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## FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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### CHARGES DISMISSED AGAINST COUNCILMAN IAN THOMAS

The prosecution dismissed the pending criminal charges against Councilman Ian Thomas today.

Councilman Thomas maintains his position that he did not violate the law but has acknowledged making an error of judgment in his discussions with housing developers. He has agreed to perform seventy-five hours of community service in the next six months and to have no violations of the law.

The case facts were mostly in the public arena and undisputed. The legal issues were unique, and Councilman Thomas appreciates the time the Special Prosecutor devoted to evaluating those legal issues and considering the position of the defense.

Councilman Thomas has long advocated for more affordable housing options in the community. The case against him never alleged that he sought personal benefit from his actions. The discussions with the developers were transparent and included numerous parties in addition to Ian. Also, the evidence was clear that he discontinued discussions with the developers within minutes of the city attorney expressing legal concerns about the events. The developers quickly

agreed that they did not want to do anything that could raise legal or ethical concerns.

Councilman Thomas quickly reported his actions to the Missouri Ethics Commission, and publically admitted that he made a mistake. There is a difference between a mistake and a crime. Councilman Thomas is pleased that the state has dismissed the criminal case, and he looks forward to continuing his work in the community.

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