

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Wells</i>	DATE <i>12-5-06</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000388</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ries, Singleton cleaned up for better attached.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>12-14-06</i> DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action		

	APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

December 4, 2006

Log - Wells
"Approp. Sign."
cc: Ried
Smyleton

RECEIVED

DEC 05 2006

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

108 Parsons Mill Lane
Columbia, South Carolina 29229

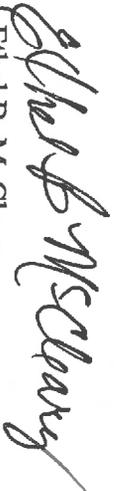
Robert M. Kerr, Director
South Carolina Department of Health & Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Mr. Kerr:

Please note that I have a concern with a new directive that was put in placed at the Richland County Department of Social Services office. This new directive prohibits employees from eating popcorn in the work place. This building house DSS employees and DHHS employees who are demanded to follow this new directive. Wateree Community Services and USC Continuing Education Program are also housed in this building. I am strongly against this new directive.

Thank you for reviewing the enclosed documents. Please respond to this letter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,


Ethel B. McCleary

December 4, 2006

108 Parsons Mill Lane
Columbia, South Carolina

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Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Kim S. Aydlette, State Director
South Carolina Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 1520
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-1520

Dear Mrs. Aydlette:

First, I would like to congratulate you on your new endeavor and sorry to see you leave the Department of Social Service. I know there is over 3000 employees at DSS and I was gracious to have met you when you visited the Richland County office a few years ago. The reason for this e-mail (follow-up with letter) is to voice my opinion about a new directive that was put in placed at Richland County DSS. I believe the directive of not eating popcorn at your desk should not be enforced upon employees due to one person's medical condition. Especially when the employee is rarely in the building. This ill employee's job is investigations that take her out in the field to client's homes, court, schools, police departments, prison system, and client's place of employment. How will the agency monitor these facilities?

Upon receipt of this e-mail from Mr. Cauley, several employees had comments, I even heard one employee stated to Mr. Cauley "it took one person to take prayer out of school and you are going to allow one person to tell you what we can eat." You see the conditions in schools, just image the attitudes this agency is going to have against this new directive.

This directive is beyond and outside the realm of reasonableness. It is unreasonable for this agency to inconvenience two to three hundred employees for one. It has been a long standing custom for employees to eat at their desk and to interrupt such a practice is again unreasonable. This directive needs to be reconsidered and an alternative work site should be put in placed for this individual due to her personal health of respiratory allergies due to foods.

I truly appreciate your acknowledgment to this e-mail and letter. Your prompt response is also appreciated.

Sincerely,


Ethel B. McCleary

cc: Robert M. Kerr, Director, SC Dept. Of Health and Human Services
Governor Mark Sanford, State of South Carolina

Memo

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DEC 05 2006

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

To: All Richland County DSS and DHHS Staff
From: Garmell Cauley
Jimmy Hampton
Jessie Alford
CC: Patricia McWhite
Date: December 1, 2006
Re: Microwave Popcorn

Effective immediately, the preparation and consumption of Microwave popcorn in the work area is prohibited. Preparation and consumption must be limited to the Canteen area. Presently this ban applies to Popcorn only.

Violations will result in disciplinary action.

Questions and or concerns may be directed to Garmell Cauley @ 7373. The signed original of this directive is on file in the DSS Director's office.

log letter # 388 ✓



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

December 27, 2006

Ms. Ethel B. McCleary
108 Parsons Mill Lane
Columbia, South Carolina 29229

*Brenda,
I'm sure
you got a file?
you copy it
pm 1/2*

Dear Ms. McCleary:

Thank you for your letter to Mr. Robert Kerr, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regarding your concern for a new directive in the Richland County Office of the Department of Social Services (DSS). Mr. Kerr forwarded your letter to the DHHS Office of Human Resources so that we may attempt to address your concerns.

In consulting the DHHS employee roster, it appears that you are not an employee of this Department. However, I will attempt to address your concerns relating to Mr. Cauley's office directive regarding prohibition of microwave popcorn in the work areas of the Richland County Office. Each state agency has the authority to issue personnel related policies and directives as necessary for proper and professional business functions. The memorandum from Mr. Cauley that you enclosed appears to include a reasonable office directive. Because DHHS employees are co-located in this office, we will certainly ask our employees to honor this directive as well.

In the future, should you have specific questions related to DSS personnel policies or directives, please refer them to the DSS Office of Human Resources. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tonya Chambers
Human Resources Director - DHHS

cc: Ms. Robin Owens, Human Resources Director - DSS