

July 31, 2026

Cumberland County Board of Elections
227 Fountainhead Lane, Suite 101
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Re: Angela Amaro, Director

Members of the Board:

It was an open secret that Mrs. Devore did not want me to be hired as Director and intended to have me removed as soon as she could. On more than one occasion I asked Mrs. Devore about this desire she had, which she denied every time, even stating "Angie, I have no desire to go through the process of hiring another director". Since the completion of the March 3, 2026 election especially, Mrs. Devore ramped up her long standing effort to have me removed as Director of Elections, regardless of the effect on the operations of the office and the preparation for the upcoming mid-term election

The emotional toll of the past several months is difficult to put into words what this Board has put me through. After twenty-five years of dedicating my career to serving the voters of Cumberland County, I found myself working in an environment where I no longer felt trusted, respected, or valued. Coming to work each day became a source of anxiety rather than purpose. I often lay awake at night worrying about what the next day would bring, wondering what decision would be questioned, what accusation might follow, or whether years of faithful service would simply be dismissed. The constant scrutiny, criticism, and uncertainty were emotionally exhausting and, over time, became overwhelming. It is heartbreaking to devote so much of your life to public service only to find yourself in a workplace where you no longer feel supported or safe. No one should end a career they have loved under those circumstances, and it is with profound sadness that I acknowledge how deeply this experience has affected both my professional confidence and my personal well-being.

Being under constant scrutiny since the appointment of Linda Devore as the Chair of the Board of Elections culminating in the filing of Petitions for Termination and being placed on administrative leave for the past three months I have decided to retire from the county effective August 1, 2026. This was not an easy decision to make but one I feel was forced to make. If the State Board were to not accept the petition and I were to be reinstated, I do not feel I could work effectively with Mrs. Devore and others still involved with this office.

I devoted twenty-five years to this office, mentoring employees, training and building relationships with precinct officials, other City, Municipal and County departments and ensuring that every election was conducted fairly, accurately, and without regard to politics. I expected that when my career eventually came to an end, it would be because I was ready to retire- not because the environment had become so emotionally draining and anxiety-inducing that continuing to serve was no longer sustainable and forced into the decision to retire. That realization has been one of the greatest disappointments of my professional career.

Sincerely,

Angela Amaro