

Title: **2 Trump leaders to help McMaster with transition**
 Author: Associated Press
 Size: 12.55 column inches
 Georgetown, SC Circulation: 0



2 Trump leaders to help McMaster with transition

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster has enlisted help in taking over as governor if the U.S. Senate confirms Gov. Nikki Haley as President-elect Donald Trump's pick for United Nations ambassador.

McMaster's office said in a release Tuesday he's asked longtime GOP adviser Ed McMullen and real-estate developer Bill Stern to help with the transition.

McMullen led Trump's campaign in South Carolina

and is a vice chairman of the committee planning Trump's inauguration.

Stern, the longtime former chairman of the State Ports Authority, also had been a leader in Trump's campaign.

McMaster was the nation's first statewide officeholder to endorse Trump, whose pick for U.N. ambassador gives McMaster a job he's long wanted.

The state's former Republican chairman and two-term attorney general lost to Haley in the 2010 GOP gubernatorial primary.

Title: **Haley receives praise on UN nomination**
 Author: BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER mschechter@aikenstandard.com
 Size: 111.29 column inches
 North Augusta, SC Circulation: 2454



Haley receives praise on UN nomination

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
 mschechter@aikenstandard.com

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley intends to continue as governor of the Palmetto State until the U.S. Senate confirms her as the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

President-elect Donald Trump announced his intent to nominate Haley as U.N. ambassador last Wednesday morning, calling her "one of the most universally respected governors in the country."

Haley, who accepted the nomination, is the first woman tapped for a top-level administration post in Trump's White House.

Haley said in a prepared statement she always expected to finish the remaining two years of her second term as governor, and not doing so is difficult because of her love for serving South Carolina.

"I was moved to accept this new assignment for two reasons. The first is a sense of duty. When the President believes you have a major contribution to make to the welfare of our nation, and to our nation's standing in the world, that is a calling that is important to heed. The second is a satisfaction with all that we have achieved in our state in the last six years and the knowledge that we are on a very strong footing," she said.

Haley had been an outspoken critic of Trump throughout the campaign season. She put her support behind Florida Sen. Marco Rubio during the primaries, then when he dropped out, supported Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

But despite soft jabs on social media and the subtle shout out of Trump's likeness during Haley's response to the State of the Union earlier this year, Trump said the governor has a proven track record of bringing people together despite political affiliations.

"She is also a proven dealmaker, and we look to be making plenty of deals," Trump said. "She will be a great leader representing us on the world stage."

Any bad blood between the pair was cooled this week after Haley visited Trump Tower in New York City to meet with the President-elect after news she could be tapped to serve as secretary of state.

Following the meeting, Haley said the pair had a "very nice" conversation, but said nothing beyond.

A Bamberg native and Clemson alum, Haley, 44, is the daughter of Indian immigrants. She is the first female governor of South Carolina and is the second Asian-American to serve as U.S. governor, The Associated Press reports.

If the Senate confirms her nomination, Haley would be the third consecutive female U.S. ambassador to the U.N., following Susan Rice and Samantha Power, the current ambassador.

After secretary of state — a job Trump has not yet filled — the UN ambassador is the highest-profile diplomatic position, often serving as the voice for U.S. positions on the international stage, the AP reports, giving Haley more of an opportunity to shape U.S. politics rather than speak for the administration's positions.

South Carolina officials in government, business and more took to social media Wednesday, congratulating the governor on her nod from President-elect Trump.

South Carolina's U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham said Haley would be an outstanding ambassador, saying she has "recruited and dealt with some of the largest international business firms in the world. Her husband was a member of the South Carolina

National Guard who served a tour of duty in Afghanistan."

The senator said Haley understands the war against radical Islam and would quell concerns with her strong support of the State of Israel. Graham's fellow senator U.S. Tim Scott also called Haley a "tremendous leader" and said she would serve America well.

U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson called Haley a "strong and effective voice for America."

