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August 30, 2018

VIA Email

Director J. Hugh Ryan III S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense Post Office Box 11433 Columbia, SC 29211-1433

RE: Follow-up from Subcommittee's August 28, 2018 meeting with the agency

Dear Director Ryan:

The Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Subcommittee appreciates the agency's partnership in the oversight process. As follow up from the meeting on August 28, 2018, the Subcommittee seeks additional information from the agency. Please provide this information by Monday, September 10, 2018.

Turnover

- 1. How often is a circuit public defender seeking to be re-appointed, not re-appointed?
- 2. What was the turnover rate, during each of the past three years, for attorneys in the circuit public defender offices, excluding the circuit public defender?

Case Management System

- 3. Why was the decision made to purchase one case management system for every circuit public defender office instead of allowing each circuit public defender to choose their own system or from a list of approved systems?
- 4. When was the circuit public defender case management system purchased?
 - a. What was the upfront cost of the system and what did it include?
 - b. What is the average annual cost and what does it include (e.g., total number of users, creation of reports, etc.)?
 - c. Who pays for the case management system every circuit public defender office utilizes?
- 5. Does the case management system track the disposition of each case? If so, is this information entered for cases handled by public defenders and cases handled by contract attorneys?
- 6. Is there any information the agency has to obtain from Court Administration and then manually enter into the agency's case management system? If so, has the agency every requested Court Administration work with the agency's service provider on a way to obtain this information in a manner that would allow for automatic, instead of manual, input into the system (e.g., connecting the Court Administration and agency system directly; Court Administration providing data in an Excel chart the agency could then use to upload the applicable information into the appropriate data fields in the agency's system)?
- 7. Please provide the types of data the Ninth Judicial Circuit Public Defender was referencing during his testimony which he believes could be tracked through the agency's system to assist circuit public defenders in managing their offices, including ways in which the information could assist in management and potential costs, if any, of tracking the additional data.

Records Management

8. Please contact the Department of Archives and History to confirm the agency is current in its archiving and inform the committee of the response provided by the Department of Archives and History.

Agency Recommendations for Law Changes

9. Since the agency's law recommendation number three requests modification of a statute based on provisions in budget provisos 61.1 and 61.4, please state how many years those provisos have been included in the General Appropriations Act.

Page 3 Director Ryan

The Subcommittee looks forward to working collaboratively with the agency during the oversight process. As a reminder, the Committee's expectations are provided in its Standard Practice 9. We thank you and your team for your service to the citizens of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Edward R. Tallon Sr. Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Wm. Weston J. Newton

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The Honorable Katherine E. "Katie" Arrington

The Honorable William M. "Bill" Hixon The Honorable Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson