

## PRESS RELEASE

It began as did any other day alive with hopes and dreams for the future. It ended in a virtual nightmare where a convulsion of unexpected circumstances created an unthinkable nightmare that changes the entire course of one's life on this earth. Eric was not the first person drawn to public service and the attendant publicity. Neither is Eric the first person who has suffered a unique disaster that, unfortunately, is now a part of modern-day life and that is reflected in the need of certain individuals who crave the notoriety that only media attention can bring. [Ask Elmo!!!]

The human toll on the innocent whether victims of a psychopath calling himself "The Joker" or a decent man whose reputation and good name is destroyed by fabricated complaints of sexual abuse are immeasurable. The nightmare, "This couldn't be happening to me" never ends.

Eric has stood silent until now. After the fog created by the shock of the unthinkable lifted, Eric focused on his family, his friends and political supporters and the impact this could have on them. His immediate withdrawal from the political arena reflected that concern.

At this time, by saying nothing, there is the grave risk that the public perception will be that the absence of denial suggests agreement with the disturbingly false accusation. To address that potential misinterpretation and injustice, Eric offers a brief and measured response while awaiting the scheduling of that fateful day in Court where he will be completely vindicated.

"The false allegation that has been presented close to a quarter of a century after the events alleged to have occurred is 'CATEGORICALLY, ABSOLUTELY AND FORCEFULLY DENIED! THE EVENTS EXIST ONLY IN THE TWISTED MIND OF THE ACCUSER.'".