



## State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET  
COLUMBIA 29201

July 9, 2015

Ms. Stacy Walters  
Post Office Box 405  
Pendleton, South Carolina 29670

Dear Ms. Walters,

On the evening of Wednesday, June 17, 2015, the world witnessed a senseless tragedy at Emanuel A.M.E. Church in our beloved Charleston, South Carolina.

Heartbroken, words fail us as we seek to make sense of this unexpected loss of life at one of our places of worship. We will never understand what motivates anyone to commit such a vile and hateful act, but our hearts and minds remain fixed on the nine families and healing our state. The families' grace and strength set a powerful example for us all, and the response of the people of South Carolina helped us strengthen our love for each other.

Even in the midst of our grief, South Carolina set about the process of healing by hugging our neighbors, holding vigils, honoring those we lost, and falling to our knees in prayer. We will continue to come together as a state, as a unified people, and never forget those we lost.

Michael, Rena, Nalin, and I join countless others all over the country in praying for strength during this time of healing and offering our condolences and support to the families affected. God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nikki Haley".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/ahp

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stacy Walters".