

Tahoe's state senator shelters accused harasser

By Melody Gutierrez, San Francisco Chronicle

SACRAMENTO – When the state Senate investigated sexual harassment allegations against a high-ranking legislative staffer three years ago, the house's handling appeared to be done quickly and decidedly. The staffer, Steve Davey, was placed on paid leave and ultimately resigned as chief of staff at the request of his boss, Republican Sen. Ted Gaines.



Ted Gaines

But Davey wasn't without a job. Gaines' campaign hired him immediately, even as the investigation continued, then kept him on after the allegations were substantiated. In fact, a Chronicle review of documents released this month by the Legislature and other public records show that legislative employees who were disciplined for sexual harassment, even those who were fired or forced to resign, often faced no long-term effects on their careers.

Some even came out ahead.

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