Greetings,

Please see the attached press release that will be announced on Monday (please keep under embargo until Monday morning at 7:00 AM EST).

On December 13th, I’ll be standing with Scott Smith of Water Defense along with the Local Plumbers’ Union (UA 370 of Flint) at a press conference, where I plan to provide a number of important details that should change the narrative regarding the water testing and analysis in Flint.

If you can’t physically join us, please call in.

If you want to discuss further, please let me know, by either contacting me directly, or feel free to contact our publicist Todd Keefe, who is copied on this note.

Sincerely,

Melissa Mays

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For Release on 12/13/16

Melissa Mays Hosts Press Conference Debunking Flint Michigan Water Quality Testing, on December 13, 2016
Mays and other Flint Residents Make Case for Renewed and Expanded Testing Plus Independent Lab Analysis

Flint, MI - December 12, 2016: Melissa Mays, an affected resident of Flint and founder of Water You Fighting For, today announced that she is hosting a press conference at 10:30 am on Tuesday, December 13th, at the UA Local 370 Plumbers & Pipefitters hall, at 5500 W. Pierson Road in Flushing, MI. At the event, Ms. Mays will discuss how insufficient testing, manipulation of data and a lack of transparency from the State of Michigan have been used to determine policies which have adversely affected the people of Flint. This event will be streamed live on the “Water You Fighting For” Facebook page, and members of the media can call (712) 770-4340 using code 773715.

Recent news stories have cited research claiming that 90-percent of the homes in Flint have lead levels of only 8 parts per billion (ppb) or less. At next week’s event, Ms. Mays will present test results (which have been largely ignored) showing lead levels exceeding 1,700 ppb.

“The State of Michigan is using research from VA Tech to claim progress that hasn’t been achieved,” said Melissa Mays. “The research is not only incomplete and misleading, but the lab analysis - which was paid for by the state - has been spun in a manner that supports a pre-determined conclusion.”

At next week’s press conference, Ms. Mays will discuss how the testing procedures that have been used to support the State’s policy decisions reached just a small percent of the homes in Flint (154 homes out of 34,000). She will comment on how the initial testing intentionally excluded high-risk homes. She will discuss why the nature of the testing (at the kitchen tap as opposed to at the water meter) provides inaccurate data. And she will share her views on the need for independent lab analysis that can document the full spectrum of contaminants and bacteria found in the water in Flint homes.

“The VA Tech analysis simply reports on lead levels, but we need to know what other contaminants are in our water, so that we can tell our doctors what to look for,” adds Mays.

At the event, Ms. Mays will also present details from control cities outside of Flint and previously unreleased results from Flint in August and September. She will contrast how bacteria testing and disinfection by-products testing in other cities compare to the testing and remediation efforts in Flint.

Earlier this year, Ms. Mays worked with Harold Harrington and Ben Ranger from the UA 370 Local Plumbers’ Union along with Scott Smith from Water Defense to test water in Flint. This comprehensive testing included testing water at water meters, water heaters, sinks and showers for a complete spectrum of chemicals and bacteria. The lab testing was done by an independent and certified laboratory, and the detailed lab reports have been provided to more than 20 residents in Flint. Ben Ranger, Harold Harrington, and Scott Smith will be in attendance at the press conference to answer questions and to support her presentation on behalf of all affected Flint residents.
I spoke to Melissa Mays today. She was practically in tears and I imagine that takes a lot for Melissa.

The $170 million Congress is patting itself on the back for is literally a drop in the bucket for what is needed in Flint.

There was a press conference on Tuesday and no one from the media showed up. Why? The governor's office is putting pressure on the media not to cover the story or risk losing access to the Governor.

An interview with Kate Snow on MSNBC was cancelled, presumably due to pressure from the Governor's office.

I am stymied as to how to help Melissa Mays and the other residents of Flint.

If anyone has any ideas, I'm all ears.

Apparently this is what government looks like with a businessman in charge. God help us all with a businessman in charge of the federal government.

-----Original Message-----
From: Andrew Moore <amoore@sbgtv.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 3:03 AM
To: edwardsm@vt.edu
Subject: From Drew Moore in Flint

So Marc I'm hearing that the state is waiting on the EPA because they want to wait six months in order to show that they are outside of the violation of the LCR rule. Clearly I hope that's true.
Here's what I'm having a hard time figuring out. Melissa Mays says she got her results from VaTech a week or two ago saying she had triple digit led readings on her samples. I just logically comprehend that of all of the homes, she's still hitting these levels!

It's leading me to a point where I do believe what happened to her is very real in the beginning, but now I'm question if there's another agenda.

Could there be other reasons she's seeing this amount of lead?

Something just isn't adding up to me.