



# **Sandy Hook Water District**

January 7, 2013

Ky Public Service Commission  
P O Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

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COMMISSION

RE: Case 2012-00449 Rebeckah Johnston

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Rebekah Johnston. I am the General Manager for the Sandy Hook Water District. I was hired November 1, 2010. At the time, the District office was in chaos from the death of the prior Manager and resignation of the assistant manager and board members.

When I started I knew nothing about the training requirements or any of the reports that has to be filed monthly, annually, and quarterly. I enlisted the help of the Kentucky Rural Water Association and Garry Latimer and Joe Burns became my mentors in teaching me everything that I needed to learn.

When I found out about the new law requiring board members to attend a training session, three of my commissioners were already past the one year mark. The next available training session would not be held until August 23 and 24, 2011. Nothing was said or done about this situation and they took their training in August 2011 and continued to serve unquestioned by the Elliott Co Judge Executive.

When I realized that we were past the one year on three of the commissioners, I talked to Jerry Weutcher and Joe Burns concerning this matter. I also talked to Mr. Weutcher via email and by phone and actually made one trip to Frankfort to consult with him over board members and the board not being staggered and was out of compliance in that respect. I also wrote a letter that was sent in July of 2012 too, of which I received no reply asking the PSC to step in and help us get the board back into compliance in staggering out the terms of the Commissioners.

Rebekah Johnston is one of the most highly respected ladies in our county. She has worked for the County Attorney's office for many years and is well known as being very honest, ethical, and professional in all that she does. She has always given of her time freely to help the community and always served on boards to help make a difference in the lives of the people in our county.

She is dedicated to anything she does, she always strives to do the right thing, such as making sure we provide good quality water to the citizens we serve. She does not receive payment for her services.

Ms. Johnston was signed up to attend the July training which was after her year ended; she couldn't attend the one in March because it was too late to be registered. I then signed her up for the one in July and her doctor called for her to come in for a procedure due to previous cancer issues. I called Sonya Hardwood and explained this to her and she told me she would just credit the money and registration to the one in October of which she did attend.

She always makes the board meetings and participates in the discussions, always asking questions and she researches everything to make sure she understands what the subject is about. She is always available to the District.

Our county is extremely small and political retaliation is always rampant here. We strive to keep politics out of the Water District, because that has no place in what we do here, which is to provide clean, safe water to the customers we serve.

I respectfully ask the court to not suspend Rebeckah Johnston from our Board of Commissioners, to show some mercy and understanding of her health issues which kept her from attending until October and to know she is a valuable asset to the Sandy Hook Water District Board of Commissioners.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Trina Sartaine".

Trina Sartaine  
General Manager