

Honorable Rick Scott
Governor
State of Florida,

September 14, 2011

Dear Sir,

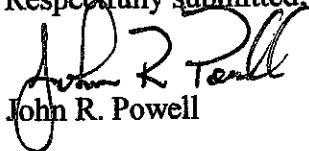
As you know I have served as the Director of the Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco since August of 2009 and have found the job to be challenging and very rewarding. The Division has taken great strides to follow your directives in getting Florida back to work and making our State the very best it can be.

Under my tenure the Division has streamlined the application process by utilizing technology with on-line applications. We have increased the inspection process to ensure a safer environment for our citizens and increased our enforcement efforts to ensure that our greatest assets, our children, are not exposed to the effects of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products. The efforts are paying dividends and people are taking notice. The many fine employees of the Division have done and will continue to do an outstanding job for the citizens of our state.

Sir, like you I have the deepest desire to serve the citizens of our great state and to provide the very best of service. It is this commitment that has guided me to make a decision to seek the office of Sheriff in the place where I was born and raised, Escambia County.

With this commitment in mind, I hereby submit my formal letter of resignation from the position of Director, Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco. I know you will continue to provide leadership to this great state and address the difficult problems that are ahead. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Florida and you have my sincere best wishes for the future.

Respectfully submitted:


John R. Powell