



LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Multnomah County Auditor

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MEMORANDUM

Date: February 17, 2009

To: Chair Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Deborah Kafoury
Commissioner Jeff Cogen
Commissioner Judy Shiprack
Commissioner Diane McKeel

From: LaVonne Griffin-Valade, County Auditor

Re: Resignation

I am writing to announce my intention to resign as Multnomah County Auditor effective Monday, March 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. On that date, I will file to run for Portland City Auditor in the May 19th special election, and as required by county charter, I must resign once I file for another office.

It has been an honor to serve as County Auditor, and I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of the Auditor's Office for more than a decade. I will deeply miss working with the talented and dedicated staff in my office. They have taught me a great deal and made me a better steward of the public's trust, and I am proud of what we accomplished together.

This was a difficult decision, and one that I had not expected to have to make at this juncture. I have had to weigh many factors, not the least of which is my commitment to this organization and my office. However, the possibility of leading the independent Auditor's Office in the state's largest city government is an opportunity that I am compelled to do my best to earn. I look forward to being elected Portland City Auditor and to the challenges that office will bring.

Over the years, I have come to know hundreds of Multnomah County employees, and almost to a person, found them to be dedicated, responsive, and mindful of their duty to the tax paying public. County workers are one of the organization's most valuable assets, and I want to acknowledge and thank them for showing up every day to keep the bridges, roads, libraries, clinics, shelters, jails, and all facets of county government open and operating safely.

It has been a distinct privilege to serve with my fellow elected officials and other county leaders. I look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future on matters that impact both jurisdictions. I also want to wish you the very best as you endeavor to build a stronger, leaner, more accountable government.