

#444

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, July 19, 2020 6:04:41 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, July 19, 2020 6:11:07 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:26

Page 2: About Agencies Scheduled for Study

Q1

Please share any comments, suggestions or concerns you may have about these agencies, including any observations about the way the agency shares information online. Please note your responses will be posted online and may be included in a Committee report.

Health & Human Services, Department of

The one, Josh Baker, is at the 'helm' of a sinking ship, and he is to blame. And the governor and legislature is letting it happen. He is the ultimate bully. And while I don't doubt he is smart (although he has fooled many with his actual "health care" experience--as someone who has served, I know full well his experience), he and his chief of staff, Erin Boyce, make decisions purely on personal feelings in that very moment or to seek revenge, and not in the betterment of the agency or citizens of South Carolina. If you disagree or question anything they do, you are either terminated or moved into a different position. The irony is they created a, "if you see something, say something" guideline. When I shared this with my staff, multiple people responded, "That's not true. You see what happens when people say something." In fact, these two have a history of Department corruption, going back to when they were both in the budget division. Just ask a former employee they framed for their mistake and the Department paid out when faced with an unwinnable lawsuit. The Department has a busted personnel budget, but it is a direct outcome to the hiring practices of Baker and Boyce. To avoid transparency, the state hiring process and hire people (often friends or friends of friends) at high salaries, the Department has added numerous TGE positions since Baker's assumed the director role. In fact, he openly brags about his lack of transparency. And now, he has switched to talking about a RIF of FTEs. In every senior leadership meeting. Does no one downtown FOIA or hold accountable the TGE hiring? Where is the Department of Admin in this? (Oh, that's right, in Baker's back pocket.) TGEs receive a mention in a Feb. 5 article in The State, "Baker offered Morris the job as a temporary grant employee, a grant-funded position, which gives state agencies "the flexibility to hire employees to fill time-specific positions funded by federal grants, interagency contracts, public charity grants, private foundation grants and research grants," according to the agency's statement." But no one takes it further to actually FOIA the TGEs. Are they really temporary positions? If you take a closer look, you will find that they aren't. But those who suffer are your hardworking, obedient FTEs, that actually do care about the Department, the citizens and taxpayer dollars. Then you add in their third amigo, Brian Amick, and corruption continues. Extracurricular martial activities/rumors between the three run rampant. Ethics violations. A good example, both Baker and Amick talked to and met with the former Department director, Christian Soura, about Department happenings the entire year he was to have no contact. (And they didn't hide it.) Additionally, it is known that Amick is no

stranger to get meals, drinks and more paid for by other companies---a clear ethics violation. And the way they both talk about women in the workplace is unprofessional and absolutely degrading and disgusting. Again, they don't hide this. Thank goodness I do not have daughters or a wife working at the Department. As someone that has witnessed so much talent, experience and knowledge either jump ship or be pushed off the plank, and as someone who wants DHHS to be successful, I beg you to do something. I fear it may be too late, but if it goes on much longer, it will be. And South Carolina and its citizens are the ones that will lose. And ultimately, elected officials will be the ones held accountable.

Page 3: There are three questions seeking general information.

Q2 55-64 years old

What is your age?

Q3 Respondent skipped this question

Which best describes your current role?

Q4 Kershaw

In which county do you live?
