

**From:** Pitts, Ted  
**To:** Kerry Paul (kpaul@dew.sc.gov) <kpaul@dew.sc.gov>  
Von Nessen, Erica <evonnessen@dew.sc.gov>  
**CC:** Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>  
**Date:** 3/18/2013 10:29:02 AM  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT

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Kerry & Erica,

See email below. Let's talk about this afternoon.

Ted

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:37 PM  
**To:** Pitts, Ted  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT  
**Importance:** High

Can we discuss this...

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**From:** Sunnie Harmon [<mailto:sunnie@lobbysc.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:02 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Subject:** URGENT  
**Importance:** High

Katherine,

Here is the e-mail I sent yesterday. Thanks in advance for any help you can provide...

~Sunnie

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Urgent  
**From:** "Sunnie Harmon" <[sunnie@lobbysc.com](mailto:sunnie@lobbysc.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, March 13, 2013 11:41 am  
**To:** "Katherine Veldran" <[KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov)>

Katherine,

I have a client that has been on an SC DEW approved payment plan for each quarter since the implementation of the increased SUTA taxes in 2011. They received a phone call from someone named Annie Bovane at SC DEW this morning stating that they would no longer be allowed to remain on a payment plan and that 100% of the remainder of their 3rd quarter payment plan and 4th quarter payment would be due by April 1 or SC DEW would place a tax lien on the business and levy its bank account. The SC DEW employee said that this was due to a new internal procedure and "not to worry, they were not the only company" this was happening to.

Last fall, this same company was told that the SC DEW would not approve a 4th quarter payment plan because they could not be on more than one payment plan at a time, even though they had been previously approved to do so every quarter since 2011. As I mentioned yesterday, SC DEW breaks the payment plans up into 6 monthly installments, so payment plans naturally will overlap. The company was also told last fall that the department would work with them on this issue and the company continued making its payments.

This is a staffing company that employees approximately 2400 people per day and has been paying \$50,000 in interest to SC DEW per year to remain on the payment plan. Obviously, they would prefer not to be on a payment plan and use the \$50,000 per year to invest back into their company, but because of cash flow issues, this is the only way they are able to make it work and stay in business. The total they are being asked to pay by April 1 is over \$500,000 and then they will be required to make a 1st quarter payment of over \$1million April 30. Annually, they pay about \$2.4 million in SUTA.

We feel that SC DEW is overstepping its authority in this regard and attempting to further penalize a company that is already struggling to keep up with the new SUTA taxes. This internal procedure is no where reflected in the code of laws or regulations. Furthermore, this internal procedure directly conflicts with the the original intent of the allowance of payment plans in the code of laws. Finally, we also think that the Governor's office would agree that this is in direct contradiction to the Governor's call for her state agencies to be more business friendly.

This client is not trying to get out of paying its bills. They simply need to continue to follow the letter of the law (allowance of payment plans in the code of laws) and continue their payment plan as previously allowed and remain in business. Can you discuss this today or tomorrow?

As you can imagine, this is critical.

Thank you,

**Sunnie Harmon**

**The SUNNIE Harmon & John DeWORKEN Group**

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Our Vision: To be the state's most influential pro-business advocacy firm, giving each client the personalized attention it needs to reach its goals.



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