

Mayor Ronnie Johnston
1194 Emory St. NW
Covington, GA 30014

April 24, 2017

Mr. Wayne Haynie
Chairman
Newton County Solid Waste Authority
1132 Usher St NW
Covington, GA 30014

Dear Chairman Haynie,

When I agreed to be a part of the Solid Waste Authority in 2016, it was with the intention of serving the citizens of Newton County by helping navigate through some obstacles when it came to solid waste disposal. I realized the scope of this project and was ready to start working towards improvements immediately.

I assumed the Authority would have the ability to conduct business and make decisions that were best for the County as an entity free from influence of county officials. I was excited at the creation of an Authority to handle the solid waste issues because I thought it would move this important topic and relevant business away from the political arena. Unfortunately, I have learned that is not the case. The lack of communication and restrictions placed on the Solid Waste Authority are not conditions under which I can volunteer.

While I wish Newton County and the Solid Waste Authority nothing but the best moving forward, it is in everyone's best interest that I step down from the Solid Waste Authority board immediately.

Sincerely,



Ronnie Johnston

cc: Chairman Marcello Banes
Commissioner Lanier Sims