

## **INTERNAL STAFF UPDATE\***

Thursday, May 8, 2014

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### **List of Updates:**

- **Press;**
  - **Legislative;**
  - **Legal.**
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### **Press:**

Statewide outlets are reporting on Sen. Sheheen's amendment to release the full Mandiant report to the public. We provided the following statement attributable to Doug Mayer, spokesman:

"The Secret Service, SLED, and Senators Peeler and Martin said everything that needs to be said. Senator Sheheen embarrassed himself, and should be more careful when trying to turn serious security issues into political games."

### **Legislative:**

**PEBA** – Sen. Cromer introduced a proviso that requires an audit of Pharmacy Benefit Managers, which was adopted by the Senate yesterday. This is in response to complaints made by independent pharmacists about Catamaran. PEBA has been aware of this issue and is working with independent pharmacists, Catamaran, and Sen. Cromer to resolve this issue.

**PREA** – Next week, the Governor will need to determine whether to certify to the U.S. Department of Justice if the State intends to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and under what conditions it will comply for the next year. DJJ has raised some legitimate concerns about the Department's long term ability to achieve full compliance. Next week, the Governor will be presented with potential options to move forward with this long standing grant or choose to reject the funding.

### **Legal:**

**Executive Order for Timber** – Today, our office received a request from the Forestry Commission and the Timber Producers Association to reauthorize the Executive Order waiving time and weight restrictions for truckers hauling timber, due to the industry continuing to harvest downed trees from the ice storm. The current Order expires this Monday at midnight. The Governor will need to decide whether to reauthorize the order on Monday – an Order will be prepared for signature on Monday.

**Ethics Reform** – Rep. Norman has his amendment on the desk making the Commission independent. Rep. Bedingfield has prepared an amendment, which is the Working Group Amendment. Staff has heard that the House expects to take up the bill as early as Tuesday but definitely by Wednesday.

**CON** – The CON bill will be taken up by Full Senate Medical Affairs Committee next Thursday.

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*\*This document is a transitory and temporary record created for short-term internal purposes that includes informal materials that do not record decisions.*