Misinformation*. Don’t believe whatever you hear — believe what you see. And if you apply that to your common sense, you’ll never be in a situation where you hate people and want to put people down.”

“We are a community,” she continued. “We are taking care of each other and respect each other even though we are different, but we are willing to listen. Our country right now, we aren’t there. We love to put people down and say hateful things.”

“I think the people who have that mentality, they don’t take time to understand their neighbors. Deep inside of them they’re probably very unhappy with themselves. You have to be happy with yourself before you can care for others. If you’re not happy with yourself, you’re normally putting your own hatreds and angers on the next person to blame,” she observed.

Director Dinh-Kuno recounted two occasions where she received threatening calls. Four weeks ago on a Friday afternoon, she described a woman who called her, demanding to know where the Afghan refugees were being housed. The woman said she wanted to “come tell them to leave” and that “they aren’t welcome in this community.”

Afterwards, Dinh-Kuno called the police chief to increase patrol in areas where the Afghan families reside.

The second instance exemplifies how misinformation can breed hate. Dinh-Kuno said a man named Mr. Johnson called her recently, explaining how he had heard that 100,000 Afghan refugees were brought to Snohomish County.

“And he’s wondering why they’re coming here and why they’re bringing

them here, saying we’re done helping them,” she said. “And when I talked with him I was really worried.”

She explained to him, “Mr. Johnson, I don’t know how you got this news, but I’m glad you called me and I hope you’re helping to support these Afghan people because in reality, if we brought that many into Snohomish county we’d need 747 flying night and day to bring a hundred thousand people coming in.”

The call ended with her saying, “Mr. Johnson, I appreciate you sharing this with me and I hope you’ll stand side by side with me and help me in supporting these refugees.” He hung up.

But on the other hand, she has received many calls in support with people asking how they can get involved. Volunteers have to undergo a background check before they’re skills are matched with a position. The check is to help ensure that the trust between Dinh-Kuno’s agency and the refugees stays intact, because it would only take one bad actor to ruin the trust she has built and preserved over 30 years in Snohomish County.

“We can’t afford to let any of them get hurt,” she said.

She talked about how 90% of people in the county are supportive of their mission. “I have to say, I’m really proud to live in Snohomish county. I’ve been in Mukilteo for 36 years,” Director Dinh-Kuno said.

“You know, despite everything, Snohomish county is still the best place to live, work, and raise your children.”

The last question the Times asked her was what she would like the City of Lynnwood to do. She responded, saying, “You know the city of Lynnwood is very-very diverse. And I would like to see the city, from the Mayor down to the Council down, take time to listen. Take time to listen to their own community. The one that’s been here or the ones that are just arriving. Get to know them. And partner with them to help make Lynnwood a better place for all.”

Looking to help Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest

To learn more about Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest, visit <https://risnw.org/> or call 425-388-9307.

from page 3 **JOSH BINDA PDC VIOLATIONS**

fee.

Because of company policy, Mary's towing would not disclose to the Times the vehicle information associated with the tow to confirm Binda's claim.

When questioned about the \$968.05 on October 8 for rent to a John Warlick whose real name is Josh Warlick, the manager for Heather Ridge Apartments in Lynnwood who confirmed that Binda does live at the apartment complex, both Binda and Johnson stated that the expense was an accounting error, and it was actually paid to Binda's campaign consultant Riall Johnson and not John Warlick.

Again, without any copies of checks nor bank statements provided by Binda, the Lynnwood Times was not able to confirm their claim. For the record, Josh Warlick denies receiving any check in the amount of \$968.05 from Binda and perplexed why Binda used his name in the original report.

Binda shared that the monies paid to his alleged girlfriend Christy Kioko in the amount of \$1,460 was misreported and were actually for campaign services to manage his social media account and for the reimbursement of a laptop which the campaign had already expensed on April 19, 2021. Binda was unable to provide a W9 for Christy Kioko to confirm she was indeed providing campaign services.

