

Ron DeSantis
GOVERNOR



Dane Eagle
SECRETARY

December 2, 2022

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of Florida
The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor DeSantis,

This letter serves as notice of my resignation as Secretary of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity effective December 30, 2022. Serving in your administration has been the honor of a lifetime, and I am deeply grateful for this opportunity. At this point in my life, however, my responsibility to my growing family is of the utmost importance.

Under your leadership and Freedom First policies, Florida is a model for the nation as individuals and businesses flock to our state in record numbers. When other states were locking down, you lifted people up, and as a result, Florida's economy is beyond resilient, leading the nation by virtually every measure. Our historically low unemployment rate of 2.7% is an entire point below the national rate of 3.7% and has remained below the national rate for 23 consecutive months. Florida has created jobs for 30 consecutive months and has seen over 1.5 million new business formations since January 2020, more than any other state in the nation.

When I joined your administration in September 2020, that state's unemployment rate was 8.7%, which was quickly rebounding from the 13.9% rate a few months earlier due to the global pandemic. These economic headwinds also contributed to a growing crisis with the state's reemployment assistance system operated by DEO, requiring an all-hands-on deck effort to secure funding to modernize the system and swiftly help hard-working Floridians get back on their feet.

Additionally, we have responded to multiple disasters, including Hurricane Ian which devastated my home community, and awarded over a billion dollars in long-term disaster recovery funds to homeowners and communities across Florida. We led the nation in fully obligating over half-a-billion dollars to assist homeowners and prevent foreclosures in record time, we awarded bonus payments to over two hundred thousand first responders and law enforcement officers, and we announced over a hundred million dollars for infrastructure and workforce development projects across the state, which will help create countless jobs to support our growing economy.

These are only a few of the many examples of how, under your leadership, the exceptional people at DEO are assisting in advancing Florida's economy by helping citizens, businesses, and communities thrive. Your leadership has made all aspects of Florida's executive branch a well-oiled machine that promotes efficiency over bureaucracy, and the citizens of Florida are the ultimate beneficiaries of this success. I have no doubt that Florida – and DEO – will continue to excel under your bold leadership.

Again, thank you for this extraordinary opportunity, but most importantly, thank you for keeping Florida free.

Sincerely,

Dane Eagle

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(850) 245.7105 | www.FloridaJobs.org | www.Twitter.com/FLDEO | www.Facebook.com/FLDEO

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