

**From:** WALKER III, TREY <TWALKER@mailbox.sc.edu>  
**To:** Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov  
**Date:** 1/27/2014 2:32:52 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Correspondence

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Below is from Law School Dean Rob Wilcox, for your background use in preparing the constituent response. Let me know if you have any questions.

**Trey Walker**

Director, State Relations  
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**From:** WILCOX, ROB  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2014 1:39 PM  
**To:** WALKER III, TREY  
**Cc:** PALMER, SUSAN; HUTCHISON JR., LEWIS  
**Subject:** Shannon Morris

Dear Trey,

The disappointed applicant graduated from Furman with a very low GPA, far below even our 25th percentile. She took the LSAT three times and her scores each time were again well below our 25th percentile. She attends CSOL. She did a study abroad at Cambridge through Mississippi, but acceptance into that semester abroad is not a confirmation of academic achievement. We generally enroll about 60-65% South Carolina residents, and did so in the years in which she applied to be a 1L student. This past year we anticipated a similar enrollment. However, even after admitting all qualified residents with scores that we felt predicted ultimate success and bar passage and dipping much further into the pool than in the past, we were able to fill only 50% of the class with SC residents, so we are not turning away qualified South Carolinians.

As for her transfer application, we accepted more than a dozen transfers last year from CSOL. All had higher grades at CSOL than Ms. Morris. All but one transfer student who was admitted this year had a GPA in the top 15% of their class as a 1L. By comparison, she was in the top 40% of her class. 13 of the 15 transfer students admitted this year were South Carolina residents.

As for the e-mail notification, transfer applications are made in mid-summer after all first-year grades are final. To afford students the quickest possible notification due to the short time frame before school begins, we try to notify transfer applicants by e-mail, with a letter sent to their home address. Most students prefer to hear quickly because they are anxious to make housing plans, etc. We feel that value outweighs the risk of offense being taken, as it was in this case.

Rob

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

**From:** Veldran, Katherine [mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2014 4:28 PM  
**To:** WALKER III, TREY  
**Subject:** Correspondence

Thanks for your help.  
Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran  
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