Regarding the \$260.60 Delta Airlines ticket purchased on August 15, Binda told the Lynnwood Times that this was a personal trip to visit his sister in Rhode Island. He would not disclose the nature of the trip but did share that he left for Rhode Island shortly after the Primary Election in August and returned to Washington state six weeks later in September. No receipt nor ticket stub was presented to the Times

to confirm the duration and destination of the trip to Rhode Island.

Binda did stress that he left the campaign debit card in Washington state during his alleged six-week stay in Rhode Island visiting his sister and that any transactions made during this time was by the "campaign volunteer."

NO SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION, RECEIPTS, NOR BANK STATEMENTS

No underlying source documents such as receipts, invoices, copies of contribution checks, copies of canceled checks for expenditures, notes, or other documentation concerning expenditures, orders placed, and loans, were provided for review to the Lynnwood Times during the public inspection of books of account which, according to RCW 42.17A.235.8 and WAC 390-16-043 Section 6, are required by Washington state law. Also, Binda and Johnson did not present any bank statements for review.

What was provided by Binda was a physical 4-page copy of a transaction history search result from a checking account ending in "508" which was not in chronological order, looked as if it were possibly snipped together, filtered to show only debit transactions over \$50, no running cash on-hand or balance for each line item to validate account running balance, and no deposit or credit transactions.

The 4-page filtered debit report did contain a lot of POS (Point-of-Sale) debit transactions, checks paid to Andy Lo, and account transfers to other accounts.

There were multiple withdrawal-only transactions both POS and non-POS to what looked like multiple other accounts. Transaction withdrawals from checking account ending "508" to an account ending in "0613" and a \$1,000 from checking account ending

"508" to a savings account ending "425."

Both Johnson and Binda stated that the savings account is a bank account related to Binda's campaign, but the Times was unable to confirm their claim as no bank statements were provided.

The Lynnwood Times was unable to reconcile all expenses to what was recorded to the C4 expenditure reports and unable to confirm Johnson's earlier claim that all the charges recorded "Expenses of \$50 or less" were in fact campaign related as the Times did not see any transactions less than \$50 in the 4-page filtered debit report presented by Binda and Johnson.

Without seeing bank statements and physical copies of checks, The Lynnwood Times was unable to validate the claims made in the C4 statements and monies reimbursed to the account.

BINDA'S 19 AMENDMENTS TO PDC DOCUMENTS

C-4 Summary Reports summarizes a campaign's financial activity and shows itemized expenditures for a specific period. C-3 Contribution Reports are as its name implies, itemized contributions to a campaign.

According to the Elect Joshua Binda PDC account, the campaign submitted twelve C-3 Contribution and seven C-4 Summary report amendments between October 31 and November 1 after the October 30th Lynnwood Times request to publicly inspect the campaign's books. Each of the amendments were signed by campaign Treasurer Joshua Binda.

Table 2 is a worksheet summarizing all 19 amendments.

According to the PDC campaign reporting database, Joshua Binda has

contributed \$2,943.39 to his campaign, up from \$967.89 prior to the Lynnwood Times telephone interview with Binda on October 30. In amendments to contribution reports submitted on October 31 and November 1, Binda signed off on \$3,777.51 in increased campaign contributions not previously reported to the PDC possibly concealing campaign contributions from public disclosure in violation of RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240.

A \$1,000 contribution from a Abraha Henok on October 8 is no longer reflected on any of the amended reports. Prior to the Lynnwood Times meeting with Binda to inspect his campaign books, Henok contributed a total of \$2,000 to the campaign but now that amount is reduced to \$1,000. The October 8 contribution was signed off by then Treasurer Andy Lo.

A \$250 contribution for Mukilteo City Councilman Louis Harris on October 5 has been replaced with a \$250 contribution on October 3 by the Snohomish Ebony PAC for a total of \$1,000 in contributions to the Binda campaign from this PAC.

