

## Resignation from EMU Board of Regents

Dear Chairperson Jeffries:

As I indicated in our telephone call this morning, I have decided to tender my resignation as a Regent at Eastern Michigan University effective immediately. This is a very difficult decision for me but one that I believe is in the best interests of the University, which I have loved and supported long before becoming a Regent.

The charges leveled at me yesterday by the Attorney General's office are specious and totally without merit. The motivation for these accusations is unknown to me but I can assure you that my conduct at all times in helping the people of Flint in the wake of the water crisis was legal, compassionate, ethical, and sincere.

As a former resident of Flint, I asked Governor Snyder to assign me to lead a multi department outreach effort called Mission Flint which monitored and remedied the water, replaced lead service lines for residents, created nutrition, medical, education and economic development support as well as a host of other programs to address the needs of those affected in a tragic situation which I truly wish had never happened to them.

EMU is an incredible institution and I have been honored to serve it in a variety of ways including the most recent appointment you bestowed on me as Finance Committee Chair. What I am going through right now is going to take quite a long while as the court diligently does its work. I will be exonerated. But until that time comes, I will not allow my affiliation with EMU to become a distraction from the great work done by the Board, the Administration, the Faculty and most importantly, our students.

It was an honor to work with you and the other Regents and I wish you every success in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Baird  
EMU Regent serving since January 1, 2019