

From: Office of the Governor Site Support  
Sent: 10/21/2014 8:59:30 AM  
To: Haley, Nikki  
Cc:  
Subject: Umemployment

Title: Manager  
First Name: Brandi  
Middle Initial:S  
Last Name: Coco  
Suffix:  
Street Address: 909 King Street  
Street Address 2:  
City: Columbia  
State: SC  
Zip: 29205  
Phone:

Email: bcoco@sc.rr.com

Affiliation: South Carolina Resident

Message:

Mrs. Haley,

My name is Brandi Coco, Cafe Manager at The Gourmet Shop in Columbia, SC. I have worked for The Gourmet Shop for over 5 years and have worked in the service industry for over 15 years. I have owned my own business in time pass and have worked hard to maintain a home with my two children and a husband who I put through law school. During my time with The Gourmet Shop and owning my business I have encountered many situations which require me to handle sexual harassment allegations between employees and unemployment benefits for employees that have applied after termination with the company.

During a recent claimant's hearing I failed to be a part of a telephone conference hearing for Avis Irving. I failed to be a part of this hearing due to an emergency with my youngest child Amelia. I was the only manager aware and prepared to take the call and when I attended the tribunal appeal to allow me a second opportunity for a fair hearing, I was denied.

As a mother and a advocate of small businesses I ask that you help to have this matter reconsidered. This matter with Avis Irving resulting in another employee being attacked on his way to work. She should not receive benefits after her behavior, as manager, resulted in putting the safety of employees in danger.

Notice of Telephone Hearing states: The Hearing will not be postponed except for an emergency. My children are my number one priority and they constitute an emergency when I am called. Please contact me regarding this matter. My employer should not have to pay due to my life circumstance, nor should a person be allowed to take advantage of a system that is set up to care for those who need it.

Sincerely,  
Brandi Coco  
803-315-8480