



GOVERNOR  
HALEY  
PLEASE  
HELP !



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET  
COLUMBIA 29201

April 1, 2014

Mr. Robert H. Grant  
764 Springdale Road  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

Dear Mr. Grant,

Thank you for your correspondence to Governor Haley. I have referred the information you provided to our office to Tara Pitts, Constituent Services Liaison, with the South Carolina Department of Social Services. She will be contacting you regarding your correspondence. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

  
Haley Mottel  
Office of the Governor

cc: Tara Pitts, Constituent Services Liaison, South Carolina Department of Social Services

3-20-14

MY NAME IS ROBERT H. GRANT.

I AM THE FATHER OF TERESA KARLSONS  
HUGHES AND THE GRAND FATHER OF SOMER  
KARLSONS.

FOR THE LAST 4 1/2 YEARS MY DAUGHTER  
TERESA AND HER EX-HUSBAND JEFF KARLSONS  
HAVE BEEN IN A CHILD CUSTODY BATTLE OVER  
THEIR DAUGHTER SOMER.

SOMER WAS 10 YEARS OLD WHEN JEFF  
ABANDONED MY DAUGHTER WHILE SHE WAS  
OUT SEEKING TECH. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT.  
HE TOOK SOMER WITH HIM.

SOON THEY WENT TO FAMILY COURT AND JEFF  
WAS GIVEN CUSTODY OF SOMER BECAUSE MY  
DAUGHTER HAD A HISTORY OF COCAINE USE  
WHICH I STRICTLY CONDEMN.

LET ME STOP HERE, MY DAUGHTER HAS NOT <sup>(FOR 5 YEARS)</sup>  
USED ANY DRUGS AND HAS NO DESIRE TO DO SO.

THIS IS THE ONLY GOOD THING THAT HAS  
COME OUT OF THE MARITAL AND CUSTODY MESS  
AND I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR IT.

SOON, AFTER SHE STARTED LIVING WITH HER  
FATHER SOMER STARTED CALLING HER MOTHER  
SAYING SHE WANTED TO COME LIVE WITH HER.

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE SOMER WAS LIVING  
WITH HER MOTHER AND DID SO FOR ABOUT 18 MONTHS.

DURING THIS 18 MONTH PERIOD JEFF DID NOT GIVE ONE PENNY TO HER MOTHER FOR THE CARE, FEEDING AND UPKEEP OF SOMER.

SEVERAL TIMES DURING THEIR MARRIAGE JEFF TOLD MY DAUGHTER IF EVER THERE WAS A BREAK-UP HE WOULD NEVER PAY ANY ALIMONY OR CHILD SUPPORT. HE SAID BEFORE HE WOULD DO THAT HE WOULD LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND GO BACK TO GERMANY. HE IS FROM GERMANY.

DURING THE 18 MONTHS SHE LIVED WITH HER MOTHER SOMER NEVER GOT INTO ANY TROUBLE AND SHE WAS WELL CARED FOR BY HER MOTHER.

AFTER 18 MONTHS WHICH WAS ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO MY DAUGHTER ASK HIM FOR SOME CHILD SUPPORT, HE TOOK HER BACK AND WAS FORCED HER TO LIVE WITH HIM. SINCE THAT TIME SHE HAS BEEN IN ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE, SOME OF WHICH BREAKS MY HEART.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAS HAPPENED TO SOMER OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS WHILE SHE WAS IN HER FATHER'S CUSTODY:

JEFF HAS A JOB IN YORK, SC. AND HE FOUND A MAN LIVING THERE WHO HAD CHILDREN IN THE SAME SCHOOL AS SOMER WHO WOULD TAKE HER TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY FOR FREE SO HE STARTED LEAVING HER THERE. THIS MAN IS A CONVICTED FELLON. WHEN HER MOTHER FOUND OUT THE MAN

WAS A FELLON SHE TRIED TO STOP JEFF FROM LEAVING HER THERE BUT TO NO AVAIL.

