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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Hand Deliver

April 9, 2018

Hon. Mayor Lenny Curry

City of Jacksonville

City Hall Suite 400

Jacksonville, FL 32202

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Dear Lenny:

As I watch your day to day actions and statements around the potential sale of the JEA, and as someone with 25 years of elected service in Jacksonville, including two terms as Mayor, I feel compelled to write this letter.

Like now, when I was Mayor there were some well-intentioned special interests who wanted me to sell the JEA. Their conversations with me were similar to what I suspect you are having now with those around you who push to sell the utility: *"Think about how much money we can get to do things. It will be a great 'Jacksonville Story,' and it can catapult you in a campaign for governor or lieutenant governor."*

Back then, what they didn't understand was my political ambitions ended at the Duval County line. I had no interest in being anything but mayor of Jacksonville.

I not sure the same can be said for you, which is perfectly fine.

More important, I had absolutely no intention to sell the JEA to a private utility or a group of investors. Despite your frequent statements that you've not made up your mind on the JEA's future, I am one of a whole lot of people in Jacksonville who are having a hard time believing you.

As a former mayor, every day I communicate with a lot of people in this community. The public disagrees with selling the JEA, something you should know from your PAC's polling.

In fact, that's one reason I wanted to write to you. I like you and believe that you have generally done a good job as mayor. But, I think this issue is hurting you. It has been botched since the beginning. Your credibility is being damaged and your motives are being questioned.

Frankly, I think you are getting bad advice; advice that does not appear to flow from what is in the best interest of Jacksonville, but instead flows from a place of ignorance about Jacksonville. In addition, there is a mean-spiritedness about it all.

Finally, most of the public discussion has centered on the electric utility. While I am against selling the JEA's electric side, I am even more opposed to disposing of water and sewer.

The next war in the Middle East will be over water, not oil. All over the country, mayors and governors are scrambling to protect their increasingly limited sources of water. Florida is having trouble with Georgia over water rights, and there are serious water problems in south Florida.

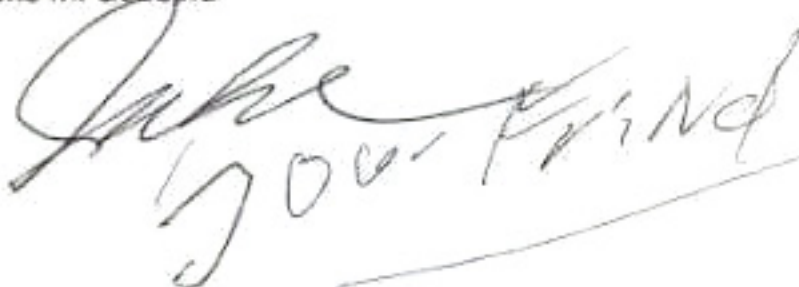
We cannot turn over our water resources and our water rights to a private utility that can sell our precious water for a profit to others, leaving Jacksonville high and dry.

Lenny, I would be happy to personally speak with you about these issues, and any other subject on your mind.

Please know that I am sharing my thoughts with you because I care about your administration and you...and because of my great love for Jacksonville.

With best regards, I remain,

Jake M. Godbold

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jake M. Godbold". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name. A long, thin horizontal line is drawn across the page, starting from the end of the signature and extending towards the right margin.