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

November 19, 2015

Dear Governor Haley,

First of all, I would like to thank you for the great service you are doing for all South Carolinians. Your selfless dedication to our state and our country will only be magnified in the future (both your and our future).

I need to give you a little background on myself if anything but to give some credence to my following proposal. I have over thirty (30) years of law enforcement experience: United States Army, Los Angeles Police Department and Maricopa County (Arizona) Sheriff's Office. I have a Master of Science Degree in the Administration of Justice. That's about as brief as I can get.

During my career in law enforcement, I have had the privilege of working and supervising many different assignments. One thing I learned early on in my career was the many, many dedicated and hardworking volunteers throughout (with the exception of the Army) these organizations and units that time and time again proved to be of great assistance and value. Whether they were fully trained and working patrol, assigned to detective duties, answering phones, search and rescue duties, traffic control: as you can see the list of possibilities is only limited by one's imagination.

In these trying times, I think it is very important to think outside the box and have creative solutions to current or perceived future problems. We in the Myrtle Beach area, live in one of the top ten tourist destinations in this country. That in its self makes this entire area a soft target for any type of criminal or terrorist activity.

If you can answer this question with a "no", read no further and throw this letter away.

Would you like to have 1,000 extra, trained police personnel that you are able to deploy anywhere in the state within hours?

Apparently you're still reading this so I'll assume that your answer was "yes". As monumental a task as it sounds, it is not. South Carolina has the highest rate of retired military and, I'm just going to guess, even retired law enforcement in the nation, living within its boundaries. What a wasted pool of experience and manpower.

How can they be used? Through vetting and background checks coupled with some basic training (additional if they desire to be armed) they can be incorporated into daily police type activities on a statewide and community level (ie: Stationary posts, second man in patrol, detective follow-ups, phone and communications, traffic control, special events, vacation checks and on and on).

There is no real downside to this proposal other than the non fact based rhetoric you'll receive from your full time law enforcement command staff. The fear of job loss and lowering of wages along with a plethora of the sky is falling type statements. Those that can see beyond this, may realize that in these uncertain times all avenues must be explored and initiated.

I've talked about prior (retired) military and law enforcement personnel but, there is the rest of the civilian population that when asked to volunteer, the 1,000 members can explode to a far greater number.

Of course all you can see right now is dollar signs. Not to worry, most of the costs will be borne by the volunteers themselves. Back ground checks and equipment will be gladly be paid for by them.

I will not at this time get into the finer points of setting up a program like this and all the details on how it works. It cannot be done in a two (2) page letter. I am just bringing this to your attention and am making myself available to you for any questions or more in depth explanations of any aspects of a program like this.

The bottom line- Don't worry about all the minutia, think about a thousand plus available law enforcement personnel able to respond anywhere in the state within a few hours. Then we can get down to the how to of the program.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. W. [unclear]', written over the words 'Respectfully yours,'.

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