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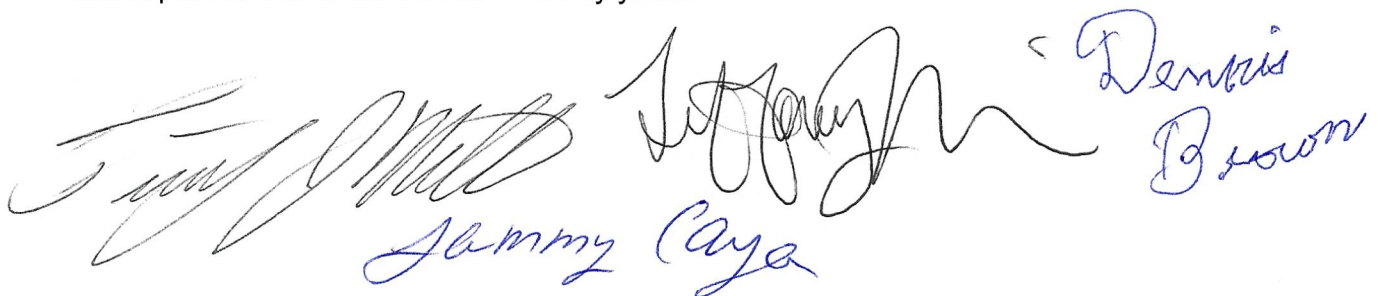
Ashtabula County Commissioners:

Geneva Township leadership is in opposition of the closure and consolidation of Western County Courthouse to Jefferson. Moving the geographical location of the Western County Courthouse to Jefferson does not better serve the residents in the Western part of the county.

None of the leadership of Geneva Township was consulted with to make this decision. The Ashtabula County Commissioners unilaterally decided to shut down Western County Courthouse and move it out of Geneva. This may be something that you have been considering for a long time, but you did not consult with local leaders of these municipalities on the best way to make this decision that will have such a huge impact on our community.

There will be countless negative implications with this move and closure. This will greatly impact our constituents who live in Geneva Township, Geneva City, and Geneva on the Lake. Our court system will be slower, it will cost our community members more, and it will be much more inconvenient for everyone who lives in the western portion of the county. This decision borders on irresponsibility. You will be stretching current law enforcement capabilities and staffing and countless other issues.

In closing, the Geneva Township Trustees are against your decision to move Western County Court out of Geneva. We feel it is short sighted. This will cause undue hardships to the municipalities that it has served for many years.


Dennis Brown
Sammy Caya
Timothy J. Mills