

# **The Thunderbolt**

## **Special Edition: Lynching – Liberal Style!**

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You remember the old western movies where the mob tries to break the innocent prisoner out of the jail before his trial and then ‘string him up’? The practice is called ‘lynching’.

Liberals have come up with a new twist on the practice...

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The courtroom hearing to determine the facts in the Battle of *Media Island vs. Dana* has taken place and I was completely vindicated. It took me a few hours to come up with it, but I finally thought of the perfect metaphor for what happened in that courtroom: I was challenged to a duel on a field of my challenger’s choice. I showed up armed with a machine gun loaded with armour-piercing rounds — only to discover that my challengers had showed up with rusty Boy Scout knives.

Then — the instant the duel started — my opponents promptly used their rusty Boy Scout knives to slice their own throats open...

I didn’t really win, but they most certainly did lose. Since (as I’ve said all along) the Jimmy/Shawna gang have been lying through their teeth this entire time they had absolutely no evidence of any kind whatsoever to back any of their allegations and so the judge threw the case out before I had a chance to mount my defense/offense — meaning that while Shawna could not prove her case, I never got the chance to prove mine, i.e. that the management over at Media Island has actually been ‘harassing’ me rather than the other way around — and unlike them I had filed a small mountain of actual evidence that was actually legally admissible to prove my case beyond a reasonable doubt.

However, evidently the Membership Committee at the Olympia Food CoOp feels they are more qualified to judge the facts than a court of law. Evidently liberals — being the friendly socially conscious naïve do-gooders that they are — at least they wait until *after* you are found innocent at trial before they lynch you!

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I am writing my story about the court hearing and I will be publishing that story in the next regular edition of the *Thunderbolt*...

...but the very next day after the hearing yet another shoe dropped and I feel this new development justifies yet another Special Edition.

After I was completely exonerated in the court I contacted the Membership Committee at the CoOp and offered to accept their apologies.

The CoOp responded thusly:

Hello Dana,

Thank you for the update on your court case. We'll forward your statement to our Staff at your request.

Throughout this matter the Staff involved have attempted to be deliberate, thorough and even-handed with our investigation, whilst holding the intention to resolve this member complaint through restorative practices, thereby honoring you, and Shawna, and our organizational values. We're disappointed in the tone of your email in regards to this process. As you'll surely agree, our work as white people is to dismantle white supremacy. Yet, our solidarity does not always look like high-profile social activism, political analysis, nor feel good inspirational treatises of allyship. It can also look like a decision to exercise restraint, swallow our pride, and nurse some of our professional and emotional lumps and bruises, quietly, rather than inflict additional hardship onto a marginalized person. When we feel entitled to speak, even self-righteously or duty-bound, it helps to be mindful of the power of the Internet to seduce and recruit every nasty element in society to our cause and out of proportion, if there is a marginalized target; and finally, to remember that our rights to free speech

were only ever intended to protect our criticism of the government.

The Member Relations Committee has never believed it to be your intention to put Shawna in any physical danger. Yet, your online activities still carry the potential to do so. Whilst the court ruled that your speech did not constitute the legal definition of harassment, this does not remove you from the consequences of that speech. In order for the Co-op to consider that you are in alignment with our value of Anti-Oppression and continue to provide our endorsement of your tabling activities on our properties, we ask you to demonstrate accountability for the role you've played in the tremendous fear Shawna expressed as a Black Woman whom you've doxed online for performing her work duties, within a community where she is still relatively new. This occurred whilst Black Women professors at Evergreen are being threatened with death, and another Black Woman is found tortured, her dead body covered in feces, and whilst Nazis are rallying openly at the college. Because the Co-op also holds the value of Restorative Justice, we've collaborated with our Anti-Oppression Team and our Conflict Resolution Team to craft the attached set of Behavioral Agreements, as a possible path forward. You'll be required to complete these steps before your Tabling Application can be reviewed in the future. The Co-op will pay the costs associated with trainings required in these Behavioral Agreements, because we want to give you every opportunity to benefit from learning and growth. We've also attached our completed update of the Co-op Tabling Policies and Guidelines. With this draft, we've created two time slots for each store: 9 am-1 pm and 2 pm-6 pm. If you complete the steps in the Behavioral Agreements and your tabling privileges are reinstated, you'll be required to limit your tabling to two of these slots per store, per week, and to sit or stand only in the designated tabling areas away from the front door for the comfort of our shoppers. This arrangement applies equally to all Tabling Applicants. Feel free to email us with any questions you may have. We do not feel another meeting is necessary, as our decision-making process is

complete. If you would like to appeal this decision, you may contact our Board of Directors.

