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To: Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov
Date: 6/11/2015 1:50:38 PM
Subject: Statement requested

Hello Chaney

We received this press release from the ACLU regarding Governor Haley's participation in The Response event Saturday.

Can you or the Governor provide a statement in response to this?

Thanks

Matt Dreyer | Managing Editor | ABC News 4

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2015

Contact:

Victoria Middleton, Executive Director, ACLU of SC, vmiddleton@clusouthcarolina.org

Susan Dunn, Legal Director, ACLU of SC, sdunn@clusouthcarolnia.org

The American Civil Liberties Union of South Carolina today requested that Gov. Nikki Haley and other officials disclose the amount of tax-payer dollars and other state or local government resources used to promote the prayer event, “The Response: A Call to Prayer for our Nation,” set for June 13 at the North Charleston Coliseum. The ACLU of South Carolina filed an open records request with the office of the governor.

“We are seeking information on the degree to which state resources have been or will be used for the planning and promotion of this event and for state officials’ participation in it,” said ACLU of South Carolina Legal Director Susan Dunn. “The public has a right to know whether any public funds are being expended and how much it costs for our governor to participate in this prayer event.”

“The ACLU of South Carolina respects the diversity of belief systems in public life and the historic diversity of faiths in our state. But prayer is an act of worship, not an act of governance. The unfinished work of governing – improving our schools, repairing roads, reforming our criminal justice system – deserves the full attention of all our elected officials,” said Victoria Middleton, Executive Director.

One of the cornerstones of the ACLU’s work is to ensure that the First Amendment is upheld and to safeguard against government promotion of, or interference with,

religious practice.

The ACLU of South Carolina request seeks a response within 15 business days.