

June 27, 2018

The Honorable Edward Gaunch
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State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305
ed.gaunch@wvsenate.gov

The Honorable Roger Hanshaw
Room 408M, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305
roger.hanshaw@wvhouse.gov

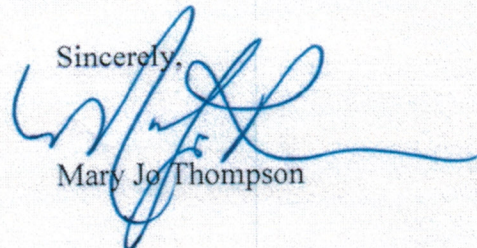
Chairmen Gaunch and Hanshaw:

I want you to know that my main goal as Director of Community Advancement and Development has been to help the citizens of our State, and in particular those in need relating to the devastating flooding. I care deeply for our State and her citizens. As you know, the Governor recently transitioned responsibility for the RISE program to General Hoyer and it is clear the Governor is seeking new direction at the Department of Commerce. At the same time, with a desire to be closer to my elderly parents and return to north central West Virginia, I recently decided to resign my position at the Department of Commerce.

I am truly sorry to that you were not informed in a timely manner that I had left my post and I apologize for any confusion over my lack of an appearance during the interim committee meeting on Tuesday.

Throughout my tenure in public service, I have learned firsthand the importance of legislative oversight and I appreciate the need to keep the people's representatives informed. If you desire, I would be happy to sit down with the two of you in the near future and discuss these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mary Jo Thompson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary Jo Thompson