Sincerely, Robyn and Tamara , Staff Representatives. Member Relations Committee

Olympia Food Co-op

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And here are the conditions they chose to impose upon me for my 'crime':

**Behavior Agreements for Dana Walker**

I, Dana Walker, acknowledge that:

I. The Olympia Food Co-op (Co-op) received a complaint about my potentially dangerous online behavior towards another member, who is a woman of color.

II. The Co-op is committed to values of anti-oppression and restorative justice.

III. The Co-op Tabling Guidelines require that all approved Tabling Applicants be aligned with their organizational values, because allowing community members a platform on Co-op property is effectively endorsing these individuals to the community, along with their projects.

IV. In order to receive the endorsement of The Co-op by granting my future Tabling Applications, I am being asked to participate in restorative justice practices that demonstrate my willingness to learn about the potentially dangerous impacts of my online behavior as a white man, towards a woman of color.

V. The Co-op is placing my tabling application on hold for a period of one year. During the on-hold period, I agree to accomplish the following goals as a condition of future consideration of reinstatement of tabling privileges at both Co-op stores:

1.) I will refrain from shopping at the Eastside Co-op on Saturdays, per my suggestion;

2.) When shopping at the Eastside Co-op, if I see Shawna Hawk, I will leave immediately;

2.) I will attend an approved oppression awareness training;

3.) I will attend eight hours of anger management training;

- 4.) I will delete my online posts referencing Shawna Hawk;
- 5.) I will announce in my publication, the Thunderbolt, the following points:
  - a) Within this climate of white male hate and intolerance, the potential exists for my online behavior to incite racist sexist violence, even when this was not my intention.
  - b) I now understand that I created a potentially dangerous situation by *doxing* (1) Shawna Hawk, a woman of color, in her home and place of business.
  - c) I denounce, any acts of violence motivated by my online behavior toward Shawna Hawk, and will personally attempt to prevent such acts, should they be made known to me.
  - d) Whether or not I agree with the decisions made by the leadership at Media Island Inc., I accept that Shawna Hawk and I share the same community, and I support her right to exist here in peace and safety.

VI. I will maintain contact with the Member Relations Committee via email for the purpose of scheduling my classes, and will seek support in achieving these goals when necessary. In May of 2019, I will check in with The Co-op Member Relations Committee to share my progress on the above goals.

VII. I understand that these agreements are binding and non-negotiable and that failure to uphold them will result in the revocation of all future tabling privileges at Olympia Food Co-op.

VIII. I understand that these arrangements are being offered to me as a result of the long history of collaboration I have enjoyed with the Co-op, and that such consideration would not necessarily be offered to another tabling applicant under similar circumstances. These arrangements represent a level of confidence and support the organization holds for me, and serve as an attempt to restore my standing in the community by demonstrating my alignment with anti-oppression values.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

**(1) doxing:** the Internet-based practice of researching and broadcasting private or identifiable information about an individual or organization.

## **Resources**

**Member Relations Committee:**  
[memberrelations@olympiafood.coop](mailto:memberrelations@olympiafood.coop)

**Conflict Resolution Team:**  
[conres@olympiafood.coop](mailto:conres@olympiafood.coop)

**Anti-Oppression Coordination Action Team:**

[aocat@olympiafood.coop](mailto:aocat@olympiafood.coop)

Anger Management Classes Online:

<https://www.angerclassonline.com/Anger-Management-Washington-Thurston-County.aspx>

APA Anger Management Pamphlet:

<https://www.apa.org/topics/anger/control.aspx>

Anger Management Hotline:

Safe Horizon offers support, anger management counseling, and resources to those who need assistance controlling their anger **1-800-621-HOPE (4673)**

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Wow. I mean, like — wow.

(Deep breath...)

Ok. Wow. Here is my response: