



February 4, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Re: Meeting with SC Department of Commerce, February 1, 2016

Dear Governor Haley:

I am writing to express my appreciation to your executive office and your Department of Commerce for the above-referenced meeting. Several weeks ago our mutual friend, Kip Miller, called me with concerns about the contracting practices of two companies, recently recruited by Commerce. You may recall that Kip is President & CEO of Eastern Industrial Supplies, headquartered in Greenville. Kip and several of his fellow business owners in the upstate were concerned that these companies, along with their general contractors and subcontractors, were losing sight of the goal of using South Carolina partners during their construction processes.

Since this was inconsistent with practices of other companies recruited and 'landed' under your administration, we decided to reach out to your office. After calling Swati Patel, Swati, Austin Smith and I agreed that the best next step would be to meet with the leadership of Commerce.

In attendance at our meeting on Monday were Jennifer Noel, Maceo Nance and Ashely Teasdel, all of Commerce. Attending with my client, Kip Miller and myself were the following: Charles Wall, Regional Vice President of Commercial Metals Group, Greenville; William Renfrow, owner of Renfrow Brothers, Spartanburg; Don Wilson, owner of Engineered Systems, Duncan; David Shehan, owner of Keystone Constructors, Gaffney; Kim Miller, owner of Eastern Power Technologies, Greenville; and Josh Kimbrell, banker and leader of Palmetto Conservative Alliance.

On behalf of our entire group I wanted to thank you and your team for facilitating this meeting. And, I want to commend your team at Commerce; Noel, Maceo and Ashley were inordinately generous with their time and helpful in their explanation of the challenges faced by

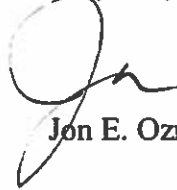


Commerce officials attempting to use limited leverage to influence new businesses to use South Carolina vendors and suppliers. I will leave to Noel and your staff the responsibility of relaying the content and specific problems and requests that were raised in the meeting. Any help that you and your team can provide, moving forward, would be appreciated.

In closing, each of these companies has benefited from the economic development efforts of your administration and they have asked me to relay their appreciation to you and your team for your efforts to grow South Carolina's economy. By this letter I have done so.

Hoping that you will let me know if I can ever be of assistance and thanking you for your service to our state, I remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon E. Ozmint', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jon E. Ozmint

JEO/sb

cc: Kip Miller
Jennifer Noel