"Her fortitude for freedom and democracy will prevail over constant attacks on America and our ally, Israel. As a member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I look forward to working with Nikki Haley to advance freedom and democracy around the world."

On a state level, House Speaker Jay Locus praised Haley for her service to the state as both governor and a former member of the S.C. House of Representatives.

"President-elect Trump has made a tremendous and most capable choice by selecting our governor to represent the United States in the international community," he said. "I congratulate U.N. Ambassador Haley and am confident she will excel in this new, impressive endeavor."

S.C. House Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, said he was pleased for Haley, and her talents will be well used in Trump's administration.

"President-elect Trump's selection is an honor for South Carolina. Gov. Haley has worked diligently to turbocharge our state's economic development earning South Carolina the media title of 'Beast of the Southeast' for attracting new business and industry," he said.

S.C. Sen. Tom Young, R-Aiken, chair of the Aiken County Legislative Delegation, also of-

fered up praise for Haley.

"Gov. Haley has demonstrated outstanding leadership during her six years as governor on a number of issues and during the 2015 flood and 2016 hurricane," he said. "I think that she will be an excellent ambassador in the United Nations for our country, and wish her the best of luck during the confirmation process."

South Carolina's GOP Chairman Matt Moore called Wednesday a "great day to be an American."

"Gov. Haley's appointment as U.N. Ambassador shows how far our state has come and how far our nation can go in the 21st century. I couldn't be more proud that the whole world will get to see Nikki Haley's strong, principled leadership in action," he said.

Crossing party lines, Jaime Harrison, the state's chairman of the Democratic Party, also congratulated Haley, though he noted, with some concern, that Haley lacks foreign policy experience, contrary to her predecessors.

"I hope the governor is a quick study because as one of the nation's top diplomats, she will have the critical task of dealing in real time with virtually every international crisis that arises," he said. "For all of our sakes, I wish her great success."

Haley gained nationwide praise within the past two years, particularly following the mass shooting of nine black churchgoers at Charleston's historic Emanuel AME Church in the summer of 2015 when Haley, following statewide calls, decided to pull down the Confederate flag on the Statehouse grounds.

Haley also noted other hardships in her comments, including the officer-involved shooting of Walter Scott in North Charleston, the school shooting at Town-

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ville Elementary School and the historic October 2015 floods.

"Yet through it all, the greatness of our people overcame those tragedies, even coming together to heal the old wounds represented by the Confederate Flag on the Statehouse grounds," she said.

On a more legislative and economic level, Haley said during both terms the state has "reached incredible heights."

"We made South Carolina's

economic development the envy

of the nation and brought new jobs to every county," she said. "We cut our unemployment rate by more than half, employing more South Carolinians than ever before. We reformed how we fund education, moving more resources to communities in greatest need. We passed landmark ethics reforms that make state government more accountable to our people."

With her new job more than likely, South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, an early Trump surrogate, will step into the role. McMaster spoke at this year's Republican National Convention.

Taylor said he expects McMaster to quickly reach out to the South Carolina General Assembly to "craft a mutual legislative agenda for the upcoming session."

"Teaming with the new governor, I believe the Republican majority in both the House

and Senate will quickly tackle and solve the difficult issues of road funding and pension reform. These are exciting times on both the national and state levels," he said.

The Associated Press contributed to his report.



AP FILE PHOTO/RAINIER EHRHARDT

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has risen in the Republican Party ranks within the past two years. She has been tapped as the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. after her name was floated as secretary of state in Donald Trump's administration.

Title: **McMaster would bring different style to governor's mansion**
 Author:
 Size: 63.08 column inches
 Lake Wylie, SC Circulation: 10882



POLITICS

McMaster would bring different style to governor's mansion

COLUMBIA, SC

Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is in line to become governor by early next year – and if that happens, he would bring a notably different style as the state's top elected leader.

A veteran of South Carolina politics since the early 1980s, the former attorney general is well known for a friendly, easy-going demeanor that both critics and supporters say likely would help him in dealing with the state Legislature on highly charged issues, such as a new roads bill.

