

Executive Order No. 2017-36

WHEREAS, James H. Harrison, a member of the Board of Visitors of The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, has been indicted by the State Grand Jury for Misconduct in Office, in violation of section 8-1-80 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; Criminal Conspiracy, in violation of section 16-17-410 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; and Common Law Misconduct in Office; and

WHEREAS, James H. Harrison, as a member of the Board of Visitors of The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, is an officer of the State or its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, article VI, section 8 of the South Carolina Constitution provides, in relevant part, that “[a]ny officer of the State or its political subdivisions . . . who has been indicted by a grand jury for a crime involving moral turpitude . . . may be suspended by the Governor until he shall have been acquitted”; and

WHEREAS, under South Carolina law, moral turpitude “implies something immoral in itself,” *State v. Horton*, 271 S.C. 413, 414, 248 S.E.2d 263, 263 (1978), and “involves an act of baseness, vileness, or depravity in the social duties which a man owes to his fellow man or society in general, contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right and duty between man and man,” *State v. Major*, 301 S.C. 181, 186, 391 S.E.2d 235, 238 (1990); and

WHEREAS, one or more of the crimes charged in the Indictments constitute “a crime involving moral turpitude”; and

WHEREAS, as Governor of the State of South Carolina, I am mindful of the duties and responsibilities vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of this State.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby Order that James H. Harrison shall be and hereby is suspended from his office as a member of the Board of Visitors of The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, until such time as the above-referenced charges are resolved, at which time further appropriate action will be taken by the undersigned. This action in no manner addresses the guilt or innocence of James H. Harrison and shall not be construed as an expression of any opinion on such question. This Order is effective immediately.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, THIS 24th DAY OF
OCTOBER, 2017.**

**HENRY MCMASTER
Governor**