

**Statement from Timothy Horrigan  
Re: His Resignation & Re-Election Campaign**

Date: October 13, 2010

Contact: Timothy Horrigan  
7A Faculty Road  
Durham, NH 03824  
ph: 603-868-3342  
email: [TimothyHorrigan@mac.com](mailto:TimothyHorrigan@mac.com)

On August 11 & 12, 2010, I made some statements about Sarah Palin which were widely disparaged and misconstrued. They have been characterized as expressing a “death wish,” which was not my intent at all. I do regret those statements and I have apologized.

I became the subject of negative commentary on FoxNews and other media outlets, and several members of my state party leadership urged me to resign. After literally just a few minutes of consideration I chose to do what I was asked, and I hastily submitted a letter of resignation on August 12. I now regret doing so: my statements may have been foolish, but they were not illegal and they were not an ethics violation. They were merely embarrassing. I did not consult with my constituents or my fellow rank-and-file legislators, who almost unanimously told me that I should never have resigned.

On August 19, I submitted a letter rescinding my resignation. The Speaker of the House's position is that my resignation became official the moment she accepted it, that it cannot be rescinded, and that the full House has no say in the matter. I differ with her position, but I do respect the Speaker's and the full House's authority.

In spite of media reports to the contrary, I resumed my campaign around the same time I submitted the rescission letter. I was re-nominated by my fellow Democrats on September 9. I face a tough re-election fight, but I look forward to continuing to work in Concord on behalf of the people of Durham, Lee and Madbury.

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This statement can be downloaded in PDF format from:

- ➔ <http://www.TimothyHorrigan.com/documents/timothy-horrigan.statement.101013.pdf>
- ➔ or: <http://bit.ly/horrigan-1013>

## Timothy Horrigan's August 12 Facebook Quotes

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These are the now-infamous statements I made on Facebook on August 11 and 12, 2010. Media outlets using these statements are advised that these are copyrighted statements which cannot be reprinted or reused without permission—and permission will not be granted if you opt to litter the quotes with “[sic]” notations. Abbreviations, misspellings, etc. should either be corrected or left as is.

My first Facebook statement was, on August 11:

*a dead Palin wd be even more dangerous than a live one...she is all about her myth & if she was dead she cldn't commit any more gaffes.*

This was not the most tasteful thing I ever said, but it was not a death wish. In fact, I implied that I wanted her to live. I knew that first statement sounded bad, so I clarified a few hours later:

*ironically a dead Sarah Palin would've been much more of a problem for the left than the living one is. her myth has very little to do with anything she has ever said, done or accomplished. in fact, she isn't actually DOING anything now. she doesn't even SAY anything aside from "you betcha" and "mama grizzly." all she ever accomplished was to help McCain blow the 2008 election. she's just a blank wall on which some people project their hopes and some others, like the unfortunate Keith David Halloran, project their hatred.*

I posted an apology the next morning:

*Just for the record, I don't wish Sarah Palin dead... but not merely for compassionate reasons. I also want her to live because a living Sarah Palin is less dangerous than a dead one. Her rise to the status of Head Tea Partier had nothing to do with anything she ever said, did or accomplished--- but as long as she lives she might be able to say or do things which cd serve as a moderating influence. And she also might also commit a gaffe bad enough to shock her followers, though that is unlikely. Unless of course she endorses Obama for President in 2012. <http://www.timothyhorrigan.com/videos/palin.080829.cspan.html>*

I posted a more generic apology later, which some people were annoyed by:

*I apologize to anyone who feels they need an apology from me. And anyone who feels the need to be angry at me is free to be angry at me.*

*I made some mistakes,.but I am not ashamed of who I am. I am not ashamed of anything which I am. Nothing anyone says to me is going to change the way I feel about myself— especially if you don't know me.*

August 12, 2010  
7A Faculty Road  
Durham, NH 03824

Hon Terie Norelli  
Speaker of the House  
NH House of Representatives  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Madame Speaker:

I wish to resign from the House of Representatives effective immediately, and to discontinue my re-election campaign for Strafford County District 7. I apologize for thoughtless remarks I made which have brought this House into disrepute. I enjoyed my time in the House and I thank you personally for your support over the years.

Thanks,

Timothy Horrigan

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August 19, 2010  
7A Faculty Road  
Durham, NH 03824

Hon Terie Norelli  
Speaker of the House  
NH House of Representatives  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Madame Speaker:

I wish to rescind the notice of resignation which I submitted on August 12, 2010. The people of Strafford County District 7 deserve full representation in their legislature, and therefore I would prefer (if possible) to serve the remainder of my current term. I apologize to you and to my constituents for acting in haste.

Thank you for your support over the past two years.

Thanks,

Timothy Horrigan