

Memo

To: Commission

From: Wayne Barnett

Date: November 26, 2014

Re: Merit leave

As you go about deliberating on what (if any) merit leave to award me for 2014, here are some notes and observations on this year:

- In April I was named Public Employee of the Year by the Municipal League.
- We successfully designed and implemented training around the new Whistleblower Protection Code this year. Already more than 2,000 employees have taken the on-line Whistleblower Code training and many others have received or signed up to receive live training. This is the first wide-scale on-line training effort ever undertaken by a City agency.
- We successfully oversaw two contentious ballot measure campaigns. We provided a tremendous amount of advice and training to both the Parks Department and the Office for Education on their communications around those ballot measures. We worked (and continue to work) with the Seattle Channel to address issues surrounding their programming. We investigated and resolved numerous complaints of elections code violations this year.
- We successfully onboarded a new administration, anticipating ethical issues and working proactively to resolve them before they became the subject of complaints. Notably, we provided advice to the Mayor on limitations imposed on him under the Ethics Code by virtue of his spouse's City employment.

- We successfully wound down a three-year contract with the Seattle Public Schools, and worked to ensure a successful transition of our responsibilities to the District's Internal Auditor.
- We oversaw the production of two voters' pamphlets and, for the first time ever, two off-year video voters' guides. Each of the voters' pamphlets required special attention because each was the subject of legal challenge.