

# GERALD BLESSEY LAW FIRM

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August 22, 2016

Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich  
Biloxi City Hall  
140 Lameuse Street  
Biloxi, MS 39530

Dear Mayor Gilich:

As we discussed in our conversation last Friday, this letter is to tender my firm's resignation from the position of City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department, effective at the end of the current fiscal year on September 30, 2016.

It has been an honor to serve as City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department and a great pleasure to work for you to assist in achieving your visionary plans for our beloved City.

At the age of 74, it is time for me to slow down a bit. During these first 15 months of your Administration, we have reinstated the Legal Department and City Attorney position that had been unfilled for many years. We created a panel of eight firms for special counsel on various matters, and they have performed efficiently within a budget reduced from the prior year. We reorganized the Municipal Court in light of the settlement of the ACLU case. We formed a Mayor's Grants Team to assist all city departments in pursuing grant opportunities. Under your leadership, the Legal Department has been aggressive in fighting for Biloxi's fair share of Tidelands funds, BP Economic Damages funds and other state and federal grant opportunities.

Over the next six weeks, I look forward to assisting in an orderly transition of the Department's duties to whomever you select as the new City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department. If you wish, I would be happy to enter a new contract to serve as outside counsel with a focus on economic development, tidelands, waterfront master planning and other strategic issues.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD BLESSEY LAW FIRM

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald Blessey