

**From:** Patel, Swati <SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov>  
**To:** Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>  
Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>  
**CC:** Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>  
Mottel, Haley <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>  
Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>  
Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>  
Glaccum, David <DavidGlaccum@gov.sc.gov>  
**Date:** 9/26/2016 10:49:12 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Veteran's EO

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I thought we decided against the Bethea quote.  
I think Livingston's quote should be above James Smith.  
Otherwise I'm fine with the draft.

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**From:** Godfrey, Rob  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 10:39 AM  
**To:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati  
**Cc:** Adams, Chaney; Mottel, Haley; Veldran, Katherine; Symmes, Brian; Glaccum, David  
**Subject:** RE: Veteran's EO

Here is the DRAFT release.

Becca is going to make sure General Livingston is fine with the quote from him.

Swati – you're getting one from Mr. Bethea?

Does anyone have any issues with this?

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**Gov. Nikki Haley Announces Veterans Policy Advisory Committee**  
*"Veterans Can Always Feel At Home In South Carolina"*

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley today signed an executive order creating the Veterans Policy Advisory Committee.

Following active service, mobilization or retirement, members of the military face unique challenges - from finding jobs to coping with physical and mental health stresses - as they transition to civilian life.

The Veterans Policy Advisory Committee will analyze the contributions and needs of South Carolina's more than 400,000 veterans. It will then make recommendations for policy changes to the South Carolina Military Base Task Force and the governor about how state government can best serve veterans' needs.

"There is no better way to thank our brave men and women in uniform than by taking care of them when their time of service ends," said Gov. Haley. "Veterans can always feel at home in South Carolina."

South Carolina is a proud military state. There are more than 50,000 active duty and reserve members of the military who call South Carolina home. Since Governor Haley took office, soldiers in the South Carolina National Guard have made more than 9,000 deployments.

"It's critically important that we maintain our focus on meeting the needs of veterans and their families," said State Rep. James Smith, a combat veteran. "I thank Governor Haley for her leadership, and I look forward to

working with leaders from across the state to take care of the men and women who sacrifice so much to keep us safe."

Major General Bob Livingston said, "When we work together as a state to make sure the transition to civil life is successful for veterans, we not only demonstrate our continued support for those who give so much, we show them how grateful we are for their service."

Membership of the committee includes military veterans, members of the General Assembly, and representatives from the following state agencies: the Adjutant General's Office, Department of Employment and Workforce, Department of Drug, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, Department of Mental Health, and Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

A copy of the governor's executive order establishing the committee is available [here](#).

**Rob Godfrey**  
**Office of Governor Nikki Haley**  
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From: Schimsa, Rebecca  
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 9:39 AM  
To: Patel, Swati  
Cc: Godfrey, Rob; Adams, Chaney; Mottel, Haley; Veldran, Katherine; Symmes, Brian; Glaccum, David  
Subject: Re: Veteran's EO

None of the agencies have been notified. I will work with Austin to get a notice out to the directors asap.

On Sep 26, 2016, at 9:20 AM, Patel, Swati <[SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov](mailto:SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

All,

Rob would like to release the Veteran's EO via press release today. Rob – let us know what time you'd like to release it. The Gov is scheduled to sign the EO around 10:45am.

I think it would be helpful to get quotes from Bill Bethea and James Smith.

Becca – can you ask Bill Bethea for a quote?

Rob – are you reaching out to James or do you want leg shop to handle?

Have the agencies that will be involved in the task force been notified?

I don't think there is anything else to do on this one, but chime in if I'm missing anything.

So glad we finally got this one to the finish line!

Swati

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