



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: kieran@shanahanmcdougal.com

November 9, 2018

Kieran Shanahan
Shanahan McDougal PLLC
128 E. Hargett Street #300
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Kieran:

After consultation with my leadership team on the UNC Board of Governors, UNC System President Margaret Spellings and legal counsel, I have decided to completely remove myself from communications involving East Carolina University (ECU) matters and avoid having a presence on campus. There has clearly been an organized effort from a very small, but vocal group to create a false narrative and it's being done through petty, personal attacks intended to harm or malign me. The ECU Board of Trustees has stated that Chancellor Staton has their support and I fully respect their position. Our role on the Board of Governors occasionally includes challenging campus decisions and policies in order to discern what's best for our UNC System institutions. However, contrary to the false narrative being spread, I have always engaged the Board of Governors and others within the UNC System in a manner that was proper, transparent, and ethical. I continue to support the success of ECU and all of our institutions.

Sincerely,

Harry Leo Smith, Jr.
Chair of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors

cc: Vern Davenport, Vice Chair, ECU Board of Trustees
Kel Normann, Secretary, ECU Board of Trustees
Randy Ramsey, Vice Chair, UNC Board of Governors
Pearl Burris-Floyd, Secretary, UNC Board of Governors
Wendy Floyd Murphy, Chair of the Committee on Personnel & Tenure, UNC Board of Governors
Michael L. Williford, Committee on University Governance, UNC Board of Governors
Cecil P. Staton, Chancellor, ECU
James F. Hopf, Chief of Staff, ECU