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Governor Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I am applying for a Pardon in the State of South Carolina. Although I committed no crime in this state, I have a criminal record here.

My crime was committed in the State of Georgia, in Clark County in the mid 1970's. It was winter or close to winter I was with my husband James David Dyar. It was a time when everybody was smoking a little marijuana, drinking, going to rock and roll concerts and just partying. We were on our way back from Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He said he was going to Georgia to pick up some pot and I told him to take me home. He pulled over on the side of the road and told me if I wanted to go home I would have to walk. It was cold and I was afraid. It was the weakest I have ever been. I was so ashamed. It has taken me years to admit I was a victim of domestic abuse. I never told anyone what he did that night but that moment was the end of our marriage. I took a cocaine charge to keep him from going to a maximum security prison. A classic sign of domestic abuse is to protect the abuser.

I actually went up in the mountains of North Carolina later that decade and lived in those mountains in a tent with a float and a kerosene lamp and survived. It gave me my power back. I received three years probation and I have served my time.

I want my record in the State of South Carolina cleared before I apply for a pardon in the State of Georgia. I believe it will help me in my attempt to get a pardon there.

On a personal note: I went back to school and earned a BA and Masters from Clemson University. I would like to be able to earned enough money to pay back my student loans. I truly believed at the time I had served my time and could accomplish something but that did not happen.

Thank you so much for what you are doing for the State of South Carolina. Everyone in this state should be proud of what you have accomplished. I know I am.

Please take care.

With Great Love and Respect,


Diane L. Kiger