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January 28, 2008

Honorable Ronald Earle  
District Attorney, Travis County  
509 W. 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Earle:

A famous teacher once reportedly counseled his followers, "No man can serve two masters." During the past several weeks, it has become increasingly evident that I cannot continue to serve both as a candidate for Travis County District Attorney and as an employee of the Travis County District Attorney's Office. Either I must surrender my independence as a candidate, and with it my candidacy itself, or I must surrender my position as Assistant District Attorney.

After careful deliberation and consultation with close friends and family, I have decided that it is in the best interest of my family, the citizens of Travis County, and myself that I resign my position as Assistant District Attorney in order that I may conduct my campaign for District Attorney unfettered by the restrictions that you have sought to impose upon me and two of my fellow candidates.

Therefore, I hereby resign my position as Assistant District Attorney effective immediately. Accordingly, I am tendering herewith my badge, my pager, my identification card, my building access card, and my parking lot access card.

I regret that it has become necessary that we part company on such terms, but I believe that I would be doing a disservice to the voters of Travis County to allow you or anyone else to control either my campaign or its message.

In closing, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Travis County for the past nine years. It is my hope that the Travis County District Attorney's Office will continue to set the standard of excellence for all district attorney's offices in the great State of Texas.

Sincerely,

Rick Reed