According to its website, the Snohomish Ebony PAC, "exists to increase the representation of African Americans in elected positions and to hold all elected officials accountable to our community, regardless of political party affiliation." Mukilteo Councilman Louis Harris is the Treasurer of the Snohomish Ebony PAC which has received a total of \$23,379.36 in contributions. On July 16, Mukilteo Councilman Harris received a total of \$1,000 from this PAC of which he is the Treasurer.

Excluding Binda's \$1,975.50 sudden contribution to his campaign between October 31 and November 1, a total of \$2,802.01 from 22 contributors in previously unreported contributions are now visible on reports and a \$1,000 contribution for an Abraha Henok on October 8 is now missing.

Table 3 is a summary of contribution changes signed by Joshua Binda in 12 C3 amendments.

According to the PDC campaign reporting database, Joshua Binda has signed off on a net reduction of \$4,572.61 impacting 16 previously recorded expenditures to his campaign after the October 30 request by the Lynnwood Times to publicly inspect the Elect Joshua Binda campaign books. Between October 31 and November 1, seven amendments to expenditure reports were submitted by Binda possibly concealing/misappropriating campaign expenditures from public disclosure in violation of RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240.

Table 4 is a summary of expenditure changes signed by Joshua Binda in seven C4 amendments.

In analyzing and comparing the physical C4 Summary reports to the online PDC expenditure reporting database, all of the expenditures associated with the C4 Summary report for reporting period September 1 through October 11 have been removed. Technically, the entire reporting period has been purged and replaced with an amendment for a reporting period of October 12 through October 25.

ORIGINAL PDC SUBMITTED REPORT					AMENDED SUBMITTED REPORT TO THE PDC						
Report Type	Report Submitted	Reporting Period	Report ID	Report Amount	No. of Submittals	Final Report Amend ID	Reporting Period	Report Submitted	Report Amount	Amount Difference	Amendment Report Changes
C4	7/13/2021	6/1 - 7/12	110033310	\$ 4,374.75	1	110059610	Same	11/1/2021	\$ 4,371.11	\$ (3.64)	T-mobile bill adjustment
C4	9/20/2021	7/27-8/31	110048849	\$ 2,699.39	1	110059604	Same	11/1/2021	\$ 2,004.63	\$ (694.76)	Removed: \$260.60 Delta, \$184.16 Concert Tickets, \$250 laptop pmt to Christy Kioko Vendor Change: \$300 pmt from Christy Kioko to Best Buy
C4	10/13/2021	9/1-10/11	110055250	\$ 5,158.01	5	110059850	10/12-10/25	11/1/2021	\$ 1,282.80	\$(3,875.21)	**Final amend missing Period for 9/1-10/11 **3rd amend period changes to 10/12-10/25 **Possibly overwrote period 9/1-10/11 with 3rd amendment **Changes to 9/1-10/11 Period Report up to 2nd amend: - Removed: \$1,527.15 in expenses less than \$50 category, \$326.90 dental work, \$88 neckless, \$99.09 Towing, \$153 phone bill, \$163 haircut, \$411.57 tow, \$250 Prism Washington Literature, \$91.25 concert tickets, \$590 to Christy Kioko for furniture - Changes: \$968.05 to a John Warlick for rent now becomes a pmt to Riall Johnson for consulting services, \$240 to JT Sheffey from groceries to wages, \$250 from Christy Kioko for groceries to Best Buy laptop reimburse to Christy - Cash on hand: Changed from \$278.96 to \$4,682.79 **Changes to 10/12-10/25 Period Report, 2nd to 5th amend: - Carry Forward C4 Expenditures from Previous 9/1-10/11 period dont match and increased by \$2,965.50 - Carry Forward contributions dont match and is reduced by \$250 - Removed: \$500 to Christy Kioko for campaign management, \$153 phone bill
SUMMARY OF ORIGI'L C4 REPORTING AMOUNTS				\$12,232.15	SUMMARY OF AMENDED C4 REPORTING AMOUNTS				\$ 7,658.54	\$(4,573.61)	Net Reduction of of \$4,573.61 in reporting expenditures
C3	9/26/2021	9/21-9/21	110049583	\$ 782.89	1	110059609	same	11/1/2021	\$ 782.89	\$ -	Changed mailing address
C3	9/27/2021	9/26-9/26	110051215	\$ 50.00	1	110059606	same	11/1/2021	\$ 50.00	\$ -	Changed mailing address
C3	10/4/2021	9/29-9/29	110051216	\$ 200.00	1	110059607	same	11/1/2021	\$ 200.00	\$ -	Changed mailing address
C3	10/4/2021	10/2-10/21	110051218	\$ 200.00	1	110059608	same	11/1/2021	\$ 200.00	\$ -	Changed mailing address
C3	10/10/2021	10/8-10/8	110052658	\$ 1,000.00	1	110059560	9/23-9/23	10/31/2021	\$ 2,637.01	\$ 1,637.01	Changed mailing address Removed: \$1,000 from Henok Abraha Added: \$2,637.01 from 16 contributors Added: \$61.54 in small contributions
C3	10/10/2021	10/6-10/6	110052657	\$ 250.00	7	110059847	10/31-10/31	11/1/2021	\$ 2,390.50	\$ 2,140.50	Changed mailing address ***Candidate Personal funds deposited Change: - \$0 (original) to \$1,977.50 (amend 2) to \$173.53 (Amend 4) to \$1,975.50 (amend 6) ***C3 Contributions/Total Funds Received: - 1 cont., \$250 (original) to 5 cont., \$2,392.50 (amend 2) to 5 cont., \$588.53 (Amend 4) to 5 cont., \$2,390.50 (amend 6) ***Other Changes: - Replaced \$250 from Louis Harris to \$250 Snohomish Ebony PAC (amend 7) - Added \$60 in small contributions
SUMMARY OF ORIG'L C3 REPORTING AMOUNTS				\$ 2,482.89	SUMMARY OF AMENDED C3 REPORTING AMOUNTS				\$ 6,260.40	\$ 3,777.51	Net Increase of \$3,777.51 in reporting contributions

TABLE 2: Summary of 19 amendments signed off by Josh Binda after being notified of irregularities by the Lynnwood Times.

from page 11 JOSH BINDA PDC VIOLATIONS

The now missing September 1 through October 11 C4 Report contained \$5,158.01 in suspicious expenditures for rent, groceries, towing, dental work, jewelry, a \$163 haircut, and included \$1,527.15 categorized as “Expenses of \$50 or less.”

When comparing physical C4 reports, the \$968.05 originally reported as rent, was changed on the report as being paid to campaign consultant Riall Johnson. This expenditure is no longer visible in the online expenditure data and is only visible when reviewing the physical C-4 reports. The Lynnwood Times has notified the PDC of this apparent loophole in the internal controls to amend a PDC report.

Carry Forward contribution and expenditure amounts for C4 reports on several amendments did not match. For example, the Carry Forward C4 Expenditures from the previous 9/1-10/11 period increased by \$2,965.50; whereas the contributions were reduced by \$250.

PDC ENFORCEMENT

There are currently two open cases for alleged violations of Washington’s campaign finance and disclosure laws (RCW 42.17A) and rules (WAC 390) against the Elect Joshua Binda campaign.

The existing complaints allege theft or misappropriation of campaign funds for personal use (RCW 42.17A.445 and WAC 390-16-238) and concealment of expenditures (RCW 42.17A.235 and RCW 42.17A.240). Currently pending is a violation of RCW 42.17A.235.6.a for failing to publicly meet within

the required 48-hour timeframe to publicly inspect campaign books, and another for not supplying the required source documents as required by Washington state law WAC 390-16-043(6). Additional violations for the concealment of contributions may be filed as early as Monday, November 8.

