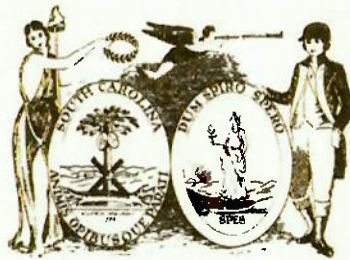


# State of South Carolina

## Executive Department



**FILED**

SEP 29 2025

*Mark Hammond*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

### Office of the Governor

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.**

**2025-35**

**WHEREAS**, by letter of September 16, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto, the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Hampton County ("Board"), through the County Attorney, has advised the undersigned that a vacancy exists on the Town Council for the Town of Scotia and the "Town of Scotia passed the deadline for the filing and the election date"; and

**WHEREAS**, section 5-7-200(b) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, provides that "[a] vacancy in the office of mayor or council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term at the next regular election or at a special election if the vacancy occurs one hundred eighty days or more prior to the next general election"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has advised the undersigned that the requisite election was not held due to a delay in notifying the Board of the resignation; and

**WHEREAS**, section 7-13-1170 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, provides as follows: "When any election official of any political subdivision of this State charged with ordering, providing for, or holding an election has neglected, failed, or refused to order, provide for, or hold the election at the time appointed, or if for any reason the election is declared void by competent authority, and these facts are made to appear to the satisfaction of the Governor, he shall, should the law not otherwise provide for this contingency, order an election or a new election to be held at the time and place, and upon the notice being given which to him appears adequate to insure the will of the electorate being fairly expressed. To that end, he may designate the existing election official or other person as he may appoint to perform the necessary official duties pertaining to the election and to declare the result."

**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 a special election shall be held on December 16, 2025, to fill the aforementioned vacancy on the Town Council for the Town of Scotia. Pursuant to section 7-

September 29, 2025

13-1170 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, I designate and appoint the Board to perform the necessary official duties pertaining to the special election, in accordance with the applicable constitutional and statutory provisions, and to declare the results thereof. In order to qualify as a candidate to run in the special election, all candidates must file with the Board a statement of intention of candidacy, and submit any applicable filing fees, between noon on Friday, October 3, 2025, and noon on Monday, October 13, 2025. This Order is effective immediately.



**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE  
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 29th DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER, 2025.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Henry Dargan McMaster", is written over a horizontal line.

**HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER**  
Governor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Hammond", is written over a horizontal line.

**MARK HAMMOND**  
Secretary of State

LAW OFFICES  
SOLOMONS & LAWTON, P.C.

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A. G. SOLOMONS, JR.  
WINSTON A. "TRIP" LAWTON, III

803-625-3232  
FAX 803-625-2148

September 16, 2025

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
Governor of the State of South Carolina  
c/o/ Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr.  
Chief Legal Counsel, Governor's Office  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: Request for Order Setting a Special Election for  
Town of Scotia Town Council

Dear Governor McMaster:

I am sending this request in my capacity as Hampton County Attorney, representing for the purposes of this correspondence the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Hampton County's Board of Voter Registration regarding a special election to be held on December 16, 2025 for the Town of Scotia. The Town of Scotia passed the deadline for the filing and the election date, creating the need for a special election.


I have requested the Director of the Board of Voter Registration and Elections County/State to provide me with a suggested schedule for the election for your consideration. The Director has suggested the election be scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>, with Early Voting opening Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> thru Friday December 12<sup>th</sup> for proposed election date. The Statement of Intention of Candidacy Non-Partisan form filing period would open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of vacancy, being October 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon, until noon, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
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Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If further information is need, I may be reached by phone at the number shown above, or by my cell number

[REDACTED]

Yours truly,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
A. G. Solomons, Jr.  
Hampton County Attorney

AGS,JR/mhc

Enclosure

cc: TaShara Morgan, Director  
Hampton County Board of Voter Registration  
and Elections (by mail only)