

## PRESS RELEASE

STATEMENT BY CONOR GLEASON, EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF DEPUTY/MINERAL & TITLE SPECIALIST/LEGISLATIVE LIAISON FOR THE UNION COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

There has been an abundance of speculation regarding my employment and reputation over the last several months.

I will offer a simple, concise declaration. The erroneous and defamatory statements made by and among our County Judge, a few of his sycophants on the Quorum Court and other morally corrupt Officials in the Union County Courthouse, are nothing more than elaborations and fabrications, twisted to appeal to an audience that is incapable of thinking objectively. This cowardly effort to push a personal political vendetta is not acceptable, and I will continue to conduct myself in a professional and ethical manner, as I have throughout my career in county government and the oil & gas industry.

It is an understatement to say that I am disappointed. As of Monday, 1/8/2018, I have offered my resignation to quell the threats and contemptible legal actions that would be levied against the Tax Collector's Office and my colleagues, but I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the taxpayers of Union County and am proud of our accomplishments in the Union County Tax Collector's Office. Paula Beard and I spearheaded the process of updating our antiquated hardware and software, sponsored multiple websites to provide current and delinquent tax information, expanded options pertaining to payments and tax history, revised the inexcusable system implemented by the previous administration relating to our Disabled American Veterans, supported and assisted with the passage of new legislation that directly benefits Union County and its taxpayers, and integrated our Office into a network with other Tax Collector's throughout the State of Arkansas.

I would also like to thank my employer, Paula Beard, Union County Tax Collector. She has stood beside me during this tense period, and we have received a plethora of calls, messages, and letters of support from other Officials and a multitude of Union County taxpayers, thanking us for standing up to the alleged corruption, greed and cowardice that is threatening to undo the progress that Union County has made.

I will always stand up for what is right, and I invite you to do the same.



Conor H. Gleason