

## NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

East Baton Rouge Parish State of Louisiana

March 8, 2017

Trudy M. White EBRP Re-Entry Judge Criminal Section VIII Civil Division "J", § 28 Suite 6201, 300 North Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70801 Telephone: (225) 389-4737 Fax: (225) 389-8322

## BY CERTIFIED MAIL

JudgeTrudyWhite.com

Mr. Lee Tolowczuk News Director WBRZ 1650 Highland Road Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Mr. Tolowezuk:

I am writing this letter to apologize to the citizens of Louisiana, and especially the citizens of the Greater Baton Rouge area, for the video I made during my 2014 re-election campaign with an individual who portrayed the prison rap character JoMo Jenkins, which was released *via* social media and later became the subject of embarrassing news stories in the Baton Rouge area and on the internet. I understand how the JoMo Jenkin's character's statements, including "show you some love," might be interpreted to mean that I would treat defendants in criminal cases with leniency and that the video could cause members of the public to lose respect for the judiciary and to question its integrity and impartiality. To the extent that my conduct has put the judiciary or the justice system in a negative light, I am truly sorry. I regret having made the video and, again, I am sorry for any damage its release caused.

Please know that I have learned both from this experience and the aftermath, and I will do everything in my power to make sure that such a situation never happens again.

Sincerely,

Judge Trudy M. White