When asked of the enforcement process, Kim Bradford, Deputy Director of the PDC told the Lynnwood Times that within the first 10 days of a complaint, PDC staff reviews the validity of the violation claim. If there is sufficient information to support an allegation, a case is opened (posted on the website), and the respondent has 14 days to address the complaint. Staff will then review the respondent’s response and take appropriate action.

Bradford shared that most cases are resolved within 90 days administratively through a reminder, a warning or statement of understanding in which the respondent admits to a violation and pays a penalty.

However, for allegations that require an investigation, a formal investigation is initiated which may take months to resolve. The PDC has subpoena authority to obtain bank records and other source documents to aid in its investigation.

Complaints under formal investigation may lead to possible enforcement action. When and how that happens depends on the outcome of the investigation and if an investigation reveals evidence of a material violation of the laws or rules enforced by the PDC. If a stipulation or settlement is not reached, PDC staff may issue a notice of administrative charges and schedule the matter before the commission as an enforcement matter

in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act.

Washington state law allows complainants to bring lawsuits in the name of the state if the PDC or Attorney General’s Office doesn’t act. If the PDC hasn’t resolved a complaint, referred the matter to the Attorney General’s Office, or opened a formal investigation and held an initial hearing within 90 days of a complaint being filed, complainants can file a 10-day notice signaling their intent to go to court.

BINDA’S STATEMENT TO LYNNWOOD RESIDENTS

Binda wanted residents to know that he is an accountable person and “taking the necessary steps to fix the accounting errors.” During our meeting on November 1 with both Binda and Johnson, The Lynnwood Times was informed by both of them that Binda has reimbursed the campaign for non-campaign related expenses.

Binda also shared that he intends to fully cooperate with the PDC.

TABLE 4: Summary of expenditure changes signed by Joshua Binda in seven C4 amendments

