

SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

NANCY LANDRY
SECRETARY OF STATE



P.O. Box 94125
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9125
(225) 922-2880

March 24, 2025

Michelle Tullier, Clerk
West Baton Rouge Parish Council
Post Office Box 757
Port Allen, LA 70767

Dear Ms. Tullier:

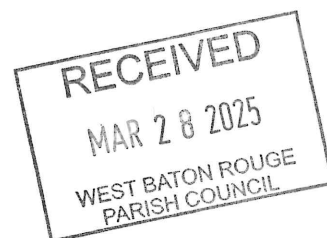
In accordance with La. R.S. 18:653, I am enclosing a copy of the resignation received on March 24, 2025 by our office from the Honorable "Ron" Tetzl as Constable, Justice of the Peace Ward 2, Parish of West Baton Rouge with an effective date of March 31, 2025.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 18:583, an anticipated vacancy has occurred in the above-specified office. The governing authority shall therefore within twenty (20) days call a special election in accordance with La. R.S. 18:402 and La. R.S. 18:602 (**on or before April 14, 2025**). The next available election is scheduled for October 11, 2025 (primary) and November 15, 2025 (general), with qualifying dates of July 9, 10, and 11, 2025.

Additionally, pursuant to La. R.S. 18:583(D)(1) and La. R.S. 18:602, the governing authority shall within twenty (20) days of the office actually becoming vacant (**after March 31, 2025 but before or on April 21, 2025**) make an appointment to fill the office.

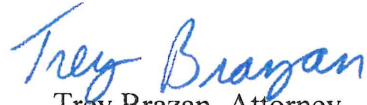
After a proclamation is issued calling the election and an appointment has been made, a certified copy of the proclamation calling the special election as well as the certified minutes of the meeting in which the appointment was made or a certified resolution, should be mailed to our office. A commission will be issued to the person appointed to fill the vacancy.

If the governing authority does not timely call the special election and/or make an appointment, we will forward a request to the Governor to do so pursuant to La. R.S. 18:602.



If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (225) 922-0257.

Sincerely,


Trey Brazan, Attorney
Commissions Division

Enclosure

cc: Hon. Amanda Gross-Thies, West Baton Rouge Parish Clerk of Court
Hon. Corey C. Passantino, West Baton Rouge Parish Registrar of Voters

Ronald Tetzl

P. O. Box 83
Orleans, LA 70713

Secretary of State
Attn: Commissions Division
8585 Archives Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

March 12, 2025

Madame Secretary,

This letter serves as my notice of resignation as the West Baton Rouge Parish Ward 2 Constable, effective March 31, 2025.

I ran for and won this position with the intent of serving my community, with the support of the parish and the Attorney General. The assumptions of support by these entities are lamentably false. What has been provided instead is no equipment, no facilities, miniscule training, and a lack of accountability in the AG's office that should offend every voter in this state.

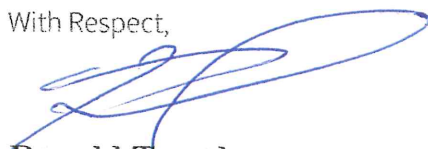
According to the AG, and to my considerable surprise, elected Constables are apparently not considered Law Enforcement officials, this despite my current POST certification as well as the practices of various constabularies throughout the state, including Port Allen and East Baton Rouge parish. My stipend for being a Constable is \$380 per month, plus nominal fees depending on the civil service provided. For this, I am expected to keep order in the Justice of the Peace court (for which there is no designated facility or funding), serve eviction notices (for which no vehicle, weapon, or protective equipment is provided or funded), and initiate garnishments against individuals (who can, and often do, simply quit their jobs or file bankruptcy to evade, requiring the entire process to restart from scratch). Because no equipment of any kind is provided, I have been required to use my personal vehicle and firearm to conduct my duties and have had to use personal funds to purchase a protective vest and plates to wear during eviction service, as evicting people from their homes has the potential to be extremely dangerous. I never expected or intended to get rich doing this service, but I equally did not expect to have to dedicate so many personal resources to my own safety or ability to do this job.

In an effort to evolve this office and position from a half-baked "Mayberry" operation into a functioning service entity that actually serves the community, the Ward 2 Justice of the Peace and I engaged with multiple entities, including the West Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, the Brusly and Addis Police Departments, the West Baton Rouge Parish School Board, and the AGs Civil Division to conduct traffic photo enforcement in an unincorporated school zone within the parish. The funding generated by this program was meant to provide a dedicated location for Justice of the Peace court, safety equipment (vehicle, weapon, ammunition, and vest) for constabulary operations, and expanded training opportunities for both Ward 2 and local law enforcement personnel to better serve the community at large, in addition to 10% of each ticket compensating the school board. **It cannot be overstated that these actions were taken with full disclosure to, and approval from, the Civil Division of the Attorney General's office.**

For the efforts of my office to both improve public safety and to self-fund operations, I was repeatedly sworn at (on a cellular phone I personally pay for) by a blowhard state senator, had my name dragged through the mud in the local media, and had the AG herself speak directly to the media and post juvenile snark aimed at me and this office on social media. She made these public remarks a full two months before ever speaking to me or the Justice of the Peace directly, and during what was supposedly an impartial investigation into the actions of this office. When she finally decided we were worth speaking to, she accepted no accountability for the guidance we received from her office. After an honorable 25-year Army career, I am nauseated at the idea of working for self-important, unaccountable, soundbite-obsessed public officials incapable of even baseline professional conduct. My experiences with the state senator and the AG both have convinced me that public service in this state deserves the deplorable reputation for self-serving ineffectiveness it has earned over decades.

For the reasons noted above, I resign. I wish my successor luck, because he or she will need it.

With Respect,



Ronald Tetzl

On the 14th day of March 2025



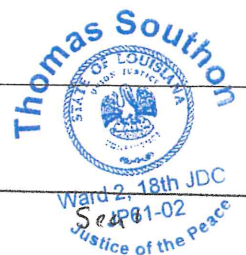
Signature

Thomas Southon

Print

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Notary #



RECEIVED

MAR 24 2025

LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMISSIONS