July 5, 2015

SLED, c/o Alcohol/Video Poker Enforcement Department, P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, S.C. 29221

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

Below is the letter that I wrote last year about the video poker machines. Powell's Grocery in Coward was supposedly busted for their machines but they must have got a slap on the hand because they already have them back and our family member is back playing again. Please read my letter from last year again and see if you can stop this illegal activity or maybe I need to call the news station and get better results.

Last Years letter:

I want to report Video Poker violations that are rampart in Florence County but when investigations are made the stores that have the machines in them are holding church because they have been tipped off by someone in law enforcement around here. This concerns me because someone in my family is blowing all their money in these machines and it needs to stop.

The supplier of the poker machines is Smith Amusement of Scranton, SC. I know for certain they have machines in the Powell's Grocery in Coward which is right across the railroad track on Friendfield Road. They also have machines in the Barnhouse Restaurant on 378 in Lake City and pretty much in all of the stores owned by Cliff Cantey all over Florence County. I believe the machines are being stored in a large bldg on Hwy. 52 that Mr. Smith owns between Coward and Scranton that use to be used for selling livestock. The only time you see people at this building is at night. He owns other properties also but this seems that it is a convenient hiding place. The Smith family is a big supporter of Florence County Sherriff's department and this may be the reason that when investigations are made there is nothing found because they have been tipped off.

Video Poker is illegal and many families go without because people are throwing away their money in these machines. Please put a stop to this but in order to do so, it needs to be a top secret operation or the Smith family will know you are coming somehow. I want to remain anonymous because I don't want my family member to find out, but I will know if this is investigated and will continue to try to find someone to help if this is not done.

Please Help!!!