

Rick Scott
GOVERNOR



Jesse Panuccio
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 4, 2015

The Honorable Rick Scott
Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Governor Scott,

With deep gratitude for the opportunity to have served in your administration for the past five years, I respectfully tender my resignation as Executive Director of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, effective January 8, 2016. This is a bittersweet decision for me, as it has been a joy and an honor to serve the people of Florida. Nonetheless, it is time for me to begin a new chapter in my career and life.

As a member of your administration, and as a Floridian, I am deeply appreciative of your steady leadership of our state. It has been my great privilege to help implement your pro-growth policies, which have fostered Florida's economic resurgence. Under your leadership, Florida's economy has created nearly one million private-sector jobs, our job growth rate is highest among large states, job demand is at record levels, unemployment has been cut in half, tourism is at an all-time high, consumer confidence is up, taxes have been cut fifty times, and we have significant budget surpluses.

At DEO, much has been accomplished over the past few years. We have made the state more competitive for job growth by streamlining the economic development process, while also implementing greater safeguards and accountability for taxpayer money. We developed and deployed a cutting-edge system to combat the fraud crisis in the unemployment insurance program, saving nearly \$600 million to date. We launched the Competitive Florida Partnership to help small and rural communities grow and prosper. For these and many other accomplishments, I have been fortunate to work alongside a talented and dedicated team. I am confident that they will continue to advance your goal of making Florida's economy the best in the nation.

As the new year approaches, I am excited to conclude important work at the Department, to aid the transition to new leadership, and then to set my sights on the horizon. I hope that I have repaid your support and confidence in me by serving well and faithfully over the years, with the integrity and humility incumbent upon those who hold positions of public trust. I wish you, and everyone serving in your administration, good fortune and continued success.

Yours very sincerely,

Jesse Panuccio

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