

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION



GARY WHITE - PRESIDENT
MARY M. BUCKELEW
BETTYE FINE COLLINS
JEFF GERMANY
CHRIS McNAIR

April 11, 2000

Dear

What is the actual "Honda commitment" of the Jefferson County Commission?

In order to correct the many damaging misstatements, attached is a copy of the actual "commitment" attributed to the Jefferson County Commission regarding the Honda project.

It is not a resolution of the Jefferson County Commission.

It is not signed by the Jefferson County Commission.

It is not approved by the Jefferson County Commission.

It is not executed in an official Capacity by any County Commissioner.

It does not even identify Honda!

At best, it is a statement signed by Gary White in his individual capacity to "commit and pledge to use my best efforts to insure that the proposed commitments outlined to me are met by the County of Jefferson."

Secondly, it reflects the "total financial obligation of the County of Jefferson for this project is estimated to be \$2,000,000 or \$204,780 annually."

Thirdly, Gary White, as an individual, states "I will take all necessary steps to have this amount legally committed through appropriate action by the County government." This statement that he will undertake to get a legal commitment conclusively establishes that this document is not itself a commitment of the County government.

Finally, Gary White, as an individual, states, "I further commit that I will keep the contents of the discussions held on May 3, 1999, as well as any and all subsequent discussions regarding Project BINGO strictly confidential" This statement conclusively establishes that Gary White signed this document as an individual and not as a County Commissioner because it would be illegal for a County Commissioner to "commit" to keep public business of Jefferson County "strictly confidential".

Gary White asserts that this document was prepared by "state officials" and handed to him to sign, at which time he stated several times directly to Governor Siegelman and the others that his participation and any participation that the County Commission might later commit to would have to be conditioned upon a resolution of the occupational tax matter on a basis that is satisfactory to the Commission.

The simplest Comparison of the actual "commitment" of Gary White in an individual capacity with the quotes from the Governor, the Governor's representatives and others clearly demonstrates the mischaracterization and misstatements made in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Signed individually by each Commissioner

Gary White, President
Mary M. Buckelew, Commissioner
Bettye Fine-Collins, Commissioner
Jeff Germany, Commissioner
Chris McNair, Commissioner

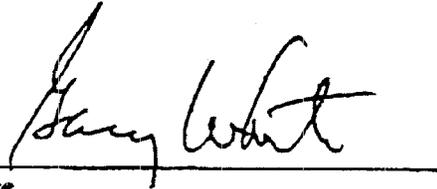
**COMMITMENT TO PROCEED WITH
PROJECT BINGO**

Pursuant to confidential discussions with State officials on Monday, May 3, 1999, I, the undersigned, on behalf of the County of Jefferson commit and pledge to use my best efforts to ensure that the proposed commitments outlined to me are met by the County of Jefferson. The total financial obligation of the County of Jefferson for this project is estimated to be \$2,000,000 or \$204,780 annually. I will take all necessary steps to have this amount legally committed through appropriate action by the County government.

I further commit that I will keep the contents of the discussions held on May 3, 1999, as well as any and all subsequent discussions regarding Project Bingo, strictly confidential.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 1999.

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary White", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is positioned to the right of the word "Signature".