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June 28, 2018

Director Freddie Pough
South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
PO Box 21069
Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1069

Dear Director Pough:

Recently, a concerning media report recounted numerous fights among juveniles at DJJ's Broad River road facility on Friday, June 15, 2018. Please provide the Committee with confirmation of whether these fights did occur, and how the agency has responded to ensure the safety of juveniles and staff and prevent future such incidents.

It is often the Committee's practice to follow up with agencies about implementation of study recommendations approximately a year after the issuance of a study, and I understand that it is the Legislative Audit Council's practice to consider follow up with agencies approximately 18 months after the issuance of an audit report. As both the Legislative Audit Council's audit and the Committee's study of DJJ were issued over a year ago, please also provide the Committee with an update on your implementation of the recommendations that were included in those two reports.

As with all information agencies submit to the Committee, this will be posted online as part of our commitment to transparency. Please ensure you do not include any confidential information in your response to this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm. Weston J. Newton".

Wm. Weston J. Newton

cc: House Legislative Oversight Committee Members
The Honorable Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South Carolina House
Senate Special Subcommittee to Study the Department of Juvenile Justice
The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor of South Carolina