McMaster, the country's first statewide officeholder to endorse President-elect Donald Trump, has long been interested in becoming governor. Trump's appointment of Gov. Nikki Haley as United Nations ambassador paves the way for that.

"He'll be a terrific governor," said former Re-

publican Attorney General Charlie Condon. "He is a consensus builder, while remaining true to his principles – which are conservative."

Haley has been widely praised on an array of fronts, ranging from economic development to her handling of Hurricane Matthew and the Confederate flag, which she pushed successfully to remove from the capitol grounds.

"I think it's a win-win," said Rep. Jim Merrill, R-Berkeley, who served as the state director of Trump's campaign during the primary.

"The (Trump) administration gets a highly dedicated, experienced and energetic ambassador; a person who will be, basically, ambassador to the world," Merrill said. "And South Carolina gets a new

governor who is not only experienced and prepared

for the job, but also happens to be good friends with the new president of the United States."

Haley, at times, approached the Legislature with an edgier style than the 69-year-old McMaster would, several lawmakers and political observers said. She has been criticized as quick to blast those who don't agree with her.

Retiring state Sen. Joel Lourie, a Democrat who often clashed with Haley, said McMaster has a history of listening to others.

"When he was attorney general, he was very accessible and easy to talk to," said Lourie, who grew up in the same area of Columbia as McMaster and has known him for years. "He has always appeared open to pragmatism, open to hearing both sides of an issue."

Rep. Joe Neal, also a Columbia Democrat, said he has been impressed

with some things McMaster has done through the years. As attorney general, he took positions that were friendly toward the environment, Neal said. McMaster surprised some African-Americans by showing up at an event at a historically black college several years ago, Neal said.

J.T. McLawhorn, who heads the Urban League in Columbia, said he has political differences with McMaster but likes him and believes he would do well as governor. McMaster, while attorney general, was an impressive speaker at a Martin Luther King Day breakfast the Urban League was involved with, McLawhorn said.

"I've been able to find common ground with him," McLawhorn said.

McMaster was unavailable for comment.

Title: **McMaster would bring different style to governor's mansion**

Author:

Size: 63.08 column inches

Lake Wylie, SC Circulation: 10882

TRACY GLANTZ tglantz@thestate.com

South Carolina Lt. Gov Henry McMaster shared the stage with republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump in February. Now that Trump has chosen Gov. Nikki Haley as his U.N. ambassador, McMasters is in line for the governorship.

Title: **Trump picks Gov, Haley for U.N. position**
Author: BR I,STOW MARCHANT bmarchaiit@thestate.cQm
Size: 24.95 column inches
Lake Wylie, SC Circulation: 10882



PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

Trump picks Gov. Haley for U.N. position

■ **After a contentious election that often found them at loggerheads, S.C. Governor Nikki Haley has joined the Trump presidency as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.**

BRISTOW MARCHANT
bmarchant@thestate.com

President-Elect Donald Trump officially announced the appointment of S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley as his ambassador to the United Nations.

Trump's transition team confirmed the appointment in a statement last week.

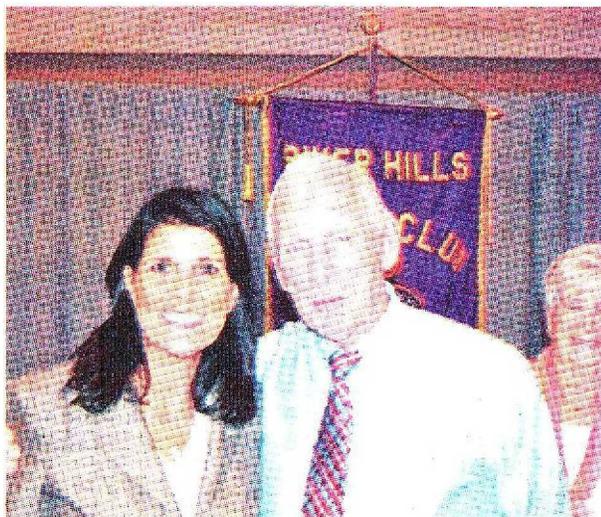
"Governor Haley has a proven track record of bringing people together

regardless of background or party affiliation to move critical policies forward for the betterment of her state and our country," said President-elect Trump.

