



July 26, 2019

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

On behalf of Pridgeon & Clay, Inc., I would like to express our appreciation for the workforce development services provided by West Michigan Works! Pridgeon & Clay is a medium size automotive manufacturer who has been in business for 71 years. We are a second generation, family owned company. We are primarily a tier 2 supplier of automotive exhaust components.

I connected with West Michigan Works! because, I was looking for support in all three areas of the Going_PRO grant. We are currently in a hiring mode, so I needed assistance with the On the Job training program for our new hires. We also launched our Tool & Die apprenticeship program this past year, which allowed us to hire and begin training new apprentices. Finally, I wanted assistance with various training needs though out the company. Michigan Works! helped me reach my goal of attaining more than 50 new hires, 12 apprentices, and the ability to train over 100 employees throughout the company by sending employees to high quality external trainings, and bringing expert instructors on-site.

Pridgeon and Clay has benefited by working with West Michigan Works! because, they help with providing insight into the resources that are available to our business needs. What I find most valuable about collaborating with West Michigan Works! is their knowledgeable staff and their support in guiding us through the grant process. West Michigan Works! goes above and beyond in sharing their resources to help us succeed.

Sincerely,

Nel Cowham
Training Specialist
Ph: 616-252-2457