



29 April 2014

Mr. Brent Stevenson, Executive Director  
1020 West 4th Street, Suite 400  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Brent,

As much as all of us look forward to spring, we know that each year the change of seasons is all-too-often marked by violent weather, especially in the Midwest and South. Recent reports from Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi paint a grim picture of the pain and suffering experienced this year by the residents in and around Vilonia, Arkansas, and in Mississippi, Tupelo and Louisville. Please express my condolences to all those members and their families who may have been affected.

I know AIA Alabama, AIA Arkansas, and AIA Mississippi members will be on the front line of those who generously reach out to provide comfort and help. That is who we are. And I know we have an important role to play in helping communities rebuild in ways that are more resilient to natural disaster. The AIA is already working closely with our partners at Architecture for Humanity to coordinate the energy and resources of the architectural profession, and we are committed to designing more resilient communities through architecture.

But that is in the future. For now, please know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your neighbors. There is much work to be done as these communities pick up the pieces of their lives. I know AIA members in Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi will be there to help.

Sincerely,

Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA  
2014 AIA President