

BEFORE THE  
PHILADELPHIA WATER, SEWER, AND STORM WATER RATE BOARD

In the Matter of the Philadelphia  
Water Department's Proposed  
Change in Water, Wastewater,  
and Stormwater Rates and  
Related Charges

Motion to Provide the Public With Accurate Information:

Whereas, there is a participant in the current proceeding that the Water and Sewer Rate Board and Water Department calls the Public Advocate, and;

Whereas, the Public is not legally represented by the Rate Boards Advocate, and;

Whereas, the Rate Board has evaluated and continually hired its public advocate, without requiring the Public Advocate to develop and/or establish a client group, and;

Whereas the Public has no control over the position(s) the Water Board's Advocate takes, and;

Whereas, the only entity that can cancel and/or refuse to renew the Rate Board's public advocate is the Water Rate Board itself, a board appointed by the same person that appoints the Water Commissioner, and;

Whereas, the Rate Board's public advocate has decided to settle cases over the last six years granting the Philadelphia Water Department massive increases, without the Public's approval, and;

Whereas, the Rate Board has refused to hold public hearings to hear public comment about the failures or successes of its advocate to represent the public, and;

Whereas, Section § 4107 of PA Consolidated Statute, “Deceptive or fraudulent business practices, section 5) makes it illegal to make a false or misleading statement in any advertisement addressed to the public or to a substantial segment thereof, and; Therefore

Participant Haver moves that the Rate Board, its advocate, be required to state at every public meeting of the Water Rate Board and every public proceeding evaluating rates and practices, that the Rate Board’s advocate be required to follow the laws of the Commonwealth and inform the public that despite the name given it by the Water Rate Board, the Rate Board’s advocate does not legally represent the public, has no public client and does not have to take any direction from the public.

Lance Haver