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JERROLL SANDERS
For
Mayor of Detroit

November 5, 2009

FROM MAYORAL CANDIDATE JERROLL SANDERS: Thank You Detroit for Believing In Me:

Today, I was finally given the number of votes (about 4000) I reportedly earned the night of the election. So, yes, a concession speech is in order. I have valued every moment I have shared with each of you, learning about your lives, hearing about your challenges, and sharing with you my comprehensive plan to make Detroit a truly phenomenal place. I enjoyed the special song written for me and the supporters of all ages who designed a companion dance right in our campaign office. What a team! We did not have much money, but no one in this City had a more loyal, devoted, determined and supportive team than I, and for that, I shall remain eternally grateful and enriched. I have told everyone from the beginning that I am not a politician. I am simply an advocate seeking to transform lives in Detroit. As such, I will not encourage you to carte blanche support officials elected on November 3rd. Instead, I encourage you to make officials earn your support every single day because that is what good citizens do. And just as I discovered via financial data that officials had given over Cobo Hall for 30 years and not received one dime in return, you too must exercise due diligence to discover the truth. Never forget that you and I are the protectors of democracy and that means that every day, we must fight for what we want and deserve.

My mayoral run has been a most phenomenal journey—one that I had hoped would end with me as your Mayor. I looked forward to delivering top-notch education to our children and to helping union workers maintain their jobs and grow in financial prosperity. I looked forward to crafting unique, innovative strategies to address the obstacles confronting convicted felons who so desperately want to become whole again and rebuild their lives. I looked forward to making Detroit clean, beautiful and significantly crime free. Finally, I looked forward to re-establishing Detroit as a major financial mecca—a place that beckons people from across the globe and affords all citizens a good, prosperous living. While I will not be at the helm as Mayor, I do hope that some of my dialogue has inspired you along the way and can be used by newly elected officials as seed for new approaches and strategies. Yes, I encountered firm resistance throughout my race—especially from the media that conspired to create a literal blackout so those of you in search of the best candidate simply would not know the best candidate (me). But that is what people who want to lord over your minds and lives do. With that in mind, I encourage you to challenge your media darlings—the people you feel honored to meet because they come across your radio or TV screen everyday. You are the kings and queens in this process, not the politicians or the media. So never forget to act like it! Demand that media representatives who use our public airwaves provide you the vital information to which you are entitled.

As I prepare to launch my newest business venture, I promise to continue working locally and nationally to make your lives better. With a large smile on my face and warmth in my heart, I thank each and every one of you who walked the cold streets, shared a word of support or encouragement, passed out literature, argued with detractors, voted for me on election day, contributed funds and/or showed up at the campaign office, day after day, to lend a helping hand. You had my back, and know that I will always have yours.

With all the love I can muster,

Mayoral Candidate, *Jerroll Sanders*