

State of Vermont OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 3, 2020

Sharon Lucia P.O. Box 249 Bristol, VT 05443

Dear Sharon:

On behalf of Vermonters, I want to thank you for your efforts to ensure a safe and secure General Election this November in the face of an unprecedented public health crisis, and during a politically divisive time in our nation's history.

The election at all levels was in your hands and you, once again, did your jobs efficiently, reliably and with a serious, non-partisan sense of purpose. You quickly adapted to a robust early voting system through mailed ballots, implemented safety measures to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, all while answering thousands of phone calls from concerned citizens about all aspects of voting, and remaining available for normal business functions. Voter participation was unprecedented, and you should be proud of the part you played. Personally, I chose to vote in-person on November 3rd, and with the safety measures diligently put in place, felt comfortable doing so.

We already have Town Meeting Day on the horizon in March, and unfortunately, we will likely still be grappling with COVID-19. I believe we will need to put in place similar accommodations so Vermonters can vote safely and securely. I know you all are looking for some certainty about what resources and options will be available to municipalities to achieve this. Many in the Legislature, as well as the Secretary of State and other elected leaders, were very clear that mailed ballots were essential for a robust turnout for the General Election. I hope they will join me in ensuring the resources are made available to give Vermonters the same sense of safety and security for early voting in March through mailed ballots for school budgets, and core municipal budgets and business.

Clerks are the unsung heroes of the election; going about your job quietly and diligently and getting the job done under the most difficult of circumstances. Thank you again for your hard work this year – it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerel

Philip B. Sc Governor