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September 18, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Gov. Haley,

I am writing in support of Chris Nisbet, our coroner in Dorchester County who has recently been involved in an unfortunate incident that has caused some to question his ability to serve.

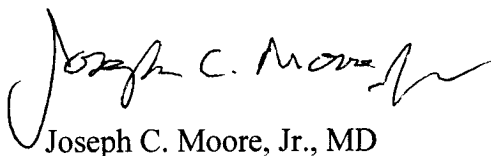
I have known Chris and his family for as long as he has been our coroner, which is almost 20 years. As you probably know South Carolina, unlike some other states, does not require coroners to be physicians. It takes a special person to take on the responsibility to properly educate him or herself to handle this difficult and challenging task with all of its legal and medical implications. Chris has taken this responsibility seriously and I have witnessed personally his efforts to reach out to the medical community to get help when needed with a difficult decision.

He takes his advocacy role seriously; Chris has been involved in the community with drug and alcohol education efforts with young people to address the problem with impaired driving death and injury.

You will hear from some that Chris is a racist who could not serve all equally. Unfortunately the current environment causes many to jump to that conclusion, but I can tell you that Chris treats all people the same regardless of race or ethnicity, and in fact he has adopted a child from China who would never have had anything like the quality of life and opportunities that he has provided for her here.

I ask you to resist calls to remove him from office. This would be a great disservice to our county and its citizens. It would be a terrible injustice to allow this one incident to mar his otherwise stellar career.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph C. Moore, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph C. Moore, Jr., MD
Fellow, American Academy of Pediatrics