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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

## Senator Lindsey O. Graham

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### Fax Transmittal Sheet

To: Gov. Haley

Fax #: 1-803-734-5049 Date: 4-15-14

From: Alice Cooper - CONSTITUENT SVS.

RE: David Leonard Pages to follow: 3

Comments/Notes: Please note the Senator's interest and provide assistance. Thank you.

Driver's License Issue - page 2 of  
Mr. Leonard's letter.

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LINDSEY O. GRAHAM  
SOUTH CAROLINA



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## UNITED STATES SENATE

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Nikki Haley  
Governor  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201-3756

Dear Governor Haley:

The attached letter concerns an issue outside my official jurisdiction. Therefore, as a courtesy to my constituent, I am sending this correspondence to your attention.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I ask that you please respond directly to the individual.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim", written over a horizontal line.

Lindsey O. Graham  
United States Senator

LOG/ac

Enclosure

RECEIVED  
4-15-14

RECEIVED MAR 20 11:57

March 2, 2014

Honorable Senator Graham,

My name is David J. Leonard Jr., I live at 3233 Cherry Hill Rd. Loris, South Carolina, I do not have a phone number as I cannot afford one. My email address is d.leonard69@yahoo.com though I do not use that service regularly.

I want to start by stating that you sir are doing a tremendous job for not only the people of South Carolina, but of the United States with your relentless fight against Obama Care, and for fighting tooth and nail for answers and accountability for the Benghazi fiasco, IRS scandal, and how a President of the United States can be so corrupt, deceitful to the American public. I am proud to live in a state where the politicians we vote into such an esteemed office are fighting for the people by the people. I wish there were others in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives that would fight just as hard for the people of the United States as you do.

I was a member of the South Carolina National Guard with the 1052<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company out of Kingstree, South Carolina. I was on the mission when Sargent First Class Jerome Lemon, a South Carolina State Trooper that also was a member of the 1052<sup>nd</sup>, was killed in action. His tragic death left a mental scar on a lot of us. We lost a great leader, a great teacher, a great mentor, a great friend, and a great man on that day. When we returned home we received a hero's welcome and I will always be grateful for the people of the community of Kingstree, and the people of South Carolina for that. I served them honorably and proudly as they so deserve. Since returning in 2005 my life has been filled with despair. I have attempted suicide 6 times in a 4 year period between 2006-2010, I have been in and out of hospitals such as Loris Medical Center, twice for suicide attempts; Grand Strand Regional Medical Center for a suicide attempt; The Lighthouse in Conway, South Carolina; The Bryant Psychiatric Hospital in Colombia, South Carolina which I was then court ordered to the Ralph H. Johnson VAMC in Charleston, South Carolina where I was diagnosed with PTSD and worked with a Dr. James Harbin, and was in a SATC program (Substance Abuse Treatment), and lived in transitional housing for homeless Veteran's, Vet Villas. I was unemployed during the 10 months in Charleston because my main concern was getting treatment so I may become a responsible, productive member of society again but my driving privileges were revoked due to nonpayment of child support. I have no problem paying it for it is the responsible action to take. I am not a dead beat dad as main stream media likes to classify a collective and not individuals. Yes I agree there are a lot of those but I am a Veteran and know, and act accordingly. I am not perfect have made mistakes, and used bad judgment concerning some issues out of fear, embarrassment due to PTSD, I acknowledge my short comings and claim full responsibility for those actions. I had a Class-A Commercial Driver's License #007826993. Now being in a war zone as a truck driver with the 1052<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company the last place I wanted to be was in a truck when I returned home, so I took a job in a kitchen as a cook, with every intention of getting behind the wheel again when I was ready, but like I stated my driving privileges were revoked. I have been clean and sober for 2 years now. It is embarrassing for a 40 year old man to not have a driver's license, to be reduced to living in your parents "basement". A Combat Veteran should not be

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penalized for a legitimate medical condition, I did not ask for. When the time arose and my country needed me the most I humbly served her honorably, respectively, without question or failure. Now I am humbly asking for my country's and states help with this matter. There are opportunities for me to return to a driving job, but with the hefty fine I would have to pay to get it back it is kind of impossible with the way the economy, and the problems and concerns employers have with Obama Care, it would be impossible to get my driver's license back on my own without any help. I would pay all fines and penalties that have been levied against me when I returned to driving over the road. There may be possibly a warrant for my arrest though I am not sure.

That is why I am typing this letter to you asking for help. Driving a tractor trailer is the only thing I ever wanted to do, my late grandfather was a truck driver, one of my uncles was a driver before his stroke left him unable to do so anymore, one of my other uncle's is a driver for Jack Williams Tires in Pennsylvania. Driving is in my blood always has been and always will be. That is why I when I joined the National Guard, I chose transportation. It is a rewarding career knowing the fact that the driving a tractor trailer does help so many people get the goods they need, and are essential for daily life and survival, much like the 1052<sup>nd</sup>'s mission in Iraq getting the essentials to US Troops, my fellow brothers in arms stationed across the country, to keep them well equipped with food, water, clothes, ammunition, weapons, mail from home which we did with exceptional valor. It is an honor to provide not only the soldiers in Iraq, and here in the states but the great people of the greatest nation in the world the necessities' and essentials to sustain, and maintain their lives. Transportation of goods and services is a humanitarian mission that one does without recognition. It is a vertebra in the backbone of America, in which I would love to be part of once again. Having my driving privileges reinstated would be in the best interest of everyone involved, for you helping a Veteran getting back on his feet. The states workforce for putting a citizen back to work creating more revenue, the states that child support would be able to be paid again. I do not want to be part of the population that President Obama wants to "nanny". I am a citizen of South Carolina a state that emphasizes hard work, not handouts. I am not asking for 14 million dollars of tax payer's money so I can watch "Fish" swim all day. I am not asking for millions of dollars so I can make a Star Trek based training video for the IRS. I am not asking for millions of dollars to do a biased study for a biased media outlet. I am not asking for millions of dollars to build a flawed web site for a health care system that does not work. I am a Veteran of this great nation asking for a second chance at a normal productive life.

In closing sir I want to thank you for your time, your hard work, and dedication to the people whom call this great state home. Thank You for standing up to the bureaucracy of Washington, D.C. on behalf of the hard working people of South Carolina, and The United States of America.

Respectfully,

David J. Leonard, Jr.

