



City of Phoenix

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 30, 2014

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Chairwoman, Democratic National Committee
430 S. Capitol St. SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Chairwoman Wasserman Schultz:

We respectfully submit this bid to host the 2016 Democratic National Convention. We do so full of the energy we know it will take to get the job done, the wisdom from having hosted large-scale events before, the hope to tell the story of our community on an international stage, and the optimism that when the process is complete, you and your team will choose Phoenix as the place to nominate your next candidate for President.

Just as America's greatest strength is the richness of its diversity, so too is ours. Phoenix boasts one of the fastest-growing Latino populations in the nation, and our state's 22 tribes collectively make up the third-largest Native American population in the country. Arizona is home to more than half a million military veterans – from those who signed up post-9/11 to the Navajo Code Talkers who contributed so much in World War II and beyond. And because of a sweeping anti-discrimination ordinance the City Council passed last year, Phoenix is now recognized as one of the most LGBT-friendly cities in the United States.

Phoenix's amenities are top-notch. Our six-year-old METRO Light Rail system is already breaking ridership projections and can whisk delegates from the station that serves Sky Harbor International Airport along the three-mile trip to downtown in just 12 minutes. In addition to the state-of-the-art, LEED Silver Certified Phoenix Convention Center, we have outstanding city-owned facilities such as the US Airways Center and the 1,000-room high-rise Sheraton Hotel. More than 150 bars, restaurants and music venues, are within our increasingly-bustling and walkable downtown. All of these great amenities are nestled in a beautiful desert valley, surrounded by mountains and set against breath-taking sunsets.

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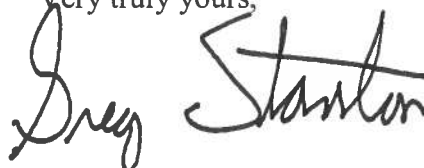
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Time and time again, Phoenix has demonstrated our ability to host large-scale events safely and securely. Next February, the region will host the Super Bowl for the second time in only seven years and the Super Bowl Experience activities will take place exclusively in downtown Phoenix. We have received excellent reviews from organizers and participants of the 2011 MLB All Star Game and its festivities and two NBA All-Star Games, and we're looking forward to hosting our second WNBA All-Star Game in July. I'm confident those who come to Phoenix for the 2016 DNC will have the same positive and memorable experience.

This bid is a team effort – just as our work to host the Convention will be – with enthusiastic support and involvement from our hotel and visitors industry, the business community, civic leaders and regional partners. We look forward to working with you and the Host Committee to make the 2016 Convention a tremendous success.

Please call me any time at (602) 262-7111 if you or your staff have any questions or need any additional information from me or my office.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Stanton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Stanton
Mayor