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**Subject:** 4th Annual Founders Day Celebration (SCDC)  
**Location:** South Carolina Department of Corrections Training Academy, 4444 Broad River Road, Columbia, S.C.  
**When:** 5/9/2016 11:00:00 AM - 12:00:00 PM

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Advance: Brandon Landrum  
(803)260-0783  
Jeremy Weis  
(803)260-0848

**NOTE:** The Gov. Office is providing signing pens and the bill.

**APPROVED BY:** NH on 3/21. Stirling said this was a hard ask.

**EVENT:** 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Founder Day Celebration

**DATE:** Monday, May 9, 2016

**TIME:** 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (10:30 AM- 12:00 PM)

**LOCATION:** South Carolina Department of Corrections Training Academy, Training Academy Multi-Purpose Room, 4444 Broad River Road, Columbia, S.C.

**LOCATION SET-UP:** The room will be set-up banquet style with seating around rectangular tables. There will be a podium in the front with a microphone, but no stage. A chair and table will be beside the podium for the bill signing. For the first 30 minutes of the event the Governor will be seated in front of the room with Director Stirling, Judge Byars and Mike McCall.

**SCHEDULING CONTACT:**

Ginny Barr  
Division Director  
Young Offender Parole and Reentry Services  
SC Department of Corrections  
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Director Bryan Stirling  
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**ONSITE CONTACT:**

Colie Rushton  
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Robert Murray  
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**PRIMARY STAFF:** Ashton Lee

**ADVANCE STAFF:** Chaney Adams

**PURPOSE:** Governor Haley will attend and serve as the keynote speaker at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Founders Day celebration, acknowledging the overwhelming success of Corrections staff and the young adults they serve. The Governor will be presented with the Founders Day Award by Director Stirling. This award is presented annually to a person that has provided leadership and support key to the implementation and success of SCDC's services for Youthful Offenders. The Governor is then asked to provide a Keynote Address (approximately 10 minutes), followed by a bill signing citing Chapter 19 of Title 24 of the SC Code of Laws as the Judge William R. Byars Youthful Offender Act.

**PRESS:** Yes.

**PUBLIC:** Yes.

**INVITED BY:** Director Bryan Stirling

**ATTENDEES:** Expecting around 150 attendees.

**INTRODUCED BY:** Director Stirling

**LENGTH OF SPEAKING:** 15 minutes total (10 minutes for remarks plus 5 minutes for the bill signing)

**SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE:**

|                 |  |                                |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 11:00-11:15 AM  | Judge Byars Community Partner Award                        | Ginny Barr, Director Stirling, |
|                 | Judge Byars  |                                |
| 1.              | Law Enforcement  |                                |
|                 | Sheriff Phillip E. Thompson, Horry County Sheriff's Office |                                |
| 1.              | Prosecutor   |                                |
|                 | Bill Nettles, U.S. Attorney                                |                                |
| 1.              | Service Organization                                       |                                |
|                 | Faith Partners for Re-entry – Greenville, SC               |                                |
|                 | Jim Batson   |                                |
| 1.              | Employers of the Year                                      |                                |
|                 | -Country Fresh, Inc. – Greenville, SC                      |                                |
|                 | Lane Layman  |                                |
|                 | -Effex Management Solutions                                |                                |
|                 | Walter Rivera  |                                |
|                 | -McDonald's – Darlington, SC                               |                                |
|                 | Kevin Patterson  |                                |
|                 | -Advance Auto Parts – Lexington, SC                        |                                |
|                 | Jim Martin (employee Marcos Pearson)                       |                                |
| 11:15 -11:25 AM | Allexcia Thuss Memorial Intensive Supervision Award        | Ginny Barr                     |
|                 | Family Attending - Gloria Jordan and Zendra Barns          | Regional Reentry               |
|                 | Coordinators   |                                |
|                 | • Midlands - Mary Wiernicki                                | Director Stirling              |
|                 | • Low Country - Sheila Adams                               | Judge                          |
|                 | Byars  |                                |
|                 | • Pee Dee - Melanie Johnson                                |                                |
|                 | • Upstate - Kellan Davis                                   |                                |
| 11:25-11:35 AM  | Achievement Awards for Success (ex-offenders)              | Ginny Barr                     |