"She is also a proven dealmaker, and we look to be making plenty of deals. She will be a great leader representing us on the world stage."

Haley also reacted to the news on Wednesday.

"Our country faces enormous challenges here at home and internationally, and I am honored that the President-elect has asked me to join his team and serve the country we love as the next Ambassador to the United Nations," Haley said in a statement.



COURTESY OF KEN SANFORD

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley with River Hills/Lake Wylie Lion Hank Gerald after she spoke to the club in Lake Wylie. Haley has been tapped to be the US ambassador to the United Nations.

Title: **Financial company plans to expand, add 175 jobs**
 Author: staff reports
 Size: 13.95 column inches
 Lake Wylie, SC Circulation: 10882


FORT MILL

Financial company plans to expand, add 175 jobs

staff reports
FORT MILL

A Fort Mill financial company will expand and add 175 jobs at its York County site.

South Carolina and York County officials announced Thursday that

OneMain Holdings, which already has a location on Munn Road in Fort Mill near S.C. 160 and Interstate 77, has started hiring for new positions.

OneMain Holdings has a presence in 44 states

with more than 1,800 branches and 11,000 employees, a statement from state officials said.

Britt Blackwell, York County Council chairman, said in a statement that the county congratulates the company on its expansion and choice to make York County a home for its business.

“Their decision to expand here will create more diverse job opportunities for our vibrant work-

force,” Blackwell said in a statement.

Gov. Nikki Haley also praised the expansion, saying South Carolina continues to work toward having the most competitive business environment and skilled work force possible.

The area also is home to the Lash Group, which is adding 2,400 jobs to the area in its new headquarters.

Title: **Plenty of Carolinas ties among Trump's Cabinet selections**
 Author: BY RICK ROTHACKER rrothacker@charlotteobserver.com
 Size: 141.05 column inches
 Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688


PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

Plenty of Carolinas ties among Trump's Cabinet selections

BY RICK ROTHACKER

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With his pick this week of Linda McMahon to run the Small Business Administration, President-elect Donald Trump continues to turn to individuals with Carolinas ties to fill out his Cabinet.

Here's a look at some of the people he has nominated with Carolinas connections and some who may still be in the running, including outgoing North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory.

TRUMP'S PICKS

● **Nikki Haley:** On Nov. 23, Trump announced the South Carolina governor as his choice to be U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, calling her "a proven dealmaker."

Haley didn't take questions at a recent ribbon-cutting ceremony in Fort Mill, but some officials on hand said they were sorry to see her leave the governor's mansion, where she was credited for recruiting new businesses to the state.

● **Elaine Chao:** Since 2011, Trump's nominee for Transportation secretary has served on the board of

Wells Fargo, the banking giant that has its largest employee base in Charlotte. Recently,

the company has been dealing with a scandal over fake customer accounts.

"Elaine has significant government and executive leadership experience, and her service as a member of the Wells Fargo Board of Directors, along with a multitude of other leadership accomplishments in both the public and private sectors, will serve her well in this important role," Wells spokeswoman Jennifer Dunn said.

If confirmed, the former Labor secretary under President George W. Bush would replace former Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx. Chao has told Wells Fargo that she will step down from the board once she is confirmed. The board plans to add a new director once she departs, a person familiar with the matter told the Observer.

● **Wilbur Ross:** Trump's choice for Commerce secretary is a

turn-around investor who bought Greensboro-based textile companies Cone

Mills and Burlington Industries through his W.L. Ross & Co. investment vehicle. In October, W.L. Ross sold these holdings to a private equity firm.

● **Linda McMahon:** Trump's pick to lead the federal agency in charge of helping small businesses get loans is a North Carolina native and East Carolina University graduate.

