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Subject: Re: Sc Foia lawsuit in Beaufort county

SKIP: Per your e-mail, I have attached some of the highlights from the recent past when it comes to exposing the waste and abuses of CVBs across the country. They include the now infamous audit of the Palm Beach (FL) CVB, where the former Controller went to prison for massive embezzlement that the CVBs self-proclaimed "independent audits" totally missed, and the landmark 2013 ruling from the judge in Louisiana that found CVBs are liable to the state's open records law because they receive public funding. They also include examples of the more flagrant attempts to avoid transparency, such as in Colorado Springs.

Here is a link to the independent investigation of the Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority, which uncovered massive abuses -- some of which could be criminal.

<http://www.npri.org/publications/npris-transparency-project-on-the-lvcva-detailed-report>

Given the mounting evidence across the country that CVBs are -- at best -- wasteful and inefficient, and at worst criminal in their misuse of public funds, I think it is time for you to take a poll of local politicians there, both at the county and town levels, to find out who openly and publicly supports transparency, accountability and reform -- and who does not.

It's time to hold elected officials accountable for being good stewards of tax dollars and the local tourism economy.

CVBs for too long have gotten away with their shenanigans, including in Hilton head.

And God willing, thanks to your efforts, 2015 will be the year when the truth is finally brought to light for all to see.

Of this I am sure -- once a truly independent audit of the Hilton Head Chamber/VCB is done, their ongoing funding will be in jeopardy for obvious reason.

Than ks.

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Sent: Saturday, January 3, 2015 2:50 PM

Subject: Sc Foia lawsuit in Beaufort county

Prosperous new year to everyone . I am hoping 2015 will be a year that we can see improvements in our local and State government with more transparency , accountability and performance measures on how our hard earned tax dollars are spent . As we all know ,by my and others exposure over the last few years we have failed miserably in fully accounting where our monies have gone over the last 50 plus years totaling in the hundreds of millions of dollars . This must end !!!!

We need simple changes to effectively accomplish the mission . Anyone who seeks and receives our tax monies must submit to any and all request for a SC FOIA . Our local and state government must adopt 10 simple guidelines drafted by professionalms that those who receive our tax dollars must agree to abide by , to include Independent external audits conducted on every entity receiving tax dollars every 3 years deducting a very small amount of what they receive every 3 yrs only . Approx 1.5 % to 5% of what they receive to fund and pay for the cost of the audit . The town councils pay nothing all deducted from funds received by the recipients. No funds will be giving to any non profit entity that does not abide by IRS tax laws , any entity that is deemed by our council to have excessive salaries and expenses and not using our tax dollars wisely after fully reviewing the results of the audits and performance measures will be terminated , any entity that is deemed by our councils or a court of law that competes against local for profit free enterprise tax paying company's that contribute to our tax base will be rejected funds . It's all very simple and straight forward and easy to adopt , and in fact just makes sense and should have been done years ago . The math is simple and very little cost to every non profit recipient of our tax dollars . You receive 50k Town Council deducts 5% every 3 yrs 2500 for a basic independent audit . You receive 2 million it's only 1.5 % or 30k every 3 yrs for a