

**32ND SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
FAYETTE, SOMERSET AND  
WESTMORELAND COUNTIES**

**PAT STEFANO  
STATE SENATOR**

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**Senate of Pennsylvania**

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June 28, 2018

Governor Tom Wolf  
Office of the Governor  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Governor Wolf,

I write to you today as one of our Commonwealth's cities is on the brink of a major crisis. On May 24<sup>th</sup>, both of our offices were sent a letter from three Monessen City Councilmen asking for the removal of Mayor Matt Shorraw for a variety of reasons and Councilman Gilbert Coles for failing to show up to meetings. A few days after that letter was sent, Councilman Ron Chiaravalle passed away.

With Chiaravalle's death and the continued absence of Councilman Coles, Mayor Shorraw has chosen to not show up for properly called for Council meetings thereby denying a quorum to do city business. This has led to bills not being paid and the business of the city left undone.

Today though, Monessen stands at the brink of a major crisis. Their insurance is set to expire on Saturday, June 30 and their solicitor indicates that without a Council meeting the city will not be able to stay open due to its lapse. Police will not patrol, city offices will close and city facilities will be shuttered if this comes to pass. I have enclosed an article with complete background on this crisis from yesterday's Mon Valley Independent.

I have personally reached out to Mayor Shorraw imploring him to fulfill the functions of his office by showing up and he refuses. There is a meeting this evening, Thursday June 28<sup>th</sup>, that he could show up to and single handedly end this crisis.

I recognize that my ability to influence him as a Republican State Senator may be somewhat limited. That is why I am reaching out to you today as the leader of our Commonwealth and the leader of the Democratic Party in Pennsylvania to urge Mayor Shorraw to come to the meeting and allow the city to continue to operate.

I am introducing legislation to ensure this type of situation cannot happen in the future but the immediacy of this crisis demanded I write this letter urging your help.

I have provided the contact information for Mayor Shorraw to Erin Molchany in your office.

I hope that the more than 7,500 people of Monessen can count on your leadership and intervention to help avoid this crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Stefano", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Senator Pat Stefano  
32nd District