**NEWS ALERT
For Immediate Release |April 16, 2015**

**State Auditor Troy X. Kelley Issues Statement Regarding Government Indictment**

***News Conference set for 4 p.m. today in Tacoma***

The following statement from Troy X. Kelley is in response to today’s action by the United States Attorney (United States of America v. Troy Kelley – CR15-5198 RBL)

*“I am obviously disappointed that the U.S. Attorney’s office has taken this action. I believe the indictment has no merit and want to note that none of the allegations touch on my work as an elected official in any way.*

*“For the past few years, I have been the subject of an intense investigation by the federal government about my private business practices going back more than ten years. While never confronting me with specific allegations – or the basis for those allegations – they have probed and prodded, seemingly moving from one aspect of my former career to another. Presumably they have used the secret grand jury process to construct a case against me, questioning dozens of witnesses and examining every aspect of my professional life until they could weave together an ill-conceived narrative from which to base the charges.*

*“In the end, they’ve been able to obtain an indictment, but they are a long way from proving any wrongdoing. Put more directly, I am very confident that I will be able to prove my innocence.*

*“The government’s allegations revolve largely around agreements and dealings I had with other private businesses. In my mind, those issues should be handled through civil litigation between the parties. In fact, many of the issues brought forth by the government were addressed – and settled – years ago. My business practices in my work around real estate and reconveyance were squarely in line with standard industry practices.*

*“I filed annual tax returns with the IRS on a timely basis, in adherence to the law, disclosing the existence of the funds that are a central part of the government’s case. I have been paying taxes on those funds long before the government’s interest in this case.*

*“The last two years have been extraordinarily difficult for my family and me. My constituents, friends and coworkers have all called for me to address the allegations and rumors surrounding the government’s investigation, but since the government has never disclosed the specifics of its allegations to me, I could not. I hope everyone now understands why I remained silent. Now that the U.S. Attorney has made the investigation public, I am determined to fight back.  Our system recognizes the power of judges and juries to sort fact from fiction, and I have confidence that this unbiased process will vindicate me.*

*“Beginning May 1st, I will take a temporary leave of absence from my duties as Washington State Auditor to allow my office to continue to do its important work without distraction. I fully intend to resume my duties after I put these legal matters to rest.”*

**Kelley is planning to hold a news conference on Thursday, April 16, at 4:00 p.m. He is not available for interview prior. Kelley will be joined by his legal team.**

Marriott Courtyard Inn | Mount St. Helens Room
1515 Commerce Street | Tacoma WA 98402
Scheduled start is 4:00 p.m. | Load in can begin at 3:30

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