

March 8, 2018

To:  
Secretary of the Interior Zinke  
1849 C Street NW  
Main Interior Building  
Washington DC  
and  
Interior Office of the Inspector General

Mr. Secretary,

I am writing this after weeks of careful thought about relaying this information. After listening to you to speak in Main Interior last month, I am going to assume you will take this seriously, as you expressed to all of us. I cannot sign this for what should be obvious reasons-there will be retaliation and I have no doubt that our new Acting Director Smith will make sure I am fired or relocated to some other job.

I am an in the Administration ranks at the National Park Service and work in Main Interior. I am a mother, single parent, am dedicated to the NPS mission and work very hard at my job to do it well. What I am going to relay below is fact and I hope that you investigate-because never could anyone have made this scenario up. It should also be stated that I do not really know our new Acting Director at all. So, I don't know if he always acts and speaks like this but if he does, it seems to me with all the Service is going through in regards to sexual harassment, this needs to be taken seriously.

The day that you met with many of the senior leaders down in the auditorium is when this occurred-after that second day of meetings. That would be about January 10-11, I believe.

I was working in my office in the hallway and heard several voices. I got up to close my door as it was distracting and loud and some rather vulgar language being used by one of the men. And as I did, I looked outside of my office in the hallway. Two men were conversing-I did recognize one as the Alaska Regional Director who also served as our Acting Deputy Director earlier last year. The other I learned was Mr. Smith who was talking to him about flying in Alaska-I didn't catch all of the conversation but when I looked outside of my office-Smith was relaying a story and then all of the sudden grabbed his crotch and his penis and acted out as though he was urinating on the wall-that is how it appeared-or it could have been a sexual act-regardless, he grabbed his crotch and penis in a public place.. I really could not believe what I was seeing or hearing just outside of my office. I found it so vile and disgusting. I then realized that this was Dan Smith, our new Acting Director and the political appointed Deputy Director. I was so afraid to be seen, let alone relay this.

I am not a prude, but still cannot believe he was acting this out in the hallway of the NPS. I do not want this to happen to anyone else or have to be exposed to this kind of unacceptable behavior. Beside myself, I am sure the Alaska Regional Director could verify that this happened. I wish I could come forward, but retaliation is real.

Please do not leave this man in a position of authority. If you meant your words about dealing with unacceptable behavior-then act. Please, take this seriously and investigate.

From a concerned and violated NPS employee

cc:  
NPS NTEU Chapter 296, WASO; NPS Ombudsman, PEER