<u>}</u>	LITIGATION RETENTION AGREEMENT FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL APPOINTED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	This litigation retention agreement ("Agreement") is by and between South Carolina Attorney
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	authority over all aspects of this litigation. The litigation may be commenced, conducted,			
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*   *   *	General. The Attorney General, at his sole discretion, shall appoint a designated assistant			
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	or assistants ("designated assistant") to oversee the litigation, which appointment the			
	or assistants ("designated assistant") to oversee the litigation, which appointment the Attorney General may modify at will.			
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#### **B.** Non-Delegation of Work

Special Counsel may not, without the express approval of the Attorney General, delegate any work whatsoever to any attorney in any other firm.

#### C\_Fmnlowmant\_Statue

Special Counsel will render services pursuant to this Agreement as an independent contractor. Neither Special Counsel nor any employee of Special Counsel shall be regarded as employed by, or as an employee of, the Attorney General or the State of South Carolina, nor shall they be considered public officials.

### **ARTICLE III. CASE MANAGEMENT**

#### A. Status Reports

The Attorney General may at any time request status reports from Special Counsel regarding any

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	Name:	C. Havird Jones, Jr. Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General
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		Co lumbia, SC 29211
	Phone:	803-734-3654
	Email:	sjones@scag.gov
	Name:	Rebecca Hartner Assistant Attorney General
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	Phone:	803-734-5855
	Email:	rhartner@scag.gov
	Name:	James R. Dugan, II, Esq The Dugan Law Firm, APLC
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	Phone:	(504) 648-0180
	Email:	jdugan@dugan-lawfirm.com
	Name:	W. Mark Lanier Founder

Address:	10940 W. Sam Houston Pkwy N Suite 100 Houston, TX 77064
Phone:	713-659-5200
Email:	mark.lanier@lanierlawfirm.com
Name:	Ashley Keller Co-founder <u>Ke</u> ller Lenkner LLC
Address:	150 N. Riverside Plaza, Suite 4270

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Name:	Charlie Condon Charlie Condon Law Firm, LLC
Address:	880 Johnnie Dodds Blvd, Suite 1 Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
Phone:	(843) 884-8146
Email:	charlie@charliecondon.com

#### C. Communication

Special Counsel among to accoult in advance in nerson by telephone or in writing with the

Attorney General promptly on all matters that may be precedential, controversial, of particular public interest, or otherwise noteworthy or important, and to keep the Attorney General fully informed at all times.

Special Counsel shall give timely written notice to the Attorney General of any and all of the fallowing logal events in this litigation.

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#### F. Public Records

Any material, data, files, discs, or documents created, produced, or gathered by Special Counsel, or in Special Counsel's possession in furtherance of this litigation. or which fulfills an obligation

of this appointment, shall be considered the exclusive property of the State of South Carolina. Special Counsel agrees to adhere to South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act, South Carolina Code of Laws §§ 30-4-10 *et seq.*, for the purposes of maintaining all public records in accordance with State law. Public records requests are to be handled by the Attorney General's Office, and any public records requests received by Special Counsel shall be emailed to the Attorney General's Office within one business day of receipt. Special Counsel agrees to cooperate fully with the

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below. Compensation under this Section IV.B.2 shall be deducted from the litigation's gross recovery before any further distribution is made.

3. After any deduction from the gross recovery pursuant to Section IV.B.1 and IV.B.2, if the defendant(s) filed a separate suit against the Attorney General or the State regarding this litigation or this Agreement, Special Counsel shall be compensated for time spent defending against such suit at the following rates: \$190 per hour for attorneys with 10 or more years of experience, \$130 per hour for attorneys with more than 6 but less than 10 years of experience, \$110 per hour for attorneys with more than 3 but less than 6 years of experience, \$100 per hour for attorneys with less than 3 years of experience, and \$60 per hour for naralegals. This applies only to time spent defending a lawsuit against the Attorney

