



**Frank Hart**  
**Union County Supervisor**  
210 West Main Street  
Union, SC 29379  
(864) 429-1600  
Fax (864) 429-1603

24-NOV-2015

To: Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Governor of South Carolina

From: Frank Hart  
Union County Supervisor

Re: Appointment of Union County Clerk of Court

Governor Haley,

As you are aware our Clerk of Court Freddie Gault has decided to take a staff position with Mick Mulvaney and will be resigning his office effective 04-DEC-2015. As a result of Mr. Gault's resignation, my understanding is that you are now tasked with finding a suitable replacement to complete Mr. Gault's unexpired term. The Clerk of Court position is a key function of local government and instrumental in maintaining an efficient and orderly judicial and legal process. Union County unfortunately has a tainted past in terms of the integrity of some of our past elected officials. As a newly elected County Supervisor, one of my key goals has been making sure that we work diligently to restore public trust and confidence in our elected officials and local government in general. The integrity of those who serve in leadership positions is key to achieving this goal. As the chief elected official for Union County, I would like to recommend Melanie L. Lawson for your consideration. I have known Melanie for many years and her integrity and work ethic are without question. In addition, she has over 15 years of experience working in the Union County Clerk of Courts office. I have attached a resume and recommendation letters for your review.

As your schedule permits, I would like to have the opportunity to discuss my rationale for recommending Ms. Lawson for this position and address any questions you may have. I thank you for your consideration of my recommendation and I thank you for your efforts to move our state forward.

Best Regards,

Frank Hart

Union County Supervisor-Chair of County Council

**November 24, 2015**

**Melanie L. Lawson**

403 Springdale Drive  
Union, SC 29379  
Phone: 864-427-0970  
Cell: 864-251-2284  
Work: 864-429-1720

**Dear Governor Nikki Haley,**

**I wish to apply for the position of Union County Clerk of Court.**

**My enclosed resume provides you with an overview of my relevant experiences and training. I have over 23 years experience with Union County in the Sheriff's Office and also in the Clerk of Courts Office. I have 12 years supervisory and managerial experience as a leader in the Clerk of Courts' Office with a staff of three.**

**I wish to build on these achievements and take on the Clerk of Courts' position. I can offer a combination of experience and knowledge from all areas of the Clerk's Office.**

**I would be delighted to discuss my application further with you. I can easily be contacted by phone.**

**Yours Sincerely,**



**Melanie L. Lawson**





**Sheriff David H. Taylor**  
**UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

November 25, 2015

Please accept this as a letter of reference for Melanie Lawson for Clerk of Court. I feel that Melanie is qualified to be Clerk of Court for Union County. Melanie has worked in the Clerk of Court's Office for a number of years and has extensive knowledge of the Child Support Services Division and is very familiar with other aspects of the office.

Based on the amount of time that I have had the opportunity to work with Melanie, I feel that she is capable of being Clerk of Court for Union County, SC.

Sincerely,

David H. Taylor, SHERIFF

UNION COUNTY, SC



**Sheriff David H. Taylor**  
**UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

November 24, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to verify and confirm that I have personally known Mrs. Melanie Lawson and her family for many years. I know her to be a person of good character, integrity, and high moral standards. She is dependable, hardworking and has many years clerical, courtroom and administrative experience and training. I would not hesitate to recommend her for any position due to her qualifications and experience.

Sincerely,

Perry Haney, CHIEF DEPUTY  
UNION COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE  
UNION, SC

Niel Mckown, Director

Union County Detention Center

1657 Jonesville Hwy, Union SC 29379

[nmkeown@countyofunion.com](mailto:nmkeown@countyofunion.com)

864 426-6960

November 24, 2015

Governor Haley

I would respectfully ask that you consider Melony Lawson for the upcoming Union County Clerk of Court appointment. I began a working relationship with her approximately twenty-five years ago at the Union County Sheriff's Office. After I became director of the Union County Detention Center in 2006 our professional relationship continued. She was then Deputy Clerk of Court here in Union and was my go to person anytime I had a question concerning court/inmate issues. She has always been the type of person to help solve a problem anytime I have ever asked for her guidance in issues concerning the Detention Center.

Again I do hope that you will review her qualifications because Union County plainly needs someone that can get the job done so that we can move forward.

Sincerely,



Niel Mckeown