SOON SOMER STARTED GETTING INTO TROUBLE. SHE HAD SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE POLICE IN YORK. THEN AT THE AGE OF 13 SHE HAD SEX WITH A 19 YEAR OLD MAN. I AM STILL ASKING WHY THIS MAN WAS NOT ARRESTED - NO ANSWERS!

THEN SHE GOT KICKED OUT OF SCHOOL. I THINK THEY FOUND M.J. IN HER POSSESSION AT SCHOOL. SHE WAS THEN SENT TO JUVENILE DETENTION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS IN COLUMBIA.

WHEN SHE WAS RELEASED MY DAUGHTER DID NOT WANT HER PUT BACK INTO JEFF'S CUSTODY BUT THAT IS WHAT <sup>HAPPENED</sup> DJJ PUT AN ANKLE BRACELET ON HER. A FEW DAYS LATER SOMER CUT THE BRACELET OFF, RAN AWAY AND CALLED HER MOTHER. HER MOTHER WENT AND PICKED HER UP AND TOOK HER TO DJJ. WHEN HER FATHER GOT TO DJJ HIS FIRST QUESTION WAS "AM I GOING TO HAVE <sup>PAY</sup> FOR THAT ANKLE BRACELET?"

SOMER WAS NEXT SENT TO DETENTION IN BLACKVILLE, S.C.

WHEN SHE GOT OUT SHE WAS AGAIN SENT INTO HER FATHER'S CUSTODY OVER HER MOTHER'S PROTEST.

THEN LAST FALL MY DAUGHTER CALLED ME AND SAID SOMER WAS HAVING A HEALTH

PROBLEM AND SHE WAS TAKING HER TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM, I SAID I'LL BE RIGHT THERE. WHEN I GOT THERE SOMER WAS COMING OUT OF THE E.R. SHE SAID TO ME "THEY SAY THAT I HAVE V.D." THIS JUST KILLED ME.

THE NEXT DAY, I WENT TO D.S.S. AND TOLD THE RECEPTIONIST THAT I WANTED TO SEE ONE OF THE D.S.S. PEOPLE AND BRING CHARGES AGAINST JEFF KARLSONS FOR CHILD NEGLECT.

I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO TALK TO ANYONE IN PERSON. I HAD TO GO INTO A ROOM BY MYSELF AND TALK BY PHONE BY SOMEONE THERE IN THE BUILDING IN ANOTHER ROOM.

DURING THE INVESTIGATION THE CASE WORKER, CHONDA HARDIN TALKED TO MY DAUGHTER AND TOLD MY DAUGHTER THAT SHE WAS GOING TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CUSTODY OF SOMER BE GIVEN TO HER BUT THAT DIANNE STEVENSON SAID SHE WAS NOT GOING TO LET MY DAUGHTER HAVE CUSTODY OF SOMER. I ASK WHY? I THINK THERE IS SOME BAD FEELINGS BETWEEN THE TWO. MY DAUGHTER, LIKE EVERYONE, HAS FAULTS BUT NO ONE LOVES OR "DOTES OVER" THEIR CHILDREN <sup>MORE</sup> THAN SHE DOES. HERSON IS SERVING HIS COUNTRY IN THE ARMY. THEY HAVE AN INFANT SON.

NOW I FIND OUT THAT SHE IS POSSIBLY GOING TO BE CHARGED WITH CHILD ABUSE WHICH IS ABSURD AND TOTALLY, TOTALLY UNTRUE. SHE IS GOING TO HAVE TO DEFEND HERSELF AGAINST A FALSE CHARGE.

HER FATHER ONCE CAME OVER TO MY DAUGHTERS APARTMENT ABOUT 3 YEARS AGO TO GET HER. SHE DIDN'T WANT TO GO WITH HIM SO HE TOLD HER IF YOU DON'T I'M GOING TO COME IN THERE AND BEAT YOU WITH A BELT. HE ONCE DRUG HER ACROSS A PARKING LOT BY THE ARM.

HE CURSES HER OUT, CALLS HER STUPID, A DUMB ASS, A RETARD. HE TELLS HER HE IS GOING TO PUT HER IN FOSTER CARE.