- Midlands – Laura Muns (ISO May Wiernicki)
- Low Country – Livingston Rouse (ISO Cathy Morgan)
- Pee Dee – Courtney Osborne (ISO Toni Williams)  
Pamona Capers – mother  
Sabn Johns - Grandfather
- Upstate – Michael Manigault (ISO Tony Garcia)  
Charles Reynolds SCDMH
- *Character Award* – Marcos Pearson (ISO Steven Little)

Director Stirling  
Judge Byars

11:35-11:40 AM Founders Day Award Presentation

Director Stirling

- Governor Nikki Haley

11:40 AM-12:00 PM Keynote Address & Bill Signing

Director Stirling

- Governor Nikki Haley

12:00 PM Closing

**EVENT BACKGROUND:** Under Governor Haley's leadership and the direction of Judge Bill Byars, in July 2011, the South Carolina Department of Corrections implemented a new evidence-based parole service for Youthful Offenders, ages 17-25, called Intensive Supervision. Today, fully implemented Intensive Supervision Services are experiencing substantial reductions in the number of young men and women returning to prison, helping to end the generational cycle of incarceration. Throughout the life of the program, 2,102 Youthful Offenders have been assigned to Intensive Supervision and 1,730 have been paroled. Previously, this high-risk population was returning to prison at a rate of more than 50 percent. SCDC's unique supervision program touts an impressive 13.5% 2-year recidivism rate.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- In July 2011, the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) Division of Young Offender Parole and Reentry Services (YOPRS) implemented a new evidence-based parole service for Youthful Offenders, ages 17-25, called Intensive Supervision.
- The mission of the YOPRS is to reduce recidivism among young offenders by utilizing evidence-based principles/practices that teach accountability, enhance skill development, and promote public safety.
- YOPRS encompasses both institution and community-based services for male and female offenders sentenced under the Youthful Offender Act (YOA). Those who are eligible must:
  - be less than 25 years of age at the time of conviction,
  - have no previous YOA convictions, and
  - have an eligible conviction (non-violent, Class D felonies or lesser offenses, punishable by 15 years of imprisonment or less, with two exceptions: second-degree burglary, violent, and lewd act upon a child under very limited circumstances).
- Services are individualized and include risk assessments that identify individual criminogenic needs, as well as assets, and evidence-based programming that promotes the rehabilitative process.
- Programming includes, but is not limited to: *Criminal Thinking, Impact of Crime, Family Focus, Individual/Group Counseling, Community Meetings, GED Preparation/Testing, Substance Abuse Education/Addictions Treatment, Parenting, Job and Career Skills, Intrapersonal Skills, and Life Skills.*

#### **SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS:**

- It's a great day in South Carolina and I am honored to be here with you today to celebrate the successes achieved by the Youthful Offender Intensive Supervision program and the officers that make it happen.

- This program is designed to promote community safety, reduce victimization, and ensure the successful reentry of young offenders back into the community.
- Diverting youthful offenders from the system and toward community-based programs helps them stay out of jail and get their lives back on track.
- Today, fully implemented, Intensive Supervision Services are experiencing substantial reductions in the number of young men and women returning to prison, helping to end the generational cycle of incarceration.
- **Throughout the life of the program, 2,102 Youthful Offenders have been assigned to Intensive Supervision and 1,730 have been paroled.**
- Previously, this high-risk population was returning to prison at a rate of more than 50 percent. **Now, this unique supervision program touts an impressive 13.5% 2-year recidivism rate.**
- And this is great because reduced prison time and strong reentry services produce more successful outcomes and saves tax dollars.
- The program's success is the direct result of the trusting relationships our dedicated Intensive Supervision Officers are able to make with the young men and women in the program.
- So thank you for the work you do. Getting young adults back on track is a life-changing and life-saving undertaking. I am honored to be here to congratulate your hard work and success.

#### **BILL BACKGROUND:**

- Judge Byars was instrumental in implementing the Intensive Supervision program with Director of the Department of Corrections.
- The bill (S.1090) renames the Youthful Offender Act, to the "Judge William R. Byars Youthful Offender Act."