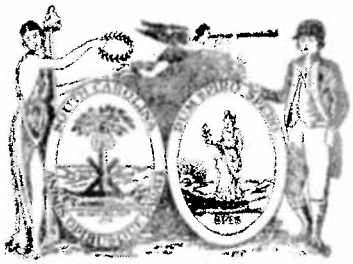
State of South Carolina

Executive Department

FILED

MAY 28 2014

Mark Hammond
SECRETARY OF STATE



Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2014-28

WHEREAS, the Grand Jurors of Greenville County indicted Perry Roy Eichor, Mayor of the Town of Simpsonville, on May 27, 2014, on three counts: (1) Misconduct of a Public Official for knowingly and willfully misusing and abusing the power of his office to deliver a threat to a judge of the Municipal Court of Simpsonville in violation of the Common Law of the State of South Carolina; (2) Obstruction of Justice for knowingly and willfully delivering an implied threat to a judge of the Municipal Court of Simpsonville with the intent to obstruct and impede, interfere with, or influence a pending judicial matter in violation of the Common Law of the State of South Carolina; and (3) Intimidation of a Court Official for threating or forcing, intimidating or impeding, or attempting to intimidate or impede, a judge, which did destroy, impede, or attempt to obstruct or impede the administration of justice in the Municipal Court of Simpsonville, in violation of Section 16-9-340 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; and

WHEREAS, Perry Roy Eichor is an officer of a political subdivision of the State, and Article VI, Section 8, of the South Carolina Constitution provides 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, South Carolina law recognizes that "moral turpitude implies something immoral itself ...," such as "an act of baseness, vileness, or depravity in the private and social duties which a man owes to his fellow man, or to society in general," and further that "an act in which fraud is an ingredient involves moral turpitude...," see *State v. Horton*, 248 S.E.2d 263 (1978), and the above-referenced indictments include a crime that involves moral turpitude; and

WHEREAS, a certified true copy of the indictments against Perry Roy Eichor has been provided to me.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of South Carolina, I hereby suspend Perry Roy Eichor from the office of Mayor of the Town of Simpsonville until such time as he shall be formally acquitted or convicted.

This action in no manner addresses the question of the guilt or innocence of Perry Roy Eichor and should not be construed as an expression of any opinion one way or another on such question.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 28th DAY OF May, 2014.

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State