

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
AT FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR
THELMA DUGGIN
FEBRUARY 28, 1985

WHAT A JOYOUS OCCASION. THELMA IS A VERY SPECIAL PERSON TO ALL OF US. SHE HAS TOUCHED ALL OUR LIVES AND WE WILL MISS HER HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. I KNOW, HOWEVER, I SPEAK FOR ALL OF YOU IN SAYING **BON VOYAGE** TO THELMA AS SHE GOES OUT ON A NEW CAREER PATH. GOOD LUCK IN YOUR EXCITING NEW JOB AS DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR ONE OF THE VERY SUCCESSFUL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRY. WHILE WE WISH YOU WELL, THELMA, WE WILL NOT BID YOU FAREWELL. FOR WE EXPECT YOUR NEW POSITION WITH COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS SERVICE COMPANY INC. WILL KEEP YOU HERE IN WASHINGTON AND CLOSE TO YOUR FRIENDS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

JOANN COLLINS WILL REPLACE THELMA AS COORDINATOR OF MINORITY AFFAIRS. JOANN PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING. LET ME SAY, WELCOME, JOANN. I

LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.

AS THELMA WAS INTRODUCING ME RECENTLY AT A MINORITY BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM LUNCHEON AT HOWARD INN, HERE IN WASHINGTON, I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT FOR A MOMENT ON THE COMMON BOND THAT NATURALLY DEVELOPS IN MORE THAN FOUR YEARS OF WORKING TOGETHER. SHE RECALLED TO THAT AUDIENCE OUR MEETING IN 1979 AT A MARYLAND REPUBLICAN PARTY FUNCTION. I REMEMBER THAT MEETING WELL. I WAS SO IMPRESSED WITH THIS TALENTED, ENTHUSIASTIC, VIVACIOUS YOUNG WOMAN FROM MOBILE, ALABAMA. LATER, AFTER THE ELECTION, SHE JOINED ME ON THE TRANSITION TEAM BEFORE PRESIDENT REAGAN CAME TO WASHINGTON AND, AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, SHE WAS A VERY VALUED MEMBER OF MY STAFF DURING THE TIME I SERVED AS ASSSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC LIAISON. SHE HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN DEVELOPING THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY

STATEMENT ON INCREASING MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRACTING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND IN THE EXECUTIVE ORDER ON BLACK COLLEGES. SHE ALSO SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE 50 STATES PROJECT. THESE WERE VERY BIG ACHIEVEMENTS, BUT I VALUED HER TOO IN HER ABILITY TO BUILD CONSENSUS AMONG THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY OR WITHIN ANY PARTICULAR GROUP SHE WORKED.

YOU ALL KNOW THE KEY ROLE THELMA HAS PLAYED AT THE DEPARTMENT IN PROMOTING DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND ADVISING ME ON MINORITY AFFAIRS.

OUR MINORITY CONTRACTING PROGRAM AT THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL, IN PART, BECAUSE THELMA IS NEVER SATISFIED WITH REACHING A GOAL. SHE STRIVES TO SET THE GOAL A LITTLE HIGHER -- ESPECIALLY WHEN THE GOAL IS INCREASING MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

CONTRACTING. EACH YEAR WE SURPASSED OUR DBE GOALS IN THIS DEPARTMENT AND SET A NEW RECORD, AND EACH YEAR THELMA INSISTED THAT THE GOALS BE INCREASED. I'M VERY PROUD OF THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND I CAN TELL YOU THELMA PLAYED AN IMPRESSIVE PART IN THIS ACHIEVEMENT. HER COMMITMENT TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE IS UNSWERVING. SHE IS UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE SPOKESPERSONS IN THIS COUNTRY TODAY FOR MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

THIS IS A VERY PERSONAL MOMENT FOR ME. I'VE WATCHED THELMA DEVELOP IN HER CAREER. I'VE BEEN INSPIRED BY HER AMBITION, AWED BY HER ENERGY, IMPRESSED BY HER ABILITY TO HANDLE THE COMPLEX ISSUES OF OUR SOCIETY TODAY WITH A SPECIAL SENSITIVITY TO PEOPLE. I'VE ALSO BEEN REWARDED BY HER LOYALTY AND PATIENCE AND LONG HOURS OF HARD

WORK.

THELMA, YOU HAVE BEEN A SUPERIOR PUBLIC SERVANT AND I AM CONFIDENT YOU WILL BE EQUALLY AS SUCCESSFUL IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. YOU HAVE ALL OUR BLESSINGS AND BEST WISHES.

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