

Blowin' in the wind

ALERT: #235 DATE: April 15, 2010 **TO:** Incline Village & Crystal Bay Property Owners **FROM:** Village League Tax Revolt Committee

Dear Incline Village & Crystal Bay Property Taxpayers,

The following article published in the **Nevada Policy Research Institute's** (NPRI) e-Bulletin was written by our own **Les Barta**, as a contributing writer.

Best Regards, **Wayne Fischer**, Webmaster Nevada Property Tax Revolt
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Nevada Policy Research Institute's e-Bulletin www.NPRI.org

Blowin' in the wind Nevada officials face no consequences for ignoring the law By Les Barta

Remember the computer "Hal," in Stanley Kubrick's movie 2001? After becoming self-aware, Hal abandoned its mission of service for that of self-preservation.

The same thing is happening in government today. Traditional principles such as "public service" and "fiduciary duty" are evaporating as government officials become aware that they can ignore the law and pursue their own agendas without fear of consequences.

This nation was founded as a republic, to be governed not by the will of persons with agendas, but by the rule of law. Public officials at all levels have a fiduciary obligation and take an oath to uphold the law. They must diligently observe the Constitution, the statutes, the regulations, and the rulings of the Supreme Court, both in spirit and letter. Their policies and actions must guarantee the rights and interests of the citizens they serve.

Recently, all 9,000 residential taxpayers in Incline Village and Crystal Bay received final decisions from county and state boards of equalization, rolling back unconstitutional 2006 property-tax valuations to 2002 levels. By law, Washoe County must pay refunds for any taxes that exceed those values. In three major decisions, the Supreme Court has ruled that unconstitutional assessments are void and that refunds plus interest must be paid for the excess taxes. Yet the Washoe County commissioners and treasurer, led by the district attorney, still refuse to pay.

- [To read the rest of the article, please click on this link](#)

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- **Les Barta**, Law Research
- **John Carney**, Analyst
- **Wayne Fischer**, Webmaster
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