

LETTERS CA 62607

Poor management pays off at MLGW

Joseph Lee III, as president of Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division, used flawed judgment and his poor management of the utility should not become a financial burden on MLGW ratepayers (June 22 article, "MLGW insures Lee is covered / Board to pay ex-CEO's health policy, legal fees"). We are hostage to this city-run operation; no competition exists to offer these services.

Lee knew of the preferred customer list, embraced the practice and conspired to protect his ally, City Councilman Edmund Ford, as a favor to Ford.

In any instance other than Memphis city government, an individual who committed such acts would be fired, rather than rewarded with a lavish financial package for his mistakes.

Unfortunately, as in the past with other morally compromised individuals (Yalanda McFadgon, Calvin Williams and Rickey Peete, just to name a few), this will not be the last we will see of Lee at the public trough. He will appear on the city or county payroll again.

KEN LANCASTER
Memphis

The vote by the MLGW board of commissioners to give Joseph Lee health insurance for life and pay his personal legal fees in connection with his resignation is the most asinine action yet. All you have to do for these benefits is to run the once top-rated utility company in the country down to the bottom of the pile.

BOB WEBB SR.
Oakland

Follow the money trail at Networx

Can anyone be surprised that the management of MLGW does not understand that you take the lowest bid when buying and the highest when selling? (June 24 article, "Bid rejections stump suitors / Networx pursuers say their offers would give ratepayers more return") Or have they never heard "buy low — sell high"?

Of course they have, and we also know that there is more to such a sale than bid price. Perhaps if we can get past the stone walls they've erected to keep prying eyes out, we'll follow the money and find some "enabling" payments that helped seal the deal.

How disgusting that the ratepayers of MLGW (and the city) continue to suffer from leadership incompetence beyond comprehension.

RICHARD REUBLIN
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