



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce (the “Chamber”) serves its 1,100 members, representing over 37,000 employees, as the Northshore’s premier business organization; and

WHEREAS, our mission is to promote, support and advocate for businesses, to be their resource of choice, and to be the catalyst for a community that prospers; as well as advancing the general welfare and quality of life on the Northshore; and

WHEREAS, St. Tammany is the fourth largest parish in the state as well as the fourth fastest-growing parish behind Orleans, East Baton Rouge, and Jefferson parishes; and

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Chamber serves as the voice of the business community in St. Tammany Parish, and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, a coroner holds responsibility over both death investigation and mental health of living persons (more than any other state); and

WHEREAS, prior allegations and the integrity of St. Tammany Coroner Dr. Christopher Tape has come into question; and

WHEREAS, after taking office following an election where he had no opponent, on March 25, Dr. Tape’s decision to unilaterally discontinue the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program which provided a first-class response system to a delicate, traumatic experience claiming it was a “business decision” goes against every value St. Tammany businesses practice in serving our community; and

WHEREAS, the issue has become widespread and followed by local and national news media; and

WHEREAS, it is a matter of public perception and has a negative impact on existing and new businesses looking to locate to St. Tammany Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chamber’s Board of Directors:

Following lengthy discussion and research provided, the Chamber’s Board of Directors has elected to endorse and support the recall of Coroner Christopher Tape. We encourage our members to support and sign the recall petition circulating throughout the parish.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, respectfully signed this 26th day of April 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Abadie'.

Chris Abadie
2024 Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lacey Osborne'.

Lacey Osborne
President and CEO