



Board of County Commissioners

State of Florida

April 9, 2009

To The Employees of Okaloosa County:

I am writing this letter of apology to you with a heavy heart. This morning in the Northwest Florida Daily News I made the statement that a person making \$67,000 per year "would starve." The statement was in reference to the salary of an Okaloosa County Commissioner and was not the entire statement that I made to the reporter. I am fully aware that most of the employees of Okaloosa County make far less than that amount and live happy, successful lives. I want to assure you that I hold all of the employees in highest regard and appreciate everything that you do. It is unfortunate that this statement, made somewhat in jest, was singled out by the Daily News.

Please know that I am well aware that many of you struggle to make ends meet on far less. I also know that many of you are hurting because we as a Board have been unable to maintain merit raises and other benefits due to the economic times. Please accept my earnest apology and know that I, along with the other Commissioners, in no way believe that the employees of Okaloosa County are undeserving of more. You continue to represent the best employees in Florida and I am proud to work with you.

Sincerely,

James Campbell
County Commissioner, District 5