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January 11, 2016

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Mrs. Susan Alford, State Director
South Carolina Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 1520
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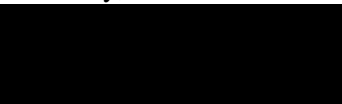
Dear Director Alford:

During the January 6, 2016 subcommittee meeting, we inquired about domestic violence training for DSS staff. The agency's representative stated that she could provide a response after seeking the expertise of other agency staff. Please provide written responses to the following questions:

- What are the agency's policies regarding handling of cases where one party is a victim of domestic violence?
- What type of training does DSS provide employees regarding their approach to child protection cases, where one party is a victim of domestic violence?
 - Is the training required of all staff that interact directly with families under investigation?

It is requested that the agency provide a written response to these questions on or before the close of business on Monday, January 18, 2016. Thank you for your continued cooperation during the legislative oversight process.

Sincerely,



Nathan Ballentine
Healthcare Subcommittee Chair