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-Comments: Emergency-Unemployment Insurance Problem

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Fax:

(803) 734-5167

Date:

06/23/14

To:

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

From:

LLOYD S. PRATT
189 CAUGHMAN RIDGE RD.
COLUMBIA, SC 29209

Fax

Lloyd S. Pratt
189 Caughman Ridge Rd.
Columbia, SC 29209

DATE : 06/23/2014

FROM

: Lloyd S. Pratt
189 Caughman Ridge Rd.
Columbia, SC 29209

TO

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

SUBJECT : Emergency-Unemployment Insurance Problem

Dear Governor Haley,

This is a matter of extreme urgency. My name is Lloyd Pratt and I have been a resident of South Carolina for my entire life (53 years). I seek your help concerning an abject situation involving the South Carolina Department of Employment & Workforce (SCDEW). I worked for this agency from October 2013 until November 4, 2013. I had to resign from this agency due to health issues this agency caused (including severe depression, stress, headaches, high blood pressure).

Here are the facts:

09/01/13 My doctor submitted an FMLA form documenting the reasons why I had to be on leave from my job (09/01/13 thru 11/01/13)

11/04/13 I had to resign from my position @ SCDEW due to the health issues caused by this agency.

12/14/13 Applied for Unemployment benefits on 12/14/2013.

Received a notice from SCDEW stating that their "fact finding" (which took 2 months by the way) determined that I resigned without "good cause", which is absolutely incorrect. Does SCDEW not check their own employee records? Did they not check my file that exists IN THEIR OWN PERSONNEL OFFICE? It's ludicrous for them to say that I left my job for no good cause. This is insulting to me, a former employee, and it's disturbing that this even happened in the first place.

02/24/14 I appealed SCDEW's erroneous decision

04/17/14 Received a notice from SCDEW stating that my appeal was "untimely"

04/21/14 I sent another appeal stating why the initial appeal was not returned in the 10 day period from their "mailing date" (i.e. I did not receive the notice from SCDEW in a timely manner)

05/21/14 Daniel Beach from SCDEW conducted a hearing @ 9AM

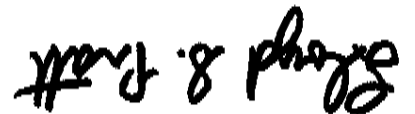
05/23/14 Mr. Beach concluded that the appeal was untimely

This ridiculous process has drawn out unnecessarily for 6 excruciating months. I have suffered pain and emotional distress due to not only the stressful and inhumane conditions I worked in @ SCDEW but also the pain and suffering inflicted upon me by SCDEW not granting the unemployment benefits I justly deserve. My mortgage is 2 months overdue and I've maxed-out on my credit cards trying to keep my head above water. I would not have had any of these issues if SCDEW had provided me with the benefits I deserve. I desperately need my unemployment benefits. What's happened to me is Exhibit A for incompetence and ineptitude. This is not the way a state agency is supposed to conduct business. Maybe some of the local and national news stations need to hear about what has happened to me. Facebook is another option. However, I want to give you the opportunity to right this wrong. I have already appealed to the Ultimate Higher Power (and that is God) and I also appeal to you, Governor Haley to make this right. You would think that decency and common sense would be the order of the day. My shameful treatment by SCDEW proves that this is obviously not the case. I expect you to right this wrong since you have the power to do so. Please act quickly and decisively and show that no agency under your leadership can treat a

fellow South Carolina citizen is such a shameful manner. I thank you for your attention to my plight.

Please contact me if you need any additional information.

Respectfully,



Lloyd S. Pratt

(803) 776-4675(H)

(803) 413-2306(Cell)