IF SHE WERE PUT IN FOSTER CARE OR JAIL UNTIL SHE WAS GROWN IT WOULD BE FINE WITH HIM BECAUSE SHE WOULDN'T BE COSTING HIM ANY MONEY.

ON 3-13-14 I CALLED THE LOCAL DSS AND ASKED TO SPEAK TO CHONDA HARDIN AND DIANNE STEVENSON. NEITHER ONE ANSWERED THE PHONE BUT SAID LEAVE A MESSAGE AND I WILL CALL YOU BACK. I LEFT EACH ONE A MESSAGE AND TOLD THEM I WANTED TO COME UP AND TALK TO THEM IN PERSON. I DID NOT GET A RETURN CALL FROM EITHER ONE. THE NEXT DAY 3-14-14 I DROVE TO DSS

AND ASKED TO SPEAK TO C. HARDIN AND D. STEVEN.

IN A LITTLE WHILE SOMEONE CAME TO THE WINDOW AND SAID C. HARDIN WAS NO LONGER ON THE CASE. SHE SAID SHE WAS DIANNE STEVENSON AND SHE WAS NO LONGER ON THE CASE. SHE SAID SUSAN DEAN WAS NOW THE SUPERVISOR ON THE CASE. I ASKED TO SPEAK TO HER AND WAS TOLD SHE WAS "UNAVAILABLE."

WHEN I GOT BACK HOME MY PHONE WRANG AND IT WAS SUSAN DEAN. WE TALKED BRIEFLY AND I TOLD HER I WANTED TO COME UP AND TALK TO HER FACE TO FACE. SHE SAID SHE COULDN'T SEE ME ON MONDAY THE 17<sup>TH</sup> BUT GAVE ME AN APPOINT. ON TUESDAY 3-18-14 @ 2:30 P.M.

I ARRIVED AT 2:15 P.M. ON 3-18-14 AND TOLD THE RECEPTIONIST I HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH SUSAN DEAN AT 2:30 P.M. SOON SOMEONE CALLED ME INTO A MEETING ROOM. I THOUGHT SHE WAS SUSAN DEAN BUT SHE SAID NO SHE WAS AN ASSISTANT.

I TOLD HER I HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH SUSAN DEAN AND THAT IS WHO I WANTED TO TALK TO. SHE SAID LET ME GO TELL HER. SHE CAME BACK AND TOLD ME SUSAN DEAN WASN'T COMING ALTHOUGH SHE WAS THERE AND I HAD AN APPOINTMENT MADE BY HER TO SPEAK TO HER IN PERSON - FACE TO FACE.



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SUSAN DEAN'S BEHAVIOR WAS RUDE AND VERY UNPROFESSIONAL. SHE WASTED MY DAY COMPLETELY.

I AM AN 81 YEAR OLD KOREAN WAR VETERAN AND I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF DAYS TO WASTE.

I FOUGHT FOR THIS COUNTRY FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND JUSTICE AND I AM GETTING NEITHER FROM THE LOCAL D.S.S. NEITHER IS MY DAUGHTER.

I SPENT ABOUT 30 MINUTES TALKING TO THE ASSISTANT. SHE HAD A PAD AND PEN BUT TOOK NO NOTES. SHE ASKED NO QUESTIONS AND MORE OR LESS STARED INTO SPACE. I DON'T THINK SHE <sup>WAS</sup> LISTENING TO ANYTHING I SAID.

I WANT SOMEONE FROM OUTSIDE OF THE ROCK HILL D.S.S. TO LOOK INTO THIS CASE.

MY DAUGHTER IS BEING FALSELY ACCUSED, MY GRAND DAUGHTER'S LIFE HAS BEEN RUINED BY HER FATHER. SHE WILL NEVER GET HER INNOCENCE BACK. IT'S SHAMEFUL.

PLEASE INVESTIGATE THIS CASE.

Robert H. Grant  
764 Springdale Rd.  
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Robert H. Grant

2-23-15

GOVERNOR HALEY,

ELEVEN MONTHS AGO-MARCH 2014 - WHICH I SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL BECAUSE I WANTED IT TO BE READ BY YOU. I DOUBT THAT THE LETTER EVER GOT TO YOU. I WROTE YOU A LETTER.

