

November 22, 2022

Dear friends and colleagues:

After 43 years of public service, I have decided to retire at the end of this year. I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to work at four incredible organizations (Corrections, Youth Services, Criminal Investigations, and Public Safety), and to have served at the pleasure of six Governors and an Attorney General. I've also had the unique experience of being appointed to the Cabinets of three Governors' (Taft, Strickland, and DeWine) as Director of two different agencies (DYS and DPS).

My career has enabled me to work with thousands of dedicated public servants, many of whom have had some of the toughest jobs in state government. I have also had the good fortune to work with incredible partners, policy makers, and key stakeholders, such as Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police, Prosecutors, Judges, Legislators, Fire Chiefs, Coroners, advocates and Reporters. To all of you who have been there when I called, who have supported me in tough times, and who have worked hard to make our agencies and our state stronger, I say "THANK YOU."

I can't say enough about my appreciation for the officials I have worked for these past four-plus decades. They have believed in me, allowed me to grow and make mistakes, and have supported me through many challenging circumstances. They have also enabled me to be involved in numerous national Boards and Commissions, and to occasionally provide technical assistance to Governors and agencies in other states. I trust this work has ultimately proved beneficial to our state, while lending my little bit of help to national interests.

I wish all of you the very best. Please stay in touch and let me know if I can ever be of assistance. You can reach me at tstickrath@gmail.com.

Stay safe,

Tom