

Rae H. Wooten, Coroner

Chief Deputy Coroner
Bobbi Jo O'Neal

Deputy Coroner
Dottie Lindsay
Kelly Kraus
Brittney Martin
Kimberly Rhoton
Sheila Williams
Sara Senn



OFFICE OF THE CORONER

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February 9, 2016

The Honorable Niki Haley
South Carolina Governor

Dear Governor Haley,

I have just learned of the resignation of Chris Nesbitt, former Dorchester County Coroner. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to appoint Chief Deputy Coroner Alice Durr to serve as "Interim Coroner".

As the elected Coroner of Charleston County I am in a unique position to understand and appreciate the challenges that coroners face every day and especially in times of crisis such as the tragedy of the nine individuals who were murdered at Mother Emmanuel Church. At such times the importance of experience cannot be underestimated. That experience, along with professionalism and compassion, is what decedents, their families, the community and society deserve. In times of deepest grief and vulnerability, no less is acceptable.

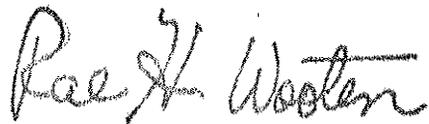
I have had numerous opportunities to work with Chief Deputy Durr through the years, as we are neighboring counties and many individuals move between the two counties continually, necessitating the involvement of both offices. I have found Chief Deputy Durr to be very experienced and knowledgeable in investigation as well as very empathetic in dealing with families. She is also continually working to increase her own knowledge base and to improve the Coroner's Office as a whole.

During this time of transition , I believe that the citizens deserve the stability that can come only from experience as Coroner/Chief Deputy Coroner and as an integral part of the Dorchester County Coroner's Office.

For this reason, I strongly urge you to appoint Chief Deputy Durr as Interim Coroner for Dorchester County.

I am happy to answer any questions should you have them and I appreciate your taking time to read my endorsement of Alice Durr.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rae H. Wooten". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rae H Wooten, Coroner