

**From:** Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>  
**To:** Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>  
**CC:** Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>  
Smith, Austin <AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov>  
Taylor, Richele <RicheleTaylor@gov.sc.gov>  
**Date:** 11/18/2016 1:57:49 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Media request for information

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Yes.

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**From:** Godfrey, Rob  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 1:51 PM  
**To:** Symmes, Brian  
**Cc:** Adams, Chaney; Smith, Austin; Taylor, Richele  
**Subject:** Re: Media request for information

Brian - can you please make sure we huddle up with this group about this on Monday?

Rob Godfrey  
Office of Gov. Nikki Haley

On Nov 18, 2016, at 1:42 PM, Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Michael Owens is the reporter from WSPA asking about this. I asked Lesia to find out a firm deadline and he said he needs it by early next week.

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**From:** Lesia Kudelka [<mailto:lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 12:36 PM  
**To:** Symmes, Brian  
**Cc:** Holly Beeson  
**Subject:** FW: Media request for information

Brian, this is from WSPA.

Lesia Shannon Kudelka  
Communications Director and Ombudsman  
S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation  
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, S.C. 29210  
Telephone: 803.896.4376  
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· How many people currently hold a valid SC Real Estate license?

47,129 licensees as of November 9<sup>th</sup>.

- How many people from before the law went into effect currently hold a valid license?  
We cannot determine that information. However, there were 42,670 licensees on 5/20/15 which was around the time a contract was awarded to begin background checks. The contract had to be awarded through a competitive bid due to state procurement code requirements.
- Of those who received a license before the law went into effect, how many have been convicted of a felony?  
We cannot determine that information. It was based upon self reporting of the applicant, and every application and supporting documentation would have to be reviewed individually.
- Of those who have been convicted of a felony, have their backgrounds - other than their explanation sent in with their application - been reviewed or confirmed with the court of their conviction?  
We cannot determine that information. It was based upon self reporting of the applicant, and every application and supporting documentation would have to be reviewed individually.

**Roderick T. Atkinson**

**Administrator**

S.C. Real Estate Commission

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Telephone: (803) 896-4461

Fax: (803) 896-4427

email: [Roderick.Atkinson@llr.sc.gov](mailto:Roderick.Atkinson@llr.sc.gov)

website: [www.llronline.com](http://www.llronline.com)

*Please click on this link **\*\*Customer Service Survey\*\*** to be directed to a very brief (1 minute) survey regarding the assistance you received from me today. Your comments are greatly appreciated. Thank you.*

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From: Lesia Kudelka  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 12:36 PM  
To: Roderick Atkinson  
Cc: Holly Beeson  
Subject: FW: Media request for information

Rod,

Lesia Shannon Kudelka  
Communications Director and Ombudsman  
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From: Owens, Michael L. [<mailto:MOwens@wspa.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 12:34 PM  
To: Lesia Kudelka <[lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov](mailto:lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Media request for information

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The heart of my questions deals with this theme: I understand the Commission recently started doing background checks on applicants. But does it do checks on the applicants who received a license before the law went into effect?

Simply put, my line of question are as follows:

- How many people currently hold a valid SC Real Estate license?
- How many people from before the law went into effect currently hold a valid license?
- Of those who received a license before the law went into effect, how many have been convicted of a felony?
- Of those who have been convicted of a felony, have their backgrounds - other than their explanation sent in with their application - been reviewed or confirmed with the court of their conviction?
- If not, will that happen?

Thanks for any help you can provide,

Mike

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From: Lesia Kudelka [<mailto:lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov>]  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 12:31 PM

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To: Owens, Michael L.  
Subject: RE: Media request for information

If you will send me your questions, I will work on getting responses for you.

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Communications Director and Ombudsman  
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From: Owens, Michael L. [<mailto:MOwens@wspa.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 12:28 PM  
To: Lesia Kudelka <[lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov](mailto:lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Media request for information

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Also, are you available to talk for a minute? I have a few questions for you based on an email I sent a few days ago.

Mike

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From: Lesia Kudelka [<mailto:lesia.kudelka@llr.sc.gov>]  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 12:08 PM  
To: Owens, Michael L.  
Subject: FW: Media request for information

I believe you meant this for me. J

Are you wanting information on all real estate licensees, or just the ones in your area?

Lesia Shannon Kudelka  
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From: Owens, Michael L. [<mailto:MOwens@wspa.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 11:13 AM  
To: Kudelka, Robert P  
Cc: [Holly.Beeson@llr.sc.gov](mailto:Holly.Beeson@llr.sc.gov)  
Subject: Media request for information

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Nov. 17, 2016,

Lesia Kudelka,

This letter is a request for a copy of a public record listed below pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

I request an electronic copy ( in spreadsheet format if possible) of the database of license holders for a South Carolina Real Estate License

The data should include, but not be limited to:

- Name of license holder;
- License type;
- License number;
- Status of license;
- Expiration of license;
- Whether license holder has a disciplinary record;
- Date holder first applied for license;
- Date license was granted;
- Location of license holder;
- Any other information the database holds pertaining to the license holder that is not exempt under FOIA.

Since this request primarily benefits the general public, WSPA-TV asks that any search or copying fees be waived. If there is a charge for providing us a copy, please advise me of your estimate of the cost before fulfilling this request.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions you may have about this request.

Sincerely,

Mike Owens

