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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton St.
Columbia, SC 29201

June 6, 2016

Dear Governor Haley;

I would like to lodge a complaint about the predatory ticketing practices of the Hardeeville, SC Police Department. The reason for my complaint is that it happens behind my house on a regular basis. I live in Jasper County and the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge is on the other side of Hwy 17. There is no Hardeeville, SC Town Limits in that area.

Hardeeville is a small town with an aggressive land annexing program. This means that Town Limits are not contiguous to roads or highways. This can be confirmed by looking up the Boundary Map and Geodata for the City of Hardeeville, SC. However, the Hardeeville Police Department runs Speed Trap operations on those roads which are outside of their town limits and I believe, out of their jurisdiction.

The Hardeeville Police Department also have Speed Trap Operations on I-95. This is done by placing an officer on the Purysburg Rd. overpass (no I-95 access), with a Laser Gun, and having chase cars positioned down the road which are then radioed. Identified vehicles are then chased, stopped and ticketed. (Why isn't this HEAR SAY, since the ticketing officer is not the observing officer?)

Hardeeville, SC is getting FAT off of the revenue that is generated by this unethical if not illegal daily practice.

I ask that you launch an investigation into this behavior and have it stopped. If you will remember, you had to slap the hands of and write legislation to stop the Ridgeland Police Department for operating a Speed Camera on I-95. Hardeeville is just as unethical.

If you cannot stop the Hardeeville Police Department from this behavior, then I ask that you enact Legislation to require that 75% of all ticket revenue generated from State and Federal Highways be forwarded to the State of South Carolina to be used for Roads and Bridges. This could be millions of dollars on a state wide basis. A significant windfall to the state that would help budget woes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



William H. Barbee