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The Attorney General may, in his sole discretion. reduce these fees if he determines that the effort required to resolve the case on appeal does not justify increasing the fee. The fees awarded under this section are based on the entire net recovery remaining after any deductions from the gross recovery pursuant to Sections IV.B.1, IV.B.2, and IV.B.3, not

6. If Special Counsel's fee is to be divided among lawyers who are not in the same firm, all lawyers receiving a fee must jointly submit a) a declaration that the division is in proportion to the services performed by each lawyer or each lawyer assumes joint

Agreement without cause, Special Counsel shall be reimbursed only from the litigation's gross recovery for all properly documented expenses and costs, as defined in Article V of this Agreement, rendered prior to termination, and Special Counsel shall be awarded appropriate

attorneys' fees as determined by the Attorney General. If this Agreement is terminated for cause, Special Counsel will not be reimbursed for any expenses and costs or paid any fees or other compensation for any services relating to the litigation.

#### G. No Other Payment Source

Special Counsel shall be reimbursed solely from the litigation's recovery. Neither the State of

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lodging exclusive of taxes and fees. There is no reimbursement for in-room inte	
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3. Automobile travel shall be reimbursed at the rate per mile published by the Revenue Service for business miles driven as of the date of the automobile trave Counsel must document the date of the travel, the address of the departure lo address of the arrival location, and the purpose of the travel in order to be ereimbursement Automobile travel reimbursement must not exceed the comment for any the forther to address of the date of the comment for the forther to address of the date of the comment for the forther to address of the date of the comment for the date of the date of the date of the comment for the date of the date	el. Special cation, the eligible for
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#### **D.** Hourly Fee

Where Special Counsel seeks payment of an hourly fee for defending litigation brought against the Attorney General or the State under the terms of this Agreement, in accordance with Section IV.B.3, Special Counsel is required to submit detailed time records on a monthly basis for time worked over the previous month. The Attorney General's Office is not obligated to approve or reject any requests for hourly fees until after the conclusion of the litigation. Each monthly time record must clearly identify by name or initials the attorney or paralegal who performed the work\_

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the date of the work, a detailed description of the work, and the number of hours or fraction thereof worked to the nearest tenth of an hour. When initials are used, the submission must identify all persons whose initials appear on the invoice and indicate whether each is an attorney or naralegal	

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	termination of this Agreement. All expenses must be itemized and no reimbursement will be granted for "miscellaneous" listings. The Attorney General may, in his sole discretion, decline to	
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	ARTICLE VI. TERMINATION	
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#### C. Code of Professional Responsibility

If, during the appointment as Special Counsel, a complaint is filed against Special Counsel or <u>Special Counsel's firm</u>. alleging a violation of Rule 407. Rules of Professional Conduct. South

Carolina Appellate Court Rules, or the applicable rules governing the state bar in which Special Counsel has been admitted, or the Code of Professional Responsibility, Special Counsel shall give prompt written notice of such complaint to the Attorney General. The Attorney General retains the right, in his sole discretion, to immediately terminate this Agreement if he deems the complaint to the

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adversely affect this litigation, the Attorney General, or the State of South Carolina.

#### **D.** Insurance

Special Counsel agrees to carry adequate professional liability insurance and to provide proof of

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	J. Amendment or Modification
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	such amendment or modification is set forth in writing and signed by both parties
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Alan Wilson Attorney General of South Carolina

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W. Mark Lanier The Lanier Law firm, P.C. Date

