

From: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>
To: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
Smith, Austin <AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov>
Burns, James <JamesBurns@gov.sc.gov>
Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 6/15/2015 12:30:12 PM
Subject: RE: USA Today query

James/Austin –

Since y'all handle cabinet affairs, and in particular issues dealing with public safety agencies, I wanted to run this by you.

What I thought was that the agency could call the reporter back, in the interest of not ignoring him, and telling them off the record that, while they don't keep the information, they can provide them with the following publicly available information, which the reporter could also find on his own. Are y'all fine with this?

If they are fine, Brian, will you please handle?

Thanks!

Rob

Rob Godfrey
Office of Governor Nikki Haley
Desk: (803) 734-2028 | Mobile: (803) 429-6068

From: Symmes, Brian
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 12:09 PM
To: Godfrey, Rob
Subject: FW: USA Today query

From: Iacobelli, Sherri [<mailto:SherriIacobelli@SCDPS.GOV>]
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 9:42 AM
To: Symmes, Brian
Cc: Smith, Leroy
Subject: USA Today query

Bryan,
FYI. Please see below for question from USA Today and our proposed response. We have researched this within the department and no such law exists. There was only proposed legislation that never passed. Thanks.

Mr. Frank:

Legislation was proposed on this matter in the 1999-2000 session, but was never passed. Therefore, we do not collect that data, and we are not aware of any South Carolina entity that does track that information on a statewide scale. We have checked with the Criminal Justice Academy (which was part of SCDPS in 2004). SCDPS only collects pursuit data for our department. Thanks.

S 503

Session 113 (1999-2000)

S 0503 General Bill, By Thomas, Peeler and Giese

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-755 SO AS TO ESTABLISH FELONY FLEEING AS A CRIME, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-4705 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A VEHICLE THAT EXCEEDS THE SPEED LIMIT OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST ACTIVATE HIS SIREN AND BLUE LIGHT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MUST COMPILE A STATEWIDE REPORT OF ALL VEHICLE PURSUITS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A SPEEDING MOTOR VEHICLE OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAINING; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-760, RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MUST ADOPT A HIGH-SPEED CHASE POLICY BY JANUARY 1, 2000, WHICH MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A VEHICLE PURSUIT THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S MODEL POLICY REGARDING HIGH-SPEED PURSUITS IS PROHIBITED AND THE PURSUIT IS CONSIDERED GROSSLY NEGLIGENT BEHAVIOR.

02/17/99 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-4

02/17/99 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary SJ-4

A BILL

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-755 SO AS TO ESTABLISH FELONY FLEEING AS A CRIME, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-4705 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A VEHICLE THAT EXCEEDS THE SPEED LIMIT OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST ACTIVATE HIS SIREN AND BLUE LIGHT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MUST COMPILE A STATEWIDE REPORT OF ALL VEHICLE PURSUITS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A SPEEDING MOTOR VEHICLE OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAINING; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-760, RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MUST ADOPT A HIGH-SPEED CHASE POLICY BY JANUARY 1, 2000, WHICH MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A VEHICLE PURSUIT THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S MODEL POLICY REGARDING HIGH-SPEED PURSUITS IS PROHIBITED AND THE PURSUIT IS CONSIDERED GROSSLY NEGLIGENT BEHAVIOR.

From: Frank, Tom [<mailto:tfrank@usatoday.com>]
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 11:20 AM
To: Iacobelli, Sherri
Cc: Hughes, Roger K.
Subject: USA Today query

Hello, Ms. Iacobelli and Lt. Hughes,

I am a reporter at USA Today working on a national story about police vehicle pursuits.

I recently read an item in a newsletter published by the International Association of Chiefs of Police in 2004 that said South Carolina was among 10 states that collects data about all police pursuits in the state.

The newsletter is here, and the item is at the bottom of page 10 -- <http://www.theiacp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/ManagingPolicePursuitsExecBrief.pdf>

I am writing to find out what data if any the SCDPS has concerning police pursuits, and how I can get information, reports or data.

Thank you for your assistance.

Tom Frank
USA Today
703-854-8047