

My name is [REDACTED]. I am the [REDACTED] for Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency. I have enjoyed my time with the agency for the most part. I have experienced and witnessed inappropriate comments/ "jokes" that have not only made me uncomfortable but made me not want to come to work. The agency does not have an HR to go to when the issues are with the Executive Director. I have reported all incidents to Mark Edler as he is the most senior staff. I understand that he has no authority. The reason for this letter is to inform you of an incident I had witnessed.

On Thursday April 3, 2025 Marc Thornsbury walked into the front reception area. [REDACTED] was sitting on a stool sorting registration paper work. I heard Marc say to her "finally I got you on your knees" to which [REDACTED] replied "what?!?! I'm on a stool" Marc then said "well I got you half way there, don't worry I have time. Eventually I will get you on your knees" At this point I got up and walked away. I was extremely uncomfortable and started down the hall to get Mark Elder. I stopped before getting there. It wasn't my story to tell. I went back to check on [REDACTED]. I found her shaking and teary eyed. I asked her if she needed me to cover so she can get some air. She said she didn't know what to do. I took her outside and was trying to calm her when she said "I don't know why he had to bring you into it as well." I asked her what did she mean. She then asked me "isn't that why you're upset? You heard him say it about you?" I told her no I had gotten up and walked away because I couldn't stand hearing what he said to her. She then told me that he had stated "the only way to make it complete is to get [REDACTED] on her knees."

As you can imagine this was incredibly uncomfortable. I then had to spend the rest of the day working side by side with Marc on the budget and try to act normal.

On another occasion I had been having a conversation with [REDACTED]. He is one of the compliance crew. They have badges to identify themselves. I had joked about needing my own badge. I had a sticker badge made (my own time and my own funds) as a joke and would occasionally flash my badge at them. Well on this day while talking with [REDACTED] my badge was brought up and he was telling Marc about how funny it was and Marc turned it inappropriate and said "I dont know about all that but I dont want to hear about her flashing anyone in the office" and he smirked and laughed. He took something fun and light hearted and turned it disgusting and made me feel so disrespected and uncomfortable I just walked off.

Against my fiance, family, and friends wishes I let it go. How do you confront the person who holds all the power? How do you tell them without any sort of protection from retaliation? This time I can't just let it go. There have been other comments as well. Just feels isolating when there is no way to report it or any accountability for him.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]