

Palin's "abuse of power"

The creep married to Sarah Palin's younger sister tasered his stepson, poached a moose, threatened to kill his father-in-law and has a trooper jacket full of reprimands.

And he's still an Alaskan state trooper?

If Ben Peech had been shown a fraction of that tolerance, he'd still be busting drug traffickers on Wyoming interstates.

The difference in treatment?

It might be that Alaska has a trooper's union representing those undeserving while Ben was in the process of forming an organization for deserving troopers in Wyoming. That might account for the handling of these two cases.

The overweight trooper up there was not fired. He still has his job. The safety commissioner wasn't fired, either. He quit his position rather than accept a reassignment which involved trying to reduce drunk driving on Alaska roads. He sued for wrongful termination and lost.

Whether Sarah Palin or family members or political allies stepped a bit across the line or not should be considered in context. We'd have all done the same thing.

The yahoo who should have been fired, regardless of whom his ex-wife was, still has his job. He has admitted to most of the allegations against him.

Having both sisters and daughters, and now even granddaughters, I can relate to the actions of Alaska's "First Dude" and others. They didn't do anything wrong.

The overweight bully who had been Sarah Palin's brother-in-law was contesting custody with his ex-wife. How many family members and friends would want a clown who tasered a pre-teen stepson to have anything beyond supervised visitation with children - his or anyone else's?

For a gal who can kill and field dress a moose and a guy who wins 500 mile endurance snow "machine" races, they could have chosen a less civilized way of dealing with the freak. Nothing deadly, of course. But to make a telephone call or two to inform superiors what kind of state trooper was on the highway seems like a reasonable course of action.

Sure as hell, if the still-employed state trooper shot and killed a motorist during a routine traffic stop and it came to light that the Palin family was familiar with the guy's propensity for violence, people would have called for their heads for remaining silent.

The safety director has always said no one demanded that he fire the trooper. He "assumes" his inaction led to the request for him to agree to a transfer, which he declined and quit. So, he was psychic and now knows just what the Palin family meant when they did their duty and let him know that one of his troopers threatened to kill his father-in-law.

Perhaps the safety director was too understanding of the trooper. After all, he himself had been accused by an ex-wife (when she sought a restraining order against him 14 years ago) of threatening to kill her and dump her body in a cold Alaskan river. Birds of a feather.

Wyo Vets care is unimportant to a Denver bureaucrat

If only John McCain and Barack Obama knew what was happening in the real world of military veterans and their health care issues.

When they stand in front of a national audience and promise only the best care for our veterans and how no benefits will be taken from those who have served their country - especially during times of war and in areas of combat.

If only they knew.

It seems like just yesterday I wrote about the vacancy in an authorized position for a benefits representative out-placed at the Sheridan VA Hospital. Then I wrote in praise of Wyoming's congressional delegation, all three of them, and the Democratic governor, for putting the necessary pressure on a Denver bureaucrat, through her boss, to get the position filled.

The female bureaucrat has stubbornly held out for limiting access to critical information for veterans to video conferencing rather than a full-time Veterans Service Representative in Sheridan. She reluctantly hired a VSR last year when ordered to by her superior.

The person hired last year was soon "terminated due to alleged illegal activities regarding veteran finances."

To shortchange veterans in northeastern Wyoming and that region is unconscionable. When the government has \$700 billion to provide an industry that failed in its mission, we cannot fail in ours by not adequately providing this veteran's service. As more veterans need assistance and as a remote psychiatric hospital, Sheridan should receive special consideration, not less than is customary.

The volume of work for such a VSR justifies a full-time employee and the fact that the Denver bureaucrat is incapable of hiring the right one should lead to that responsibility being relieved of her. To provide the promised service to veterans of that area by teleconferencing is an insult. Perhaps it is her job that should be handled with a camera and monitor.

To hear the insincere and empty promises of candidates now is sickening. They may well want veterans to receive the benefits and care they were promised but theirs are empty words until someone does something to provide that care.

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The "meth house"

The Colorado owner of the house in The Avenues that was labeled a meth house by local police chief Bob Fecht for his own advantages was in town the other day.

We met face-to-face for the first time and although the meeting was brief, I gained some updates on what is happening with that property and confirmed that the police chief has never made an effort to contact this owner about what he believed the condition of the house to be.

The owner was in Cheyenne with a friend to mow the grass and cut weeds at the house. Interestingly, this was not the first time the same police department that could not reach the owner to discuss the potential manufacture of meth inside his house has always been able to reach him when the grass needed mowed or weeds cut. The owner had paid a young fellow in town who was supposed to tend to that chore but was not totally reliable.

So, the two of them drove up from Boulder to perform a job that would take 5-10 minutes. There are properties all over the

city with weeds up to your rear-end but this is the rare property where tall grass creates a "nuisance," it seems.

While he was here, he finally took down the anonymously posted "Warning" sign on the front door of his property that said it was a meth house but took no credit for whom had posted it - and provided no contact info. He had contacted DEA, whose sign it is, and they said they had not posted such a sign and CPD denied they had, so he removed it from the door.

He also provided me a copy of a letter to the editor written by a brother of the guy who had lived in the house during the last years of his life - when the "manufacture" of meth was to have taken place. *No meth was ever manufactured there, according to the court case files on the matter.* Just "cleaning" meth. Bad, but not the same danger level of manufacturing. The letter was supportive of the owner and the writer's brother and presented a side never offered to residents of Cheyenne. The WT-E would not publish it because it took a contrary view to theirs. Later, I will.