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**Subject:** South Carolina Highway Patrol Graduation, Basic Class 98 & Class 99  
**Location:** Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia, S.C.  
**When:** 9/15/2016 2:00:00 PM - 3:30:00 PM

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Advance: Brett Lind  
(803)730-0107

**APPROVED BY:** NRH

**EVENT:** S.C. Highway Patrol Graduation Ceremony - Basic Class 98 & Class 99

**DATE:** Thursday, September 15, 2016

**TIME:** 2:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia, S.C.

**LOCATION SET-UP:** Rows of chairs, podium, stage, microphone

**ON-SITE LOCATION CONTACT:**

Sherri Iacobelli  
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**SCHEDULING CONTACT:**

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**PRIMARY STAFF:** Abby Scott

**ADVANCE STAFF:** Brian Symmes

**PURPOSE:** Gov. Haley will attend the S.C. Highway Patrol Graduation Ceremony and address the 98 and 99 Patrol Basic Training Class.

**PRESS:** Yes.

**PUBLIC:** Yes.

**INVITED BY:** Director Leroy Smith

**INTRODUCED BY:** Director Leroy Smith

**LENGTH OF SPEAKING:** 5 minutes

**SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE:**

2:00-2:04 PM	Presentation of Class and Transfer of Command	Captain E. J. Talbot
2:04-2:07 PM	Presentation of Colors	Highway Patrol Color Guard
2:07-2:10 PM	National Anthem	Lance Corporal Mike Looney
2:10-2:16 PM	Remarks/Master of Ceremonies Highway Patrol	Col. Michael Oliver, Commander, SC
2:16-2:22 PM	Intro of Keynote Speaker	Dir. Leroy Smith
2:22-2:28 PM	Commencement Address	Gov. Haley
2:28-2:30 PM	Oath for Peace Officers	
2:30-2:34 PM	Presentation of Physical Fitness Award	
2:34-2:38 PM	Presentation of Marksmanship Award	
2:38-2:42 PM	Presentation of Outstanding Achievement Award	
2:42-3:00 PM	Presentation of Patrol Commission	
3:00-3:04 PM	Retiring of Colors	
3:04-3:06 PM	Benediction	
3:06-3:16 PM	Class Video	
3:16-3:20	Dismissal	

**BACKGROUND ON SCHP BASIC 98:**

- OHR received 705 applications, 624 applicants referred for processing for SCHP Basic 98
- 25 trooper trainees started SCHP basic training on January 22 with an additional 5 prior-certified officers joining on April 22.
- 27 troopers will graduate on September 15
- Class demographic: 25 White males, 1 Black male, 1 White female.
- The SCHP Basic Training Program consists of 21 weeks of extensive law enforcement training in-residence
- After graduation, Troopers must complete additional field training: a minimum of 400 hours of field training

**BACKGROUND ON SCHP BASIC 99:**

- OHR received 467 applications, 427 applicants referred for processing for SCHP Basic 99
- 20 trooper trainees started SCHP basic training on April 15
- 18 troopers will graduate on September 15
- Class demographic: 15 White males, 1 Black male, 1 White female, 1 Black male.
- The SCHP Basic Training Program consists of 21 weeks of extensive law enforcement training in-residence
- After graduation, Troopers must complete additional field training: a minimum of 400 hours of field training

**Highway Patrol Graduating Class (45 troopers will graduate in total)**

- Thanks for the kind introduction, Director Smith, and thank you for your exceptional leadership at the Department of Public Safety.
- **Let me first say congratulations to the 27 graduates of Basic Class 98 and the 18 graduates of Basic Class 99 here today.**
- You have all completed a 21 week training program that wasn't easy for you or your family.
- I know first-hand what it is like for your spouse or sibling to leave for training, as I have watched my

- husband and brother spend time away in service for our country.
- So I also want to take a moment to thank your families for the support they show you every day. It's that love and support that allows you to do the brave work that you do.
- **In total, over 1172 people applied to be where you are today and there are only 45 of you who made it.** That truly is an amazing accomplishment and this should be a day that you take the time to celebrate what you have achieved with your loved ones.
- This graduation symbolizes the beginning of a new chapter of your life as a member of the South Carolina Highway Patrol.
- You have proven that you are the best of the best, but with that comes added responsibility. As a member of this elite group of men and women, you will now be held to a higher standard and it's important that you represent the state and its people well.
- As your governor, I would like to thank you for the sacrifices you have already made, and for those that you will continue making as you serve and protect the people of this great state.
- I am proud to stand with you today to celebrate this great achievement, and on behalf of the entire state of SC – congratulations!