## Statement of Salvatore F. DiMasi

As my family and I approach our most challenging days, I have been asked by many in my neighborhood and around the state for my thoughts, perspectives and opinions on the events of the last almost three years since I left the State House.

While there will be time to dwell on specifics in the months and years to come, I think it is important to once again — as I have from the beginning — profess my innocence. In three decades of public service, I was always driven by a core set of beliefs that dictated all my actions. I have, at all times, adhered to the highest standards of conduct and every action I took was based solely on the best interests of my constituents and the people of the Commonwealth.

I have a proud record of accomplishments, including historic health care reform, green jobs, important court reforms, the protection of same sex marriage and, while I served, the refusal to legalize casino gambling. The irony that the casino culture prevailed after so many years just one week before I traveled to Kentucky is certainly not lost on me.

I remain outraged that my reputation, my integrity and my good name have been sullied by this process. I will do everything in my power to earn back those things in the coming years.

I maintain my innocence. I have never nor would I ever violate the public's trust. I still believe in the American justice system and my hope, faith and attention are now focused on the Appeals Court. I have abiding faith in that system and place my fate in its hands.

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