## 310 MINI TRAININGS

COMPLAINTS





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# WHAT WE'LL COVER...

Complaint Process Review

BMP for Accepting Complaints

Frequently Asked Questions



## COMPLAINT PROCESS

- Follow your Adopted Rules Process!!!
- Rule 18
  - Request that the complainant use form 274
  - Contact the alleged violator and request site inspection
  - Conduct site inspection and collect necessary information to make decision
  - Notification in writing of decision
  - If violation, follow violation process

## HOW TO ACCEPT A COMPLAINT

### Adopted Rules

• "The district and the applicants shall use the following forms... Form 274 — Official Complaint Form for a person to notify the district of an activity taking place without written consent of the supervisors."



FAQ 1:

Q: Can we accept anonymous complaints?

A: Short answer – yes. Long answer – You shouldn't.

**FAQ 2:** 

Q: Who can submit a complaint?

- A: Anyone can submit a complaint
  - Don't try to become watchdogs, but supervisors and employees can bring forward complaints



FAQ 3:

Q: What if we don't know who the landowner is?

A: This is another reason to require the complainant to use Form 274. They need to give you enough information about the alleged violation to be able to follow up on it.

## FAQ 4:

Q: What if the landowner won't give us permission to access their property?

A: You cannot legally access their property without permission, but the district is still legally required to enforce the 310 law. This may require obtaining a search warrant.

## **FAQ 5:**

Q: Does a CD have to act on every complaint they receive?

A: Yes, the district has a fiduciary responsibility to act, either by investigating or by forwarding the allegation to the county attorney.

## FAQ 5:

Q: What if the alleged violator is someone other than the landowner?

A: The law states that any person initiating a project without written permission of the supervisors is in violation of the 310 law. That person does not have to be the landowner. Follow the complaint procedures as outlined in the Adopted Rules and if it is found to be a violation, the violator could be a contractor, lesee, or other entity.

## **SUMMARY**

When in doubt, look to your adopted rules!