



May 2, 2018

Emmet C. Davitt  
Maryland State Prosecutor  
300 East Joppa Road, Suite 410  
Towson, MD 21286

Dear State Prosecutor Davitt:

I am writing to bring to your attention a potential criminal violation of public trust committed by Maryland Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn and Governor Larry Hogan.

On April 13, the *Maryland Daily Record* reported that Maryland Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn's former employer, HNTB Corporation, was recommended for a nearly \$70 million state contract and Rahn personally waived the Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) procurement process—condensing an 18-24-month process into less than two weeks<sup>1</sup>.

On April 16, the *Daily Record* reported that Secretary Rahn had a “private dinner” with a former HNTB colleague, then attempted to cover his tracks by obtaining a waiver from the Maryland State Board of Ethics after a decision had already been reached to recommend HNTB for the contract.<sup>2</sup>

Research conducted by the Maryland Democratic Party found that Governor Hogan, the Maryland Republican Party and the Republican Governors Association have accepted more than \$100,000 in donations from HNTB Corporation. Governor Hogan's refusal to voluntarily release all communications between his administration and HNTB violates the public trust and points to an effort to conceal potentially illegal actions.<sup>3</sup>

Public service is a public trust, and there is evidence showing that Governor Hogan and Secretary Rahn violated that trust.

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<sup>1</sup> *Rahn's former employer recommended for \$69M state transportation contract*, Maryland Daily Record (April 13, 2018) (online at <https://thedailyrecord.com/2018/04/13/rahns-former-employer-recommended-for-69m-state-transportation-contract/>)

<sup>2</sup> *Rahn sought ethics clearance after contract decision made*, Maryland Daily Record (April 16, 2018) (online at <https://thedailyrecord.com/2018/04/16/rahn-sought-ethics-clearance-after-contract-decision-made/>)

<sup>3</sup> *Democrats push Maryland Gov. Hogan to release correspondence between company and his administration*, The Baltimore Sun (April 19, 2018) (online at <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/politics/bs-md-democrats-hogan-donations-20180419-story.html>)

Maryland Democratic Party, 33 West Street, Suite 200, Annapolis, MD 21401

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I am calling on your office to complete a thorough investigation to identify if any criminal violations were committed by Governor Hogan, Secretary Rahn, and officials in the Hogan administration during the procurement process for this nearly \$70 million contract.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Matthews". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Kathleen Matthews, Chair  
Maryland Democratic Party

cc: Governor Larry Hogan  
Secretary Pete Rahn