

July 30, 2019

Honorable Catherine D. Perry
Senior District Judge
United States District Court
Eastern District of Missouri
111 S. 10th Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Re: United States v. Steven V. Stenger

Dear Judge Perry:

I heartfully apologize and am deeply sorry for the harm I have caused to my former constituents, to the officers and employees of St. Louis County government, the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, and the St. Louis County Port Authority. I extend this same apology to my family, friends and supporters, all of whom I have disappointed, hurt and let down. I regret my actions and have a deep and constant feeling of remorse for what I have done.

When I first ran for office for County Councilman in 2008, my motivations were simple and pure. I hoped to make life better for those in the community in which I was raised. I was honored to represent my constituents. After about five years of holding the council seat, I ran for County Executive in 2014 and won a contentious primary and general election to hold the office in a rather tumultuous time. I looked forward with optimism. I hoped that out of the turbulence and upheaval a better community would emerge, and I was honored that I might be a part of that.

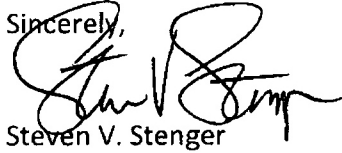
However, sometime during the run for County Executive and during the endless political skirmishes and fights, in the months and years that followed, I wrongly and foolishly put representing the best interests of my constituents behind winning political fights and amassing political capital and campaign contributions. As is clear by my actions as set forth in the details of the Indictment, I lost sight of why I had begun my journey in public service. I betrayed the citizens of the County, and I am sorry and remorseful.

It is difficult to articulate the depth and intensity of the constant regret and remorse I feel for my actions and the harm I have caused. I am sorry for my wrongful conduct. I have learned a great deal from my failures, and I hope others will as well. Holding a position of public trust is something to be cherished and respected by the holder, and citizens deserve nothing less than honest services from those fortunate enough to be elected officials. When pressures mount and difficult decisions must be made, the correct resolution is that which makes life better for constituents and that which protects and preserves the trust between constituents and their

elected leaders. I have taken the time before and after my change of plea in this matter to reflect on my wrongful conduct and failures and will continue to do so.

I humbly ask this Honorable Court to consider my sincere and regretful apology for my actions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven V. Stenger". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "S" and a cursive "V" and "Stenger".

Steven V. Stenger