

## **INTERNAL STAFF UPDATE\***

Friday, September 11, 2015

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### **DHEC:**

This weekend, Veldran will gather all legislative questions coming regarding DHEC's public report that was released today. We plan to send the list to DHEC on Monday in order to get answers and follow up with the legislators early next week.

### **Legislative Oversight:**

Today, the House Legislative Oversight Committee appointed an ad hoc committee for Planned Parenthood to review all activities of those three agencies. Members are Representatives Clary (chair), Ballentine, Felder, Mia McLeod, Walt McLeod, Ridgeway, James Smith, Stringer, and Taylor.

### **PDAP:**

Becca has met with representatives on the PDAP Council from SLED and two solicitor's offices regarding the recommendation for legislation that creates penalties for trafficking prescription opioids and narcotics. (This is something many other states do that SC does not – including NC, GA, AR, and MS.) Chief Keel will include this topic in his remarks to the solicitors next week during their conference in order to seek feedback; he will also approach the sheriffs on this as well.

### **Domestic Violence:**

This week, Veldran and Becca met with Senate staff to brief them on the Task Force's proposed recommendations, which were well-received. We discussed the opportunity for Chairman Martin to sponsor legislation to provide confidentiality for local fatality review teams, which is expected to be a noncontroversial amendment to the 2015 Domestic Violence Reform law. His office will get back to us.

On Monday evening, Director Stirling's division of the Task Force will hold a public hearing at LRADAC in Columbia. Becca will attend.

### **Clemson / SC State:**

The "Call Me MISTER Program" is celebrating the program's 15th anniversary with a milestone event to be held on the campus of SC State on Saturday, September 26th. There are currently twenty (20) participating colleges and universities in South Carolina that have active Call Me MISTER programs, and the program has expanded its reach into Mississippi with a cohort of MISTERS at Jackson State University. Nearly 100 students are enrolled in the program in six additional states: Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Call Me

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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.*

MISTER has increased the number of African American male teachers serving among our public elementary schools by 75 percent since its inception in the year 2000. Director Roy Jones of Clemson, who runs Call Me MISTER, has requested a letter from the Governor to be distributed at the SC State event.

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**NEVER FORGET**