I AM SENDING YOU A COPY OF THAT LETTER IN HOPE IT WILL MAKE IT TO YOU THIS TIME AND YOU WILL READ IT AND TAKE ACTION.

THE LETTER IS ABOUT HOW MY GRAND DAUGHTER'S, SOMER KARLSONS LIFE WAS RUINED AT THE AGE OF 13 AND TO THIS DAY EVEN WORSE THINGS ARE HAPPENING TO HER DUE TO THE PARENTAL NEGLIGENCE OF HER FATHER JEFFERY KARLSONS.

YOU REALLY NEED TO READ LAST YEARS LETTER BEFORE YOU READ THIS ONE SO YOU WILL UNDERSTAND ALL I AM SAYING NOW.

HERE IS A BRIEF RECAP:

IN OCTOBER OF 2012 SOMER HAD BEEN LIVING WITH HER MOTHER FOR ABOUT 18 MONTH. THIS WAS FINE WITH JEFF KARLSONS BECAUSE IT WASN'T COSTING <sup>HIM</sup> A PENNY FOR SOMER'S UPKEEP AND SUPPORT AND SHE WAS BEING WELL TAKEN CARE OF BY HER MOTHER.

IN OCTOBER OF 2012 MY DAUGHTER ASKED JEFFREY TO HELP OUT IN THE SUPPORT OF THEIR DAUGHTER WITH SOME FINANCIAL AID.

WHEN HE HEARD THIS HIS RESPONSE WAS: I HAVE PRIMARY CUSTODY, I AM TAKING HER AWAY FROM YOU, SHE CAN NO LONGER STAY WITH YOU.

THAT IS WHAT HE DID AND THAT IS WHEN THE RUINIZATION AND DOWNWARD SPIRAL OF SOMER'S LIFE STARTED AND CONTINUES TO THIS DAY.

IN SEPTEMBER OF 2012 SOMER HAD JUST TURNED 13 YEARS OLD. ABOUT THIS TIME HER FATHER, WHO HAD JUST TAKEN SOMER AWAY FROM

HER MOTHER, STARTED TAKING SOMER TO YORK, S.C. THERE HE DROPPED HER OFF WITH A FAMILY WHO'S FATHER, AS HER MOTHER LATER FOUND OUT, IS A CONVICTED FELON.

WHEN HER MOTHER FOUND THIS OUT SHE WENT TO OUR LOCAL D.S.S. AND ALSO JEFF AND TRIED TO PUT A STOP TO SOMER BEING LEFT IN THIS ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE SHE WAS AFRAID SOMETHING BAD WOULD HAPPEN TO HER DAUGHTER.

D.S.S. IGNORED HER. SOMER'S FATHER IGNORED HER.

SOON HER MOTHER'S WORSE FEARS, AND ALSO MINE, STARTED HAPPENING.

WHEN SOMER NEEDS HELP SHE ALWAYS CALLS HER MOTHER WHICH SHE DID. SOMER TOLD HER MOTHER SHE WAS "SICK" AND NEEDED TO GO TO THE DOCTOR.

HER MOTHER WENT AND GOT HER AND TOOK HER TO THE DOCTOR. THERE SHE FOUND OUT THAT SOMER HAD HAD SEX WITH A 19 YEAR OLD MAN AND HAD CONTRACTED V.D.

HER MOTHER WAS HEART BROKEN WHEN SHE FOUND THIS OUT BECAUSE IT HAPPENED IN YORK WHILE SHE WAS LEFT IN THE CARE OF THIS FELON AND HIS FAMILY.

~~MY~~ MY DAUGHTER WENT BACK TO D.S.S., TOLD THEM WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HER DAUGHTER, AND ASKED D.S.S. TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP SOMER'S FATHER FROM LEAVING HER IN THIS FAMILY'S CARE. D.S.S. IGNORED HER.

HER FATHER KEPT RIGHT ON TAKING HER TO THIS FAMILY'S HOUSE AND LEAVING HER.