With her husband, Vince, McMahon in the 1980s turned a regional wrestling company into the now-famous World Wrestling Entertainment.

McMahon grew up in New Bern in eastern North Carolina, near the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station where both her parents worked. Linda and Vince McMa-

hon both graduated from East Carolina University, where their family's foundation has an en-

dowment set up to pay for three specialized professors.

● **Andrew Puzder:** The president-elect's selection for Labor secretary is the chief executive of the company that operates the Hardee's and Carl's Jr. fast-food chains. CKE Restaurants bought Hardee's, which was based in Rocky Mount, for \$327 million in 1997.

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

● **Pat McCrory:** North Carolina's outgoing Republican governor was briefly spotted in Trump Tower in New York City on Wednesday morning, but McCrory gave no public indication of how his meeting with the president-elect went.

Transition team officials
 Page: 1

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Author: BY RICKROTHACKER rrothacker@charlotteobserver.com
Size: 141.05 column inches
Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688

told reporters that the 60-year-old, one-term governor's track record on education and regulatory reforms had caught Trump's attention. They

FROM PAGE 1D

CABINET

paign trail this year."

John Allison: The former CEO of Winston-Salem-based BB&T met with Trump Nov. 28 about the Treasury secretary job, but the President-elect later tapped former Goldman

Sachs banker Steven Mnuchin as his pick.

In an interview with the Observer, Allison said he talked

with Trump about other

also pointed to McCrory's background on energy issues, mentioning he had opened North Carolina up to fracking through the Energy Modernization Act

positions, but wouldn't disclose specifics. He acknowledged interest in serving as chairman of the Federal Reserve, an agency he would like to see dismantled. The Wall Street Journal has also reported that Allison could be a contender for vice chairman of the Fed.

Mick Mulvaney: The Republican congressman from Indian Land, S.C., is in "serious contention" to be the director of the Office of Management and Budget, The Post and Courier of Charleston has

in 2014.

"There is a very good rapport between the president-elect and Governor McCrory," Trump spokesman Jason Miller told

reporters. "Governor McCrory is someone who the president-elect had the chance to get to know pretty well on the cam-

SEE CABINET, 4D

reported.

Dan DiMiccio: The former CEO of Charlotte-based steel maker Nucor was put in charge of the transition team's preparations for reshaping the Office

outgoing president of Central Piedmont Community College was said to have been in consideration for education secretary before Trump named Betsy DeVos.

Anna Douglas in Washington contributed

Rick Rothacker: 704-358-5170, @rickrothacker

of the U.S. Trade Representative, and there has been speculation that he could be in the running for the post himself.

Tony Zeiss: The



Chao



McCrory



Ross



Allison



McMahan



DiMiccio



SUSAN WALSH AP

Congressman Mick Mulvaney is a contender to be the director of the Office of Management and Budget.

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AUDE GUERRUCCI TNS

Andrew Puzder, right, chief executive of CKE Restaurants, meets with President-elect Donald Trump in November.

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Size: 141.05 column inches

Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



SUSAN WALSH AP

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley waits for President Barack Obama to speak at the National Governors Association on Feb. 27, 2012.

Title: **Ambassador Spurrier gives shout out to Nikki Haley**
Author: From Staff Reports
Size: 19.99 column inches
Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



MATT WALSH mwals@thestate.com

Former USC head football coach Steve Spurrier is now an ambassador at Florida.

USC FOOTBALL

Ambassador Spurrier gives a shout out to Nikki Haley

From Staff Reports

It takes one ambassador to know another ambassador.

Former South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier is now a consultant and ambassador at his alma mater, the University of Florida, after serving in a similar role at USC.

He paid tribute Thursday night to an ambassador-to-be.

“People didn’t think being an ambassador was all that important until the the governor of South Carolina Nikki Haley gave up her job to be ambassador to the United Nations,” Spurrier said. “So I guess my position is a little more important than people thought.”

➔ MORE INSIDE

Elliott gets his head coaching job at GSU. **3B**

Spurrier was honored in the Contributions to College Football category on an ESPN awards show.

