



## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN CITY OF ST. LOUIS MISSOURI

LEWIS E. REED  
PRESIDENT

ROOM 232, CITY HALL  
1200 MARKET STREET  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2873  
(314) 622-4114

January 15, 2019

Rick Ernst  
Commissioner  
Board of Public Service  
1200 Market St., Room 17  
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Rick,

The St. Louis Agency on Training & Employment (SLATE) Department plays a critical role in serving our community. After the recent news reports, I heard directly from employees within SLATE regarding the sited allegations and numerous other concerns. As a City, we should take all actions necessary to retain the SLATE program and take any and all steps to prevent any activity that would put the program in jeopardy.

In response to the concerns raised by employees and for the sake of maintaining the integrity and transparency of the department, I am asking the Facilities Management Department to remove any shredding equipment from the premises of SLATE.

I think this would be a prudent step in showing that the City is serious in working with auditors and other governmental bodies to get down to the bottom of these allegations. If, as reported, there has been shredding of documents, we need to make sure it stops immediately.

My goal is to maintain the SLATE program and continue making this program available to our residents. It would be a travesty to the community if any of these allegations led to the defunding of the program. I believe that we, as a City government, should take every step to show that we are serious about maintaining this vital program and support any investigation into the allegations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lewis E. Reed".  
Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen