

November 12, 2015

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

Dear Governor Haley,

It is with much concern for the South Carolina Department of Corrections Chaplains that I write to you.

In the last few years there has been and is an ongoing movement to destroy the Chaplaincy Programs within the Department. Recently and "nationally" recognized Clinical Pastoral Education Program (CPE) has been lost through abandonment.

***Clinical Pastoral Education Program (CPE):**

Tremendous lost through abandonment.

That which is now abolished has been in existence for more than twenty (20) years. Over 75% of the current Clinical Chaplains with SCDC were trained through this program. The Clinical Pastoral Education within SCDC was the only "nationally" within a Correctional setting. CPE has provided an exceptional pool of trained applicants that served the SCDC population through training and eventually as Chaplains. To discontinue the program cut short the exceptional spiritual service it provided for SCDC.

This is primarily due to what I feel is the incompetence of the Director of Inmate Services.

Please see the attached information sheet of concerns and take actions you deem appropriate.

Sincerely,



R.L. Lee
Williston, SC

cc: Attached list
Attachments

Concerns
Director of Inmate Services

The Director of Inmate Services:

***Clinical Pastoral Education Program (CPE):** – Tremendous lost through abandonment.

That which is now abolished has been in existence for more than twenty (20) years. Over 75% of the current Clinical Chaplains with SCDC were trained through this program. The Clinical Pastoral Education within SCDC was the only “nationally” within a Correctional setting. CPE has provided an exceptional pool of trained applicants that served the SCDC population through training and eventually as Chaplains. To discontinue the program cut short the exceptional spiritual service it provided for SCDC.

Misuse use of Time and Attendance:

Excessive and repetitive long lunches with Administrative Coordinator

Four (4) previous Chaplains have retired / resigned due to time and attendance issues that she was insensitive to.

Disrespectful to Chaplains and Chaplaincy Programs -

Growing concern for senior experience leadership in Chaplaincy ranks leaving the agency due to altitude and demeanor of the current Director of inmate services.

Micro Manages the Religious Programs -

The Director of Inmate Services conduct interviews for chaplaincy positions without the Branch Chief of Pastoral Services and/or Senior Chaplain of the given institution.

Comes with a History:

Engineered the ouster of the President of Denmark Technical College whom was later recalled to lead the institution.

Brought to SCDC by then Deputy Director of Programs, John Carmichael, who was asked to leave after 29 years of service.

Clueless and insensitive to issues surrounding and involving Chaplains.

Comes to Chaplains meetings in a threatening manner whether to a group meeting or one on one meeting.

Has no respect for those who are “Called” to lead the Chaplaincy Program.

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P.O. Box 14632
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Senator Paul G. Campbell, Jr.
150 Loganberry Circle
Goose Creek 29445

Senator Shane R. Martin, Jr.
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Senator Chauncey K. Gregory
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Senator Karl B. Allen
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Senator Paul Thurmond
601 White Chapel Circle
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Senator Tom Young, Jr.
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Senator Glenn G. Reese
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Senator Kent M. Williams
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