

January 13, 2025

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

It has been a privilege to serve on the Federal Election Commission for the past four years. I write to inform you, however, that I am resigning my position as a Member of the Federal Election Commission, effective January 20, 2025, at 11:59 a.m.

I am proud of my work on the Commission and the agency's significant accomplishments during my tenure. In particular, I am pleased to have played a role in the Commission's work repealing unnecessary regulations, lessening burdens on freedom of speech, and reforming agency procedures to respect due process. The Federal Election Commission is the only agency that "has as its sole purpose the regulation of core constitutionally protected activity"—political speech—and consequently it must always act with circumspection and restraint.¹

But the Commission will adhere to the Constitution and uphold the rule of law only if its Commissioners will. To that end, it is my hope that the next President will exercise his constitutional authority to remove Commissioners whose terms of service have expired and nominate new appointees who will respect the First Amendment. I believe this is necessary to ensure the Commission's continued success in the years to come.

I am honored by the trust that the American people have placed in me to serve as a Member of the Federal Election Commission. I have discharged those duties to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

Sean J. Cooksey Commissioner

AFL-CIO v. Federal Election Commission, 333 F.3d 168, 170 (D.C. Cir. 2003).