June 26, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC  20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to inform you that I will be stepping down from the Federal Election Commission effective July 3, 2020. It has been my honor to serve this great nation as a Member of the Commission since 2008.

My record at the FEC reflects my strong commitment to the oath I swore upon taking office, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. As Commissioner, I fought to protect Americans’ First Amendment rights to free speech and association, and to administer the laws as written by Congress and interpreted by the courts, rather than as some wished them to be. I fought against unnecessary government regulations and unfair enforcement actions; to promote transparency and consistency in the FEC’s operations; and to ensure due process in its dealings with the American people. These battles were often hard won, and I am proud of our many accomplishments.

The FEC would benefit greatly from new faces and fresh perspectives. It needs Commissioners who will respect the First Amendment, understand the limits of the FEC’s jurisdiction, and remember that Congress established the FEC to prevent single-party control, with every significant decision requiring bipartisan approval. One Commissioner — who has served for more than a decade past the expiration of her term — routinely mischaracterizes disagreements among Commissioners about the law as “dysfunction,” rather than a natural consequence of the FEC’s unique structure, misrepresents the jurisdiction of the agency and deliberately enables outside groups to usurp the Commission’s role in litigation and chill protected speech. The American people deserve better.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve.

Sincerely,

Caroline C. Hunter
Commissioner