



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

September 10, 2015

Mr. Jason Leopold
VICE News
589 Venice Boulevard
Venice, California 90291

Dear Mr. Leopold,

One July 24, 2015, our office responded to your Freedom of Information Act request, notifying you that we possessed records regarding the following:

Item 1: "Any and all documents, which includes but is not limited to emails, letters, memos, text messages, sent to and received by Governor Nikki Haley between January 1, 2015 and the date the search for responsive records is conducted mentioning or referring to the Confederate Flag;"

Item 3: "Any documents, which includes, but is not limited to emails, letters, memos, text messages, sent to Nikki Haley from any member of the South Carolina State Legislature. The timeframe for this search is June 1, 2015 through the date the search for responsive records is conducted;"

Item 5: "Any and all documents, which includes but is not limited to emails, letters, memos, text messages, between Governor Nikki Haley and local government and law enforcement officials in Charleston, mentioning or referring to the June 17, 2015 shooting at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and the Confederate Flag;"

As previously stated: Our office will provide any and all records in our possession that are responsive to your request, subject to any exemptions or redactions as allowed pursuant to Section 30-4-40(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws or as is otherwise exempt from disclosure by statute or regulation or prohibited from disclosure by court order. Due to the high volume of Freedom of Information Act requests received by the Governor's Office, and the significant costs associated with producing the requests, our office will charge a reasonable cost

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for searching and copying records that will be disclosed as allowed pursuant to Section 30-4-30(b).

With regard to Item 1, our office has located an estimated 14,500 pages of records at this time. For compilation of these records, our office calculates the total cost to be estimated at \$1,955.59, which includes an estimated \$1,450.00 for copies (approximately 14,500 pages at ten cents per page) and an estimated \$505.59 for staff time (approximately fourteen hours and five minutes to search and copy records at an average hourly wage of \$35.90). However, due to the widespread, national public interest of these issues, our office has chosen to waive the charge for more than 14 hours of staff time spent searching and compiling records as allowed by Section 30-4-30(b) (a reduced charge is appropriate where waiver of the fee is determined by the agency to be in the public interest). Accordingly, we have waived the cost for staff time and will only assess a cost for copies of records.

With regard to Item 3, our office has located an estimated 175 pages of records at this time. For compilation of these records our office calculates the total cost to be estimated at \$126.13, which includes an estimated \$17.50 for copies (approximately 175 pages at ten cents per page) and an estimated \$108.63 for staff time (approximately 2.75 hours to search and copy records at an average hourly wage of \$35.90).

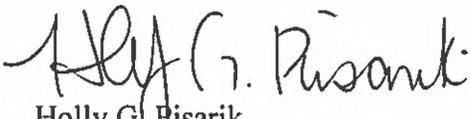
With regard to Item 5, all responsive records to this request are also responsive to and therefore incorporated within Item 1.

The total estimated cost our office will charge is approximately \$1,575.00, for which a deposit of \$100.00 is required to proceed. Please provide payment by check, made payable to the "Office of the Governor" and mailed to the following address:

Office of the Governor
c/o Holly G. Pisarik, Chief Legal Counsel
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Once the deposit has been received, we will finish compiling records to assess a final cost. We will notify you as soon as a final cost has been determined. Should you choose to narrow your request, please do so in writing.

Sincerely,


Holly G. Pisarik
Chief Legal Counsel

HP/rs