

To: Rev. Dana Pope
Moderator, Personnel Committee

Date: August 21, 2015

Rev. Rebecca Watkins
Moderator of the Presbytery

Rev. Ken Harper
Moderator of Council

Ruling Elder Wayne Peterson
Moderator of Trustees

From: Joan Jeffers
Stated Clerk

It is with a very heavy heart that I write this letter to you but after much discernment, I believe this is what I must do. Effective January 31, 2016, I will be resigning my position as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Nevada.

There are numerous reasons I am doing this but the most compelling is that this position has created an untenable stress on my marriage. My husband turned 80 this year and has had ongoing health problems. The untimely death of his childhood friend has resulted in an acute awareness in him that there is more behind him than ahead of him. In the past several weeks he has expressed to me, in the strongest possible terms, that he feels he was misled by the Personnel Committee who met with him during my initial interview. He was advised (as was I) that this would be a 10 hour a week job. To him, I am working all the time and when I am not I am distracted by thinking about work. He no longer wants to compete with the Presbytery of Nevada for my time. I want you to know I tried to work out a compromise where I would only work my 10 hours and limit my travel, but I was unsuccessful in convincing him. Quite simply, this position ended up being much more of a commitment than it had been presented and at this time in our lives we just do not want to spend that much time apart.

Although there are several underlying issues that have exacerbated this situation, they are not the reason I am leaving. However, for the benefit of the next Stated Clerk I would like to provide these to you in a separate document as a part of my exit interview.

I cannot tell you how much I have appreciated the opportunity to work with you all. I care deeply about the Presbytery of Nevada.

Note: Should you find a Stated Clerk prior to January 31, 2016, I would be amenable to adjusting my effective date.