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2020 will be my 40th year in business. My wife and I now own 5 separate business entities. None were family businesses or established businesses. They were all start-up ventures. All 5 are permitted and regulated differently. After 40 years of navigating a myriad of regulations, inspectors, regulatory changes and changes in the personnel who write or enforce the regulations. I've come to realize that the regulations are not the problem. It's the individuals who write and enforce them with no accountability for their actions. Let me be specific.

My first business was the taxidermy studio. In April of 1993 I was raided by 11 Game Commission officers with at least that many located at various points of Arendtsville as back up. Too make a long story concise. The raid was politically motivated. I was cleared of any wrong doing. They tried to initially defend the warrantless search as legitimate because they had a regulation on the books that said if you had a permit from them a warrant was not required. A federal judge ruled the regulation unconstitutional. In the end, after 7 years in federal court and legal fees in excess of \$100,000, I received a small stipend settlement for my trouble. During the 7 years I was threatened with IRS and PA Dept. of Revenue audits if I continued to go to PA legislators and Senators for help. I nearly lost my business. It nearly ruined my marriage. On the other hand, there was a huge administrative house cleaning in the PA. Game Commission. It was from the Executive Director right down through law enforcement and regional directors. They all got a window of opportunity for early retirement with full state pensions. This is not accountability or punishment.

In 1987, I started buying rental properties regulated by local ordinances written by local residents with their own personal agenda to

fulfill with their new found authority. I've fought a lot of them for the last 32 years at my own expense, not the taxpayers.

In 2002 I started Keystone Fur Dressing, Inc., a wholesale tannery for the taxidermy industry. With a loan from Adams County Economic Development it has created numerous jobs and is a financial success. However, first problem was to get rid of our waste water. I met with Possum Valley Municipal Authority and their engineer who came up with an acceptable rate of flow that could be manageable at the plant. A few months into the start-up we were paying more for weekly lab testing than it cost to have the waste water trucked to Manheim and be treated. Later it was discovered that the plant operator was misappropriating money. He was offering deals to customers and for the most part running his own thieftom. So, I disconnected and trucked everything to Manheim. Several years ago when the sewer plant started seeing regular spikes in acid (low ph) somehow I got accused of secretly sending my effluent with a supposed terribly harsh acid to the plant. The pump on the property burned up and DEP was called to investigate the acid which was supposedly dumped in the system and dissolved the stainless steel nuts that were missing on the pump. The evidence was loose nuts on the bolts and missing nuts. Regardless, DEP showed up unannounced. I was in the north mountain in Cumberland County hunting. DEP refused to make an appointment and refused to leave until I returned. I came back with a bit of an attitude but showed them around. There was nothing hazardous on the property and after Possum Valley Municipal Authority did a smoke test, they found no pipes hooked to their system. I applied for a permit to put in a sand mound. Our weekly flow is only 3000 gallons. When the Menallen Township SEO came out to inspect the probe, DEP came along. The probe was fine but DEP would not allow it due to the salt content in our waste water. It's funny, Penn Dot puts salt on the highways and I

donate my used granular salt to Penn Dot for use on the highway but DEP said I can't put it in a sand mound. I demanded the rejection in writing and the response was it's up to the local authority, Menallen Township. So I went to the meeting and requested a sand mound permit and was denied. Well at the time there happened to be 2 other local taxidermist doing their own tanning and dumping into a conventional system. The township's response was I could dump into a conventional system if it already existed. I am in the old Pfaltzcraft building and hooked into their old system. DEP shows back up unannounced after another call from Possum Valley Municipal authority that I was dumping acid into their sewer plant. That meeting was ugly after I demanded a search warrant and got my attorneys on the phone. The result was a letter from Menallen giving me 30 days to disconnect but the other 2 taxidermy businesses were allowed to continue dumping into their conventional systems. I talked to the President of the board of Supervisors and advised him of discrimination. He told me DEP threatened to withhold state funding if I wasn't shut down. So we disconnected and still use Klein's to haul to Manheim. I was charged for the pump that went bad and have fought them for several years. The Possum Valley Municipal Authority board was invited for a tour of my facility and to view the MSDS sheets. They declined. They never attended any meetings or depositions. I got an email from the President of the board that said "It seems unjust to ask little old ladies and not well off community members to subsidize a couple thriving businesses that seem to be the cause of a minor equipment failure".

In the end it cost me thousands of dollars in legal fees and I still paid for a pump that I didn't ruin. DEP gave me a written clean bill of health at our facility.

In 2005 I started an import company to import foreign sport hunted trophies for my clients hunting abroad. I went to CBP for advice on how to do it lawfully. I followed their instructions and cleared shipments for several years until ICE decided I was not following proper protocol. After legal fees and mitigating the fines I came away with about \$30,000 out of pocket. All the while CBP cleared the shipments as being totally lawful and following protocol.

As part of the import business I got certified as a USDA Approved Establishment which means I can receive and disinfect USDA restricted items from foreign countries. For example, birds from countries with Avian Flu or swine from countries with African Swine Fever. My latest inspector came the first day and admitted he had no training. Therefore it was required that I train him. I am now dealing with an inspector who is improvising and making regulations that are not written and haven't been passed. After several formal complaints he is now accompanied by a second inspector to witness the inspection. So now an agency that claims to be under funded and under staffed is paying for 2 people to do the job of one. In private industry he'd be fired.

The ongoing problem is the regulations are being used and abused by the inspectors or administrators to fulfill their own self-serving agenda at the expense of the businesses and taxpayers.

On the other hand through the years, I have worked with some wonderful individuals who have used common sense. Most of those people were quickly promoted on to higher positions.

Here are my five businesses:

1. Showers Taxidermy
2. Keystone Fur Dressing, Inc – wholesale tanners for taxidermists nationwide

3. Mass Expediting, Inc. – import and clear foreign sport hunted trophies for clients nationwide
4. Showers Fruit Farm
5. Showers Rentals and Residential Rentals