

# Senate Ethics Committee

LUKE A. RANKIN  
CHAIRMAN

SUITE 203  
GREGGOTT OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE (803) 212-6410  
FAX (803) 212-6499



LEONARD P. CDDM  
RESEARCH DIRECTOR

LAURE TRAYWICK  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

THE SENATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
P. O. BOX 142  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

## ADVISORY OPINION 2015-1

The Senate Ethics Committee (the "Committee") hereby directs that, effective October 19, 2015, the only permissible method for a Senate Member or candidate to reimburse himself or herself, or his or her agents or campaign staff, for the use of a personal vehicle to conduct campaign or other unreimbursed office-related travel shall be made utilizing the standard rate for mileage established annually by the Internal Revenue Service for business use of an automobile. The actual mileage used to compute the amount of the reimbursement must not exceed the actual distance traveled and must be computed using the shortest practical route. Members and candidates must maintain a mileage log that includes the dates of travel, beginning and ending locations, the purpose of the travel, and the number of miles traveled. The mileage log must be made available to the Committee upon request.

The standard mileage reimbursement rate for the business use of an automobile for 2015 is 57.5 cents per mile.

### Senators:

A few days after the Post & Courier came out with a story which pointed fingers at several members of the Senate Ethics Committee as how they spent campaign funds. The Senate Ethics Committee came out with this Advisory Opinion 2015-1, which makes it possible for them not to be destroyed like they annihilated me Senator Robert Ford.

Every American deserves equal and fair treatment under the law.

What happened to the impartial justice for Senator Robert Ford?

The South Carolina Senate is the only group of people that can initiate procedures for an unprejudiced, fair and equitable procedural due process than what was afforded me.

I request that you do so.