



# Enforcement News

## Three Siskiyou County Men Charged with Submitting False Drinking Water Reports to State Water Board

*District Attorney Files 24 Misdemeanor Charges for Fraudulent Bacteriological Reports*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**SACRAMENTO** – A State Water Resources Control Board investigation into the reporting of bacterial samples taken at public water systems in Siskiyou County has led to multiple criminal misdemeanor charges by the Siskiyou County District Attorney’s Office. The complaint has been filed against three individuals for allegedly failing to report positive findings of bacteria in public water systems to the State Water Board’s Division of Drinking Water.

A total of 24 misdemeanor charges were filed against the three men on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016, in Siskiyou County Superior Court. The three charged are Ronald Dean Larue of Dunsmuir (18 complaints), Wayne Garland Grigsby of McCloud (three complaints), and David Dwayne Toms of Weed (three complaints). The district attorney’s office issued these complaints following the review of information provided by the State Water Board.

A State Water Board investigation by its Office of Enforcement and the Division of Drinking Water revealed that on multiple occasions, from March 2012 to September 2015, water system personnel working for the cities of Dunsmuir and Weed, and the McCloud Community Services District failed to report monthly bacteriological water samples with positive findings to the Division of Drinking Water. They are also accused of failing to take the necessary repeat samples as prescribed in state regulations when a positive bacteria sample is identified.

During the investigation it was also discovered that the city of Mt. Shasta drinking water system had one incident of failure to report monthly bacteriological water samples with positive findings to the Division of Drinking Water. The Siskiyou County district attorney did not include that one incident in the complaint and has not filed any charges against city of Mt. Shasta staff.

“Honest and accurate testing and self-reporting by drinking water system operators is the foundation upon which federal and state drinking water standards are based. We take these alleged violations of drinking water regulations very seriously and support the district attorney’s efforts to enforce the law,” said Bruce Burton, assistant deputy director for the State Water Board’s Division of Drinking Water “While the filing of this complaint is an important step, the Division of Drinking Water is still reviewing the evidence from our investigation and more enforcement actions from the State Water Board could be issued against these three individuals and all the public water systems involved in these allegations.”



A copy of the complaint can be found at the State Water Board's Office of Enforcement [webpage](#).

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