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To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
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Subject: State of the region script draft

Katherine – Thanks, as always, for your assistance on this. As you know, it's a big event that really pulls the community together and this year is a special one.

Feel free to edit or do whatever you want with it at will and let me know if you need additional info.

SCRIPT DRAFT

Hello everyone – It's great to see that once again, the community has come together for State of the Region.

I know that so many of you in the room today are first responders and on behalf of the great state of South Carolina, I say thank you....thank you for your extraordinary dedication before, during and after Hurricane Matthew to keep our citizens safe and to get the entire region moving forward.

What the Lowcountry and its leadership has been able to accomplish in such a short time is nothing short of miraculous.

Your efforts were instrumental in the safe and orderly evacuation of Hilton Head Island, Bluffton and Beaufort County. You continue to work diligently in the restoration effort, and it's wonderful to see residents and the business community come together in extraordinary ways to help one another.

Thanks to the chamber for working together with the state and their coastal neighbors to send the message that the Coast is Clear and that America's #1 Island is open for business. The efforts of each of you in the room today are making a positive impact...know that your hard work is so greatly appreciated by me and by so many others.

You make me proud...you make all of us proud and you represent what South Carolina is made of and what it means to be Lowcountry Strong.

Thank you and God bless

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