“Steve Spurrier has left an indelible impression on college football in his career that has spanned the better part of six decades as a player and coach,” said the Maxwell Football Club’s Mark Wolpert, president of the NCFAA, which gave Spurrier Thursday’s award. “Coach Spurrier has touched so many during his career and he has certainly earned his place as one of the all-time greats in the game.”

Title: Lt. Gov. position up for grabs
Author: BY JIM HILLEY jim@theitem.com
Size: 50.99 column inches
Sumter, SC Circulation: 19018



Lt. Gov. position up for grabs

No one's grabbing

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster is expected to take over the governor's office if Nikki Haley is confirmed as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations early next year. That opens the question that is perplexing members of the South Carolina Senate: Who wishes to give up his or her four-year term in the Senate to fill a position that will last only two years?

According to the South Carolina Constitution, a vacancy in the lieutenant governor's office is supposed to be filled by the president

pro tem of the Senate.

But the man in that position, Sen. Hugh Leatherman, has made it clear he doesn't want the job.



LEATHERMAN

"I want my neighbors who elected me as well as my colleagues in the Senate

and all the people of South Carolina to know that I will not leave my Senate seat to serve as lieutenant

governor," Leatherman said in a written statement. "For me, there is no greater honor than serving in the South Carolina Senate."

The Senate will have an organizational session Tuesday in Columbia, and a vote will be taken then on who will be president pro tem.

Some say it's easy to understand why Leatherman, who is also chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, would not want to take the lieutenant governor's position.

SEE JOB, PAGE A6

Title: **Lt. Gov. position up for grabs**
 Author: BY JIM HILLEY jim@theitem.com
 Size: 50.99 column inches
 Sumter, SC Circulation: 19018

JOB FROM PAGE A1

Most senators see the lieutenant governor position as a dead-end job, former state Sen. Larry Martin said.

"There is no tomorrow politically once you do it," Martin said. "Your office ends in two years, and it is no more."

He has a lot more influence in his current position, said Sen. Thomas McElveen, D-Sumter.

McElveen said Leatherman has indicated he will not give up his position as president pro tem.

"I am not so sure these dominoes are going to fall as fast as people think," he said.

He said the president-elect's administration does not begin until Jan. 20, and the timeline for Haley's confirmation is not yet set.

"I think Leatherman will run for pro tem on Tuesday," McElveen said. "We will have to wait and see what happens in the Senate when it comes time for a vacancy in the lieutenant governor's office."

Until he was defeated in the Republican primary this spring, Martin was chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and was highly involved in passing a constitutional amendment that will put the lieutenant governor and gubernatorial candidates on the same ticket.

McElveen said some senators think the amendment in question will allow McMaster to appoint his own lieutenant governor once he takes the governor's job.

"I don't see it that way," McElveen said.

Martin agrees, saying amendments passed in 2012 would not give McMaster

that power.

"It is very clear that all the changes that were made in the constitutional amendment would become effective — upon approval of the voters — in 2018," Martin said. "As it stands, there is not much question about that."

Sen. Kevin Johnson, D-Manning, said he has no idea what will happen next.

"Whoever is president pro tem is going to have to move up to be lieutenant governor," he said. "The question is: Who is going to accept the president pro tem position? Everybody just got elected to a four-year term, and whoever steps up will serve the rest of this (lieutenant governor's) term, and that will probably be it for them."

Martin said while the lieutenant governor has little power, he or she does preside over the Senate, a setup that will end when the constitutional amendment takes effect.

"(The lieutenant governor) is important from the standpoint of presiding over the Senate," Martin said. "The Senate decides its rules, but those rules are enforced by the presiding officer."

"You can really make an impact if you choose to expand or restrict the application of a particular rule," he said.

Johnson said watching the situation play out should be interesting.

"At some point, some person is going to have to be president pro tem of the Senate," he said.

Former Sen. Martin said he "feels sorry" for the current senators.

