

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO	DATE
Floyd	4-22-08

<b>DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>
1. LOG NUMBER 000549	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <u>4-29-08</u>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR cc: Jacobs	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

*Per Jeremy... do not need a written response, see attached e-mail.*

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

**ROBERT FORD**  
SENATOR, CHARLESTON COUNTY  
SENATORIAL DISTRICT NO. 42

HOME ADDRESS:  
P.O. BOX 21302  
CHARLESTON, SC 29413  
TELEPHONE: (843) 852-0777  
EMAIL: RIF@SCSENATE.ORG

OFFICE ADDRESS:  
P. O. BOX 142  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202  
TELEPHONE (803) 212-6124  
FAX (803) 212-6299  
EMAIL: RIF@SCSENATE.ORG  
HOME FAX: (843) 571-5935  
HOME EMAIL: SENATORRFORD@BELLSOUTH.NET



COMMITTEES:  
BANKING AND INSURANCE  
CORRECTIONS AND PENOLOGY  
GENERAL INVITATIONS  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
MEDICAL AFFAIRS  
S.C. LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS  
CHAIRPERSON, CIVIL RIGHTS AND  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

**RECEIVED**

April 22, 2008

APR 22 2008

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Bill & Donna Driskell  
2443 Raymond Avenue  
N. Charleston, SC 29406

RE: **Jenvon Cherry**  
**716 Zimacrest Drive**  
**Apt. # 3704**  
**Columbia, SC 29210**

SSN: 577-11-2898

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Driskell:

Thank you for contacting our office on April 15, 2008 concerning your daughter Jenvon Cherry. Upon reading your plea for assistance, I was in awe and very disappointed to learn that you are unable to receive insurance benefits for Jevon or any other governmental aide for her disability while she is in Columbia, South Carolina as a full-time college student working towards her degree.

I will also have to investigate as to why your daughter is not receiving her unemployment benefits if she was indeed terminated from her most recent employment.

By way of this correspondence, please be advised that I have carbon copied several governmental agencies in an effort to solicit their assistance in providing resolve to this unfortunate circumstance, as outlined in your email to our office. I would like to further request that the state agencies carbon copy my office on any actions taken in an attempt to rectify your issue.

Jenvon Cherry

Page - 2 -

I apologize for what your family has had to endure and I undoubtedly understand your frustration. In the interim, until you receive responses from the carbon-copied individuals, please feel free to contact me directly at (803) 212-6124.

Sincerely,  
  
Robert Ford

State Senator  
District # 42



**ROBERT FORD**  
SENATOR, CHARLESTON COUNTY  
SENATORIAL DISTRICT 42

SENATE ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 142  
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CHARLESTON, SC 29413  
OFFICE: (843) 852-0777  
CHARLESTON MOBILE: (843) 813-1777

cc: Dr. Kathleen Hayes, State Director  
Department of Social Services  
P.O. Box 1520  
Columbia, SC 29202

Emma Forkner, State Director  
Department of Health & Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29201

Brian Kost, Senior Consultant  
Department of Health & Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29201

J. Williams McLeod, Commissioner  
SC Employment Security Commission  
P.O. Box 995  
Columbia, SC 29202

Enclosures: (2)

**From:** "Driskell, Donna F." <fordhamd@musc.edu>  
**To:** "blues@scsenate.org" <blues@scsenate.org>  
**Date:** 4/15/2008 10:05 AM  
**Subject:** Assistance

Good Morning,

My name is Donna Driskell, I believe you just spoke with my husband Bill. We have a daughter that is a 25 student at Benedict College and she has epilepsy.

I am concerned because her disability is not one that is visibly seen, it is not recognized as a disability. She has never applied for any type of financial assistance because we have always taken care of her. Now that she is of age she is a college student without insurance and no assistance. She has applied for food stamps, and social security benefits which have all been denied. Vocational Rehab has agreed to purchase her medications for two months only. Hopefully the Air force (tricare) will pick her up again due to the fact that her seizures was a preexisting condition.

She is trying so hard to be independent. She lives in an apartment complex which they keep threatening eviction because everytime she gets a job eventhough the employer hires her with the disability, if she is out too many times due to seizure activity she is "fired". But, they always have an excuse such as lack of work. She is now fighting the Employment Security commission for her unemployment from her last job. I wonder some times if sending her to college is wise because I am so afraid that she will never be able to have a steady job in journalism and keep it because of her disability.

We have taught her to be independent and not depend on the Government to help you. She does a good job of showing her independence. But, where do you go if you need a little assistance? Not for long, not forever just to lend a helping hand?

From: "Driskell, Donna F." <fordhamd@musc.edu>  
To: "blues@scsenate.org" <blues@scsenate.org>  
Date: 4/15/2008 10:07 AM  
Subject: Assistance. Phone number

My phone number is 843-792-0117 or home 553-8700 cell 367-8347 thanks



Emma Forkner, State Director  
Department of Health & Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29201

RECEIVED  
APR 22 2008  
Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

29202+8206



Senator Robert Ford  
P. O. Box 142  
Columbia, SC 29202

Log #549 ✓

**From:** Lena Girgis  
**To:** Brenda James  
**Date:** 4/22/2008 4:36:55 pm  
**Subject:** Fwd: Log 0549

Please see below. Thank you!

>>> Jennifer Lynch 04/22/08 4:30 PM >>>  
Denise already began working on this one and has spoken with the family and Senator Ford's office before we got the log letter. She called Senator Ford's office back and they said we don't need to prepare a written response--only send them copies of the resources we mailed the family with Denise's business card since she helped them. We will be sending this back up to close without a written response if that's okay. Thanks!!

Jennifer Lynch  
Supervisor, Division of Constituent Services  
Bureau of Eligibility Policy & Oversight  
Department of Health and Human Services  
(803) 898-3965  
(803) 255-8350 FAX  
[lynchjen@scdhhs.gov](mailto:lynchjen@scdhhs.gov)

**From:** Lena Girgis  
**To:** Brenda James  
**Date:** 4/24/2008 3:37 pm  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: Message From Susan D. Blue c/o Senator Robert Ford

More info on log 0549 (not sure if you need it). Thanks!

>>> Denise Epps 04/24/08 12:17 PM >>>  
You are welcome - call me anytime we may be of assistance, Denise

Denise M. Epps  
Constituent Services  
Bureau of Eligibility Policy & Oversight  
(803) 898-2505 direct; (803) 255-8350 fax  
[eppsden@scdhs.gov](mailto:eppsden@scdhs.gov)

>>> "SUSAN BLUE" <[BLUES@scsenate.org](mailto:BLUES@scsenate.org)> 4/24/2008 11:30 AM >>>  
Thursday, April 24, 2008

RE: Ms. Donna Driskell - Constituent

I received your package this morning. Thank you VERY much !!!

Susan D. Blue  
SC Senate  
P.O. Box 142  
Columbia, SC 29202

803.212.6124 (State House)  
803.212.6127 (Direct Fax)  
[blues@scsenate.org](mailto:blues@scsenate.org) (Email)