



Washington State Legislature

September 23, 2015

Hand-Delivered

Troy Kelley, Auditor
Insurance Building
Capitol Campus
302 Sid Snyder Avenue SW
Olympia, Washington 98504-0021

Re: Call for Resignation

Dear Auditor Kelley:

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully call for your resignation.

You were indicted by the federal prosecutors in April. This forty-one page indictment lists at least ten felony counts generally relating to theft, fraud, and tax evasion. Recently, a new indictment was filed. This charges you with 17 counts, including allegations of money laundering, which is a serious crime that could result in a sentence of up to 20 years in prison. Other charges relate to possession of stolen property and filing false income tax returns. Although these charges all relate to your personal or other professional business, and not your duties as Auditor, it is easy to understand why these indictments would undermine public faith in your ability to act as the chief executive overseer of whether governmental agencies are exercising good stewardship over public funds.

We recognize that you are presumed innocent of the charges and in fact have pleaded not guilty. While you ultimately may be exonerated, you have been on a leave of absence since April. It is hard to imagine that you are able to perform any services to the state while on this leave of absence, let alone fulfill the duties of such an important elected office. It is reasonable for you to focus your time and energy on your federal case, but it is unreasonable for the public to be without a trustworthy and full-time elected Auditor in the meantime.

For all of these reasons, we respectfully ask that you resign your office of State Auditor immediately.

Respectfully,

Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House

Mark Schoesler, Majority Leader of the Senate

Dan Kristiansen, House Republican Leader

Sharon Nelson, Senate Democratic Leader