ORIGINALLY REPORTED		AMENDED BETWEEN OCT 31 AND NOV 1		
Vendors and Recipients	Amount	Vendors and Recipients	Amount	Difference
76	\$73.01	76	\$73.01	\$ -
ACTBLUE	\$144.66	ACTBLUE	\$144.66	\$ -
All Smiles Family Dental	\$326.90			\$(326.90)
ALPHAGRAPHICS	\$250.43	ALPHAGRAPHICS	\$250.43	\$ -
AXS	\$91.25			\$(91.25)
BARTELL DRUGS	\$69.59	BARTELL DRUGS	\$69.59	\$ -
BEST BUY	\$773.49	BEST BUY	\$1,073.49	\$300.00
BINDA JOSHUA	\$42.00	BINDA JOSHUA	\$42.00	\$ -
BLACK COFFEE	\$80.00	BLACK COFFEE	\$80.00	\$ -
CHAMBERS BAY	\$53.15	CHAMBERS BAY	\$53.15	\$ -
DELTA	\$260.60			\$(260.60)
EMPIRE BANQUET HALL	\$3,951.00	EMPIRE BANQUET HALL	\$3,951.00	\$ -
EXPENSES OF \$50 OR LESS	\$4,952.12	EXPENSES OF \$50 OR LESS	\$4,622.29	\$(329.83)
FEDEX OFFICE	\$96.63	FEDEX OFFICE	\$96.63	\$ -
FRED MEYER	\$57.28	FRED MEYER	\$57.28	\$ -
Infinity Body Jewery	\$88.00			\$(88.00)
International Auto	\$99.09			\$(99.09)
John Warlick	\$968.05			\$(968.05)
JT Sheffey	\$348.00	JT Sheffey	\$108.00	\$(240.00)
KIOKO CHRISTY	\$1,460.00	KIOKO CHRISTY	\$70.00	\$(1,390.00)
LO ANDY	\$900.00	LO ANDY	\$900.00	\$ -
MACY’S	\$130.90	MACY’S	\$130.90	\$ -
MARYS TOWING	\$823.14	MARYS TOWING	\$411.57	\$(411.57)
NOI THAI	\$74.02	NOI THAI	\$74.02	\$ -
OFFICE DEPOT	\$345.71	OFFICE DEPOT	\$345.71	\$ -
PRISM WASHINGTON	\$3,468.25	PRISM WASHINGTON	\$3,218.25	\$(250.00)
RUFFIN HOSHEA	\$65.00	RUFFIN HOSHEA	\$65.00	\$ -
SHELL	\$125.55	SHELL	\$125.55	\$ -
SKY PRINTING	\$330.00	SKY PRINTING	\$330.00	\$ -
SMART FOODSERVICE	\$66.13	SMART FOODSERVICE	\$66.13	\$ -
SNAP CUSTOM CLOTHING	\$165.75	SNAP CUSTOM CLOTHING	\$165.75	\$ -
STATE OF WA	\$198.00	STATE OF WA	\$198.00	\$ -
STRIPE	\$56.03	STRIPE	\$56.03	\$ -
THREE GIRLS COLLABORATIVE	\$75.00	THREE GIRLS COLLABORATIVE	\$75.00	\$ -
T-MOBILE	\$756.85	T-MOBILE	\$600.21	\$(156.64)
Tory Fletcher	\$162.00			\$(162.00)
VANTIV	\$216.75	VANTIV	\$302.23	\$85.48
VIVID SEATS	\$184.16			\$(184.16)
WA STATE DEMOCRATS	\$461.15	WA STATE DEMOCRATS	\$461.15	\$ -
WALMART	\$143.79	WALMART	\$143.79	\$ -
WINCO FOODS	\$160.35	WINCO FOODS	\$160.35	\$ -
ZOOM	\$110.46	ZOOM	\$110.46	\$ -
TOTAL ORIGINAL	\$23,204.24	TOTAL AFTER AMENDMENTS	\$18,631.63	\$(4,572.61)

TABLE 3: Summary of contribution changes signed by Joshua Binda in 12 C3 amendments

CONTRIBUTOR	AS OF OCT 30	AS OF NOV 1	DIFFERENCE
ABRAHA HENOK	\$2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$(1,000.00)
BONTJE NORM	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
BRODERHAUSEN RACHEL	\$140.00	\$ 150.00	\$10.00
CRIDDLE KAREN	\$192.31	\$ 384.62	\$192.31
CROCKER NINA	\$25.01	\$ 50.02	\$25.01
DAMRON HEATHER	\$300.00	\$ 325.00	\$25.00
GOLDWARG JORDAN	\$500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$500.00
HARRIS LOUIS	\$250.00	\$ -	\$(250.00)
Joshua Binda (Josh Binda)	\$967.89	\$ 2,943.39	\$1,975.50
KAUFFMAN MARY	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
KENNEDY JOHN	\$40.00	\$ 60.00	\$20.00
KETCHAM SALLY	\$108.15	\$ 216.30	\$108.15
LAINE KRISTEN	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
LIPSCOMB RUTH	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
MARKLYN HOLLY	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
MARKLYN WILLIAM	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
MILLER FERNELL	\$350.00	\$ 400.00	\$50.00
RENSCHLER KATHERINE	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
SILVERTON LAURA	\$250.00	\$ 500.00	\$250.00
SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,610.54	\$ 1,732.08	\$121.54
SNOHOMISH EBONY PAC	\$750.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$250.00
THOMPSON DAVID	\$100.00	\$ 200.00	\$100.00
VILLARREAL SOL	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
VOGEL TODD	\$50.00	\$ 100.00	\$50.00
WILLIAMS BROOKE	\$150.00	\$ 300.00	\$150.00
TOTALS	\$8,983.90	\$12,761.41	\$3,777.51