"I am sort of glad that I am in Pickens, and I am not there undergoing the stress and the strain they are feeling in dealing with this," he said.

Title: **Governor issues statement**

Author:

Size: 31.62 column inches

N. Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 7250



Governor issues statement

"Six years ago, South Carolinians bestowed upon me the greatest honor of my life. They took a chance on a little-known, 38-year old, minority, female governor - something our state had never done before. I will be forever grateful, and I expect I will never again receive a higher honor.

"In the six years that followed, our state has reached incredible heights. We made South Carolina's economic development the envy of the nation and brought new jobs to every county. We cut our unemployment rate by more than half, employing more South Carolinians than ever before. We reformed how we fund education, moving more resources to communities in greatest need. We passed landmark ethics reforms that make state government more accountable to our people.

"Our state has also persevered through some of the most difficult times. Nature damaged many of us with the

thousand-year flood and Hurricane Matthew. Our hearts were broken for those we lost when tragedy struck Walter Scott's family, Mother Emanuel and Townville Elementary School. Yet through it all, the greatness of our people overcame those tragedies, even coming together to heal the old wounds represented by the Confederate flag on the statehouse grounds.

"This month's elections have brought exciting changes to America. Our country faces enormous challenges here at home and internationally. Last week, President-elect Trump asked if I would meet with him to discuss those challenges, which I was happy to do. He has asked that I serve our country as our next Ambassador to the United Nations. Pending confirmation by the U.S. Senate, I have agreed.

"I always expected to finish the remaining two years of my second term as governor. Not doing so is difficult

because I love serving South Carolina more than anything. I was moved to accept this new assignment for two reasons. The first is a sense of duty. When the president believes you have a major contribution to make to the welfare of our nation, and to our nation's standing in the world, that is a calling that is important to heed. The second is a satisfaction with all that we have achieved in our state in the last six years and the knowledge that we are on a very strong footing.

"I will remain as governor until the U.S. Senate acts affirmatively on my nomination. We still have much to do in South Carolina, and my commitment to the people of our state will always remain unbreakable, both while I continue to hold this office, and thereafter.

"In this holiday season, we all have much to be thankful for. Michael and I wish every South Carolinian a joyous Thanksgiving."

Title: **Haley announces Department of Revenue Director Hartley Powell**
 Author:
 Size: 31.93 column inches
 N. Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 7250



Haley announces Department of Revenue Director Hartley Powell

Gov. Nikki Haley today announced recently Hartley Powell as the next director of the South Carolina Department of Revenue (DOR). Powell, who served in South Carolina state government for ten years before taking a position in the private sector, has most recently been principal of the accounting and professional service firm KPMG since 2007.

"Any time you have a director who has done a phenomenal job, you hate to see them go, but it's exciting when you can see an agency evolve," Governor Haley said. "Hartley's experience

is everything, and when we change directors, we try to take it to a whole new level. We have done a great job focusing on the state as a whole – and Hartley will be part of that, as we go in and assist the counties in any way that we can from an economic development standpoint."

Prior to joining KPMG in June 2001 as senior manager in the state and local tax practice, Powell served at the South Carolina Department of Commerce as international project manager, director of the agency's European Office and as Chief of Staff.

"I am deeply humbled to accept the position of director of the South Carolina Department of Revenue," Powell said. "During my career at KPMG, I had the opportunity to work with many different Departments of Revenue, and what I can say with a lot of confidence is that South Carolina's department is one of the best, if not the best, in the country. I will work to build on the successes the agency has experienced under Director Reames' leadership and I'm excited to have an opportunity to work with him on a seamless transition."

"The successes we've seen are in large part due to Governor Haley's leadership and it's due to the public servants that we have at the department," said former Director Rick Reames. "I appreciate everything they have done in working with South Carolina business and taxpayers to make the agency and our state better. I am thrilled that Hartley is here and is going to continue to build upon our success. We recruited him for that sole purpose and we are excited to have him in the saddle."

Powell, 60, is married with two children.