

RECEIVED
OCT 27 2014
Florida Coastal Office

10/23/14

Jessica Kanes , Environmental Specialist 1
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd, Ms235
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Letter of Caution
Subject: Grant Applications of Steve Cushman etal.

It has come to my attention that the above subject individual has applied for Grants in excess of \$2,800,000 for Oyster Reef Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico. One Grant is DEP#1044. To date, he has not exhibited his ability to grow or keep oyster spat alive. (2,310,000 spat as of September 5th) He claims to have extensive knowledge with oysters yet the only evidence of education with Aquaculture is attending the Virginia Aquaculture Conference November 15, 2013. While certificates were issued, the conference attended was "relevant to active shellfish growers in Virginia" and he and his companions were told as much when they showed up for the Conference. (See attached Conference agenda)

Mr. Cushman has not demonstrated a degree of business acumen. He has questionably been involved in numerous legal actions, and portrays an inability to manage a sizable grant to fruition. In short, he is considered an opportunist where money or credits are concerned.

I have attached several documents that will support and attest to his character. Before granting him or his many companies' monies, I would ask to see his credentials other than the VA Aquaculture Certificate.

See attached:

List of Companies

Aletheia Lange Presentation to Board of County Commissioners July 14, 2014

ASA Board Meeting 12/08/13

Letter- David Selmo July 14, 2014

Cease and Desist letter

Goodenough Springs Exploration Project-Notice of Complaint 11/13/09

Presentation to Board of County Commissioner and letter on Stolen trailer Sheriff Office

Please be cautious
Citizen of Wakulla County