Ashley Keller Ashley Keller

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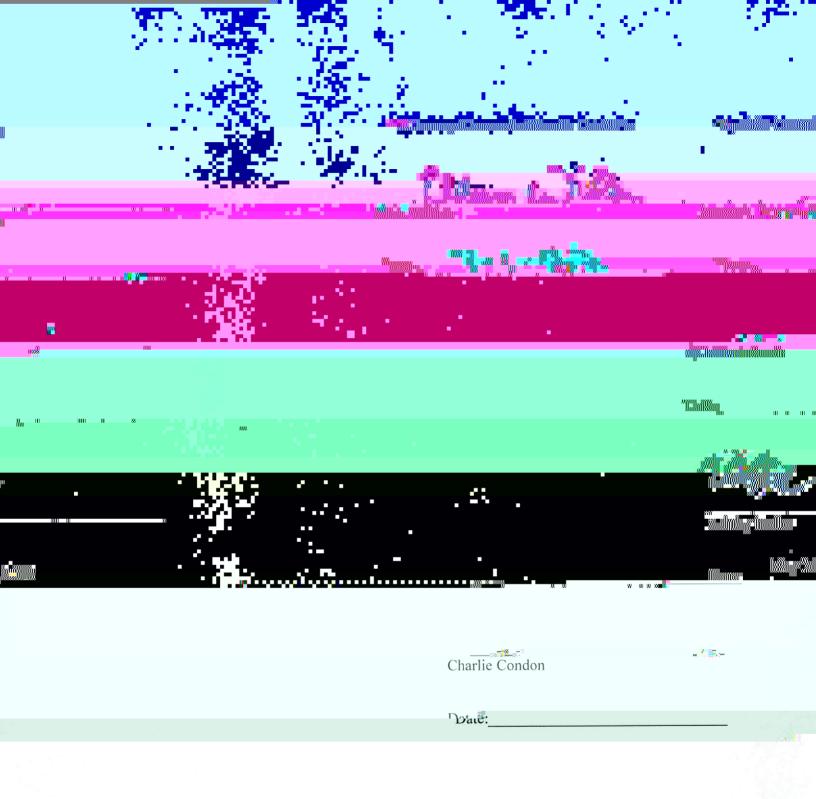
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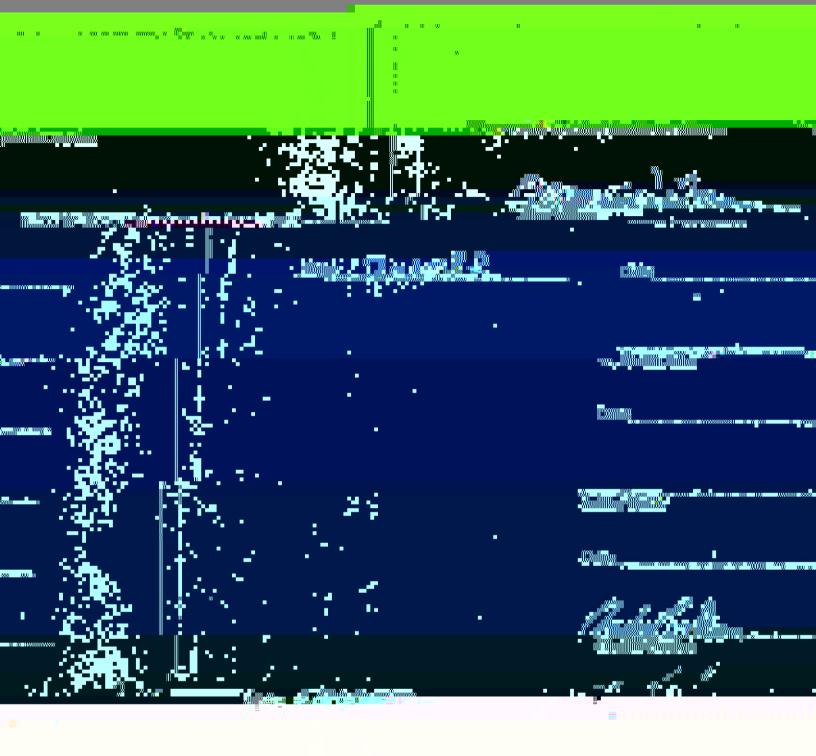






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