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Subject: Opportunity to be Heard - Update

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All,

Thank you again for your willingness to serve on the hearing panel. Everything is still on for this Wednesday. Please arrive at the Statehouse at 9:30. Once in the Statehouse, please go to the Governor's hallway and ask for me. We will walk over to the Blatt building for the 10:00 hearing. Once we arrive at Blatt, you can expect cameras/reporters to be in the audience. We will provide your names and short bios off your websites 10 minutes beforehand so that the media has your names. Below are a few highlights:

1. Beginning the Opportunity to be Heard: As mentioned in the Procedures document, one of you must serve as Lead to handle administrative functions, such as calling the meeting to order, introducing the Hearing Panel members, and confirming the RCRC Board Members' attendance. We would also like the RCRC Board members sworn in, either as a group or at their turn to testify. I believe I have verbally mentioned this to each of you, but as Derrick has served as a Judge for the Worker's Compensation Commission, I would like him to take this role.
2. Governor's Office Participation: Both I and Rebecca Schimsa in our office will participate. I will provide the Charge for the record. Rebecca will help facilitate by handing up documents, if any, from the RCRC Board, and other items as needed. Our media staff will be in and out providing information to the media.
3. RCRC Board Members Testimony: As a reminder of the general flow, I should be the first person called so that I can present the Charges. Then, the Board Members should be called one at a time to provide testimony. The idea is that each has an opportunity to be heard for up to 30 minutes, so I ask that you limit questions during their statements so that they do not complain that they did not get their full 30 minutes. However, you may ask as many detailed questions as needed following their statement. As for asking me questions, the idea is not to provide a full hearing but to give the board members a chance to answer the charges. Thus, I am happy to answer where a document came from or an administrative question, but I will not provide rebuttal answers or argue over the information presented. Likewise, we want to hear from the RCRC Board members, not their attorneys. Attorneys may sit beside them and discuss issues with their client, but should not speak on behalf of their client. *You are an extension of the Governor and should ask questions afterward each RCRC Board Members' testimony for as long as needed to see whether the RCRC Board Members acted properly.*
4. Resignations: We received another resignation today from George Martin. Thus the remaining order is:
  - o J. Marie Green, Chairman;
  - o Barbara Mickens, Vice-Chairman;
  - o Joseph Weeks, Member (appointed February 2016)
  - o Thomas Clark, Member (appointed February 2016)
5. Documents: If you will please bring your notebooks to the hearings for ease in referencing any documents. I will introduce the documents as a whole when I state the charges on the record. All of the documents were provided to the RCRC Board members Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - a. I was told by the HR Manager for the Richland County Recreation Commission that the Board members claim not to have seen some of the documents before. I offered to provide where any document came from if he told me the document numbers, but have not been provided the

document numbers yet.

- b. All of the documents were provided by the delegation, the board members, or one of the two board members who rolled off in February 2016. We did not solicit information, but the prior board member reached out and provided documents. With the various lawsuits pending against the RCRC, I prefer not to solicit written testimony when I am not aware of all of the issues. However, I am mulling over providing a basic Affidavit stating that the prior board member provided particular documents to the Governor's office, or offering to provide one upon request of the panel if so needed. Since there would be no questioning of the prior board member, I think it would be acceptable to provide an Affidavit at any time.

If you have questions about Wednesday or anything I have said or written, please give me a call. Again, we very much appreciate your service in this role.

Thank you,

Richele K. Taylor  
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It's a great day in South Carolina