



Building Industry Association of Washington

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NEWS RELEASE

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Pierce County Lies, But to Whom Are They Lying?

OLYMPIA—In response to a public records request made by BIAW on September 25, 2007 for “any and all records relating to Pierce County’s investigation of possible voter fraud by the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) during the 2006 election,” Pierce County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Allen Rose responded that no such records exist.

Rose explains that Pierce County has “no records responsive to your [BIAW’s] request” because “Pierce County did not do its own investigation.”

BIAW finds this perplexing. In a July 21, 2007 *Seattle Times*’ article, Rose told reporter Keith Ervin that “Pierce County authorities are investigating whether hundreds of voter-registration cards were fraudulently filled out by paid [ACORN] canvassers before the 2006 election.” While withholding specifics of the “criminal investigation,” Rose tells Ervin it “involves about 400 registration forms returned to election officials as undeliverable.” In addition, Rose informs Ervin that Pierce County expects to “conclude the investigation in about a month.”

Yet now, in response to BIAW’s request for public records related to Pierce County’s “criminal investigation,” Rose claims Pierce County did not perform an investigation after all.

“Either Rose lied to the *Times*, and the general public, or he is lying to BIAW,” said BIAW Executive Vice President Tom McCabe. “Which is it?”

Known as the “voice of the housing industry,” the Building Industry Association of Washington is the largest trade association in Washington State, representing over 350,000 families and 12,700 member companies involved in the homebuilding business.