THIS PAST SUMMER SOMER WAS PICKED UP BY POLICE WHILE WALKING DOWN THE STREET IN YORK

AT 3 A.M. WITH 5 MEN. SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN HER FATHERS CARE AT THE TIME,

TO MAKE A VERY LONG STORY SHORT LET ME SUMMERIZE:

SINCE HER FATHER TOOK OVER HER CUSTODY ABOUT 2 1/2 YEARS AGO SOMER <sup>HAS</sup> BEEN PUT IN BAD SITUATIONS AND IN AND OUT OF CUSTODY OVER AND OVER AGAIN,

SOMER HAS BEEN PUT IN CONFINEMENT IN COLUMBIA A COUPLE OF TIME, ALSO UNION, BLACKVILLE, ORANG BERG AND IS IN CUSTODY IN SUMMERVILLE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

RECENTLY, A PSYCHIATRIST WHILE INTERVIEWING SOMER FOUND OUT THAT SHE HAS HAD SEX WITH ABOUT 20 MEN. THIS IS A HORRIBLE THING THAT SOMER'S FATHER HAS LET HAPPEN TO HER.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO SOMER IS UNFORGIVEABLE. HER FATHER SHOULD BE CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL CHILD NEGLECT. I ALSO BLAME THE ROCK HILL D.S.S. FOR LETTING THIS HAPPEN TO MY GRAND DAUGHTER.

EVERY TIME SOMER RETURNS TO ROCK HILL FROM CUSTODY D.S.S. PUTS HER BACK IN HER FATHER'S CUSTODY. HE, IN TURN, TURNS HER LOOSE AND MORE TROUBLE HAPPENS.

SOMER ALSO TOLD THE PERSON INTERVIEWING HER ABOUT ALL THE FALSE AND UGLY THINGS HER FATHER WAS TELLING HER ABOUT HER MOTHER.

THIS IS HIS ATTEMPT TO TURN SOMER AGAINST HER MOTHER.

I AM INCLOSING A COPY OF THE LETTER I WROTE TO YOU 11 MONTHS AGO. PLEASE READ IT AND SAVE <sup>my</sup> GRAND DAUGHTER'S LIFE.

THE LAST PLACE SHE NEEDS TO BE IS IN

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HER FATHER'S CUSTODY. HE SHOULD HAVE  
LOST CUSTODY OF HER LONG AGO.  
AGAIN I BLAME THE LOCAL D.S.S. FOR LEAVING  
SOMER IN HIS CUSTODY WHEN BAD THINGS  
HAPPEN TO HER TIME AND TIME AGAIN.

I READ IN THE NEWSPAPER ABOUT HOW PEOPLE  
ALL OVER THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ARE  
HAVING PROBLEMS WITH D.S.S. I UNDERSTAND.

AFTER WRITING YOU MY LAST LETTER I  
GOT A LETTER FROM HALEY MOTTEL PROMISING  
ACTION - NONE EVER CAME.

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS  
HAPPENED TO YOUR DAUGHTER AND IS STILL  
HAPPENING? WELL THAT IS EXACTLY HOW  
MY DAUGHTER FEELS.

ALSO, PLEASE HAVE THESE MEN IDENTIFIED  
AND CHARGED WITH RAPE OF A CHILD.

THANK YOU,  
*Robert H. Grant*

P.S. I AM ALSO INCLOSING A COPY OF THE  
LETTER SOMER WROTE TO HER MOTHER FROM  
CONFINEMENT IN SUMMEAVILLE

Robert H. Grant  
764 Springdale Rd.  
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Dear mom , Sunday 2-8-5

I Just felt like I really needed  
to write you. I want you to  
know how much I love you... I  
know I can be the most  
ungrateful / disrespectful child  
ever but it hurts me to hurt  
you... I love you so much,  
your always there ~~and~~ when  
everyone else walks away from  
me your still there. I miss  
you already. When I'm depressed  
and down your the only person  
I can talk too. I love you  
so much and I'm not just  
saying that. I don't why I  
treat you the way I do  
but I'm sorry for all the  
mean stuff I said to you  
I really hate myself for the  
way I be treating you... I hope  
you can forgive me. I love  
you more than anyone.

~Lamar~