

HAND DELIVERED

March 20, 2014

Honorable Mayor James C. Ledford Jr.  
City of Palmdale  
38300 Sierra Highway, Suite A  
Palmdale, CA 93550

Re: Resignation from the Palmdale City Council

Dear Mayor & City Council,

After some heartfelt discussions with some of my colleagues, friends, and City staff I have decided to resign my seat on the Palmdale City Council. My resignation will be effective immediately.

As you know, I did not run for re-election. The decision not to run was based primarily on my current health issues and the wish to spend more time with my ailing father who is currently in a life-battle with cancer. When the court handed down its decision that prevented the seating of recently elected Council members, I remained on the council to keep the Council at full strength. I expected a quick response from the court to resolve the on-going election issues, but it has now been over four months and it is not clear when the City will receive a decision on this matter. Based on that uncertainty, I have decided to resign from my position on the council. My resignation is bittersweet, but it will allow me more time to concentrate on my health and get some needed rest, spend time with my father, and to allow the City Council to move forward for the residents of Palmdale.

Over the last five years, I have tried to help Palmdale grow, while keeping it fiscally sound. I was honored to be a part of Gabriel's house and its efforts to bring music and art to the City's youth. I am proud to have been part of The Palmdale Aerospace Academy which is providing our local youth with the opportunity for rewarding careers as future engineers and scientists to support the nation's aerospace and defense industries. I am also proud to be part of the effort to put Palmdale on the path to become an energy efficient city and to help save our precious water resources by helping to create the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority. My decisions on the council were always based on what was legal, necessary, fair, fiscally prudent, and in the best interest of our City and its residents.

I hope to return and serve the residents of this great City at some point in the future. I am hopeful that the voters have been happy with my performance and that they feel I gave them a voice and that one day, in the future, they may want me to do so again. This has definitely been a wonderful part of my life and I wish to extend my thanks to my colleagues on the City Council, to our great City staff, and to the residents of Palmdale. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,



Laura Bettencourt

cc: Rebecca Smith, City Clerk  
cc: Wm. Matthew Ditzhazy, City Attorney  
cc: City Council Members