

SOUTH CAROLINA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

"Serving the Sheriffs of South Carolina Since 1913"

www.sheriffsc.com

Jarrold M. Bruder
Executive Director

Sheriff Kenney Boone
President

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – April 21, 2016

Columbia, SC -- The South Carolina Sheriffs' Association has received a number of inquiries regarding comments that were made both during yesterday's press conference with Governor Haley and comments that were made following the press conference by Sheriff Leon Lott. Regretfully, these comments have called in to question the actions of our Association's Executive Director, Mr. Jarrod Bruder. As President of the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association and as Mr. Bruder's direct supervisor, I would like to go on record that Mr. Bruder acted in the exact manner that we expect him to act.

After working with the Governor's Domestic Violence Taskforce, Mr. Bruder presented the proposed initiatives to all Sheriffs electronically on Monday, April 11, 2016 and asked all Sheriffs who were willing to sign the pledge to return the signed form to him by the close of business on Friday, April 15, 2016. After receiving forty-five signed pledges from Sheriffs across the State, Mr. Bruder reached out to Sheriff Lott on Monday, April 19, 2016 to inquire about his commitment to the initiatives. Once notified of Sheriff Lott's support of the initiatives, Mr. Bruder notified the Governor's Office and relayed the message that a signed pledge would be forthcoming. While Sheriff Lott did notify Mr. Bruder of his support of the initiatives and of his intent to sign the pledge and Mr. Bruder did provide this information to the Governor's Office, a copy of the signed pledge was not made available to the Sheriffs' Association or the Governor's Office prior to the Governor's press conference.

Earlier this morning, Sheriff Lott provided a signed copy of his pledge to the Association's staff. Mr. Bruder has sent a copy of Sheriff Lott's signed pledge to the Governor's Office. It is my sincere hope that my comments today will answer any questions about our Executive Director's actions and shift the focus of yesterday's press conference back to what truly matters – the fact that South Carolina's Sheriffs take domestic violence seriously and are willing to take unified actions to combat this awful crime that affects so many areas of our daily lives.

In closing, I again want to reinforce our support for our Executive Director and thank him for his role in unifying the state's Sheriffs behind this important cause. We all look forward to continued work on this critical topic with the Governor and her domestic violence taskforce.

Respectfully,



Sheriff Kenney Boone, President
South Carolina Sheriffs' Association

####