



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Governor

FROM: Gerry Thompson

SUBJECT: Paul Aronson

DATE: April 9, 1985

At 1:35 p.m. today I advised Paul Aronson he would not be reappointed to the Parole Board. His term expires 6/30/85.

Paul asked why and I gave him the complete scenario. I told him we had been concerned about the environment surrounding the the board and had been reviewing the entire situation for some time, as he well knew. He interrupted with: "you have made the wrong decision."

I reminded him of the first confrontation he and I had. It was confrontational, it was threatening and it was damning. The gist of his conversation was that the Governor had made the wrong appointments to the board, that Hazel Hayes was in general terms an evil person and recited to him his many allegations. I then reminded him of our second meeting in front of Hazel and how he reversed those stories and had nothing but glowing praise for Hazel. I then reminded him of the third meeting in front of the Governor when he related a third story.

He asked me to believe him, that he had never involved himself in the political dynamics going on with the board. He then got angry and started to walk out. I asked him to be seated again and reminded him that his actions were not in his favor, that he needed to discuss the situation as an adult so that we could both lay our cards on the table. He calmed down, but then immediately launched into continued accusations against Hazel Hayes, the Corrections Division and other board members. He asked me point blank if Doug Dinsmore would be reappointed. I told him first, it really was not for him to know one way or the other and second, Doug Dinsmore's appointment is not up for review and would not be for another year.

He then assured me we could expect the board to be sued within the next six months and the board would be unable to defend themselves. This has something to do with the parole analysts and their transfer from the actual operation of the board. If you will recall, this is a result of the pilot project done by the Corrections Division.



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Once he calmed down, I assured him he should not take this personally, that he should regard it as an opportunity and perhaps in the end he would be a better man as a result of it all. He and I agreed our conversation would remain confidential until the end of his term at which time his replacement would be announced. In the meantime I agreed to assist him in finding another job within state government either in the corrections field, human resources or even perhaps the Department of Commerce. He asked for exactly the same salary and I told him his expectations were probably too high.

He reminded me he has always been the fair haired boy and always gotten what he wanted. I told him perhaps that was part of his problem.

He advised me he had "busted his butt" for the board and recited the many hours he has spent in overtime. I told him that was truly appreciated, we knew he had worked hard and that we respected his knowledge in the corrections field. We agreed that he should learn from this experience and begin to look to the future and not make the same mistakes again.

I will now make inquiries for him to help him find another slot in state government.

He reiterated his high regard for you and said he would be willing to serve where ever the Governor asked.

cc: Ede Schmidt