



Ruth R. Hughs
SECRETARY OF STATE
State of Texas

May 20, 2021

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

Re: Resignation of Texas Secretary of State, Ruth R. Hughs

Dear Governor Abbott,

I am writing to thank you for entrusting me with the duties and responsibilities of serving as the 113th Texas Secretary of State. When you appointed me in August 2019, we knew there would be challenges ahead but no one could have predicted the magnitude of what awaited us as a state, nation and world as we faced a global pandemic.

During the course of my tenure as Secretary, I have had the honor of presiding over five elections, including the 2020 Presidential election and subsequent Electoral College, in spite of COVID-19 challenges. Throughout the pandemic, the dedication of the hard-working individuals of our agency ensured that we maintained our commitment to protecting the integrity of our elections system and engaging more Texans in the electoral process.

I am also proud of the work we have done to strengthen our international relationships and facilitate business growth and trade. The friendships we enjoy with our international partners were instrumental in addressing needs that arose during the pandemic. Texas is better positioned today as a result of our perseverance and resilience during these challenging times. Thanks to your leadership, we remain globally competitive and continue to enjoy great economic growth.

As we near the end of the 87th Legislative Session, I am proud of what we have accomplished and I recognize this is the right time to transition and turn my attention to private practice. I look forward to supporting my successor as needed, including providing a runway for the challenges and opportunities ahead. I respectfully submit to you my resignation of the office of Texas Secretary of State, effective May 31, 2021.

Thank you for granting me the privilege to serve the people of Texas. It has truly been a great honor. My family and I remain forever grateful.

May God forever bless you and your family, and may God forever bless the Lone Star State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. H. H.", written in a cursive style.

Ruth R. Hughs