

4/19/04

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April 18, 2004

Mr. Bradley A. Norton  
Norton, Ballenger & Mahon, P.A.  
Attorney at Law  
P. O. Box 490  
Walhalla, South Carolina 29691

**Re: Ann Hamilton Hughes**

Dear Brad:

I have reviewed and discussed your letter with attachment with Ann Hughes. It is my clear understanding Bob Ariail will dismiss the criminal charges and any ethics charges, with prejudice, and Oconee County would be willing to do the following:

1. The County will hire Ms. Hughes as a consultant on the Americans with Disabilities Act. She would be hired with a three (3) year employment contract. In essence, her job would be to do an assessment of all County buildings and Oconee County School buildings for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. She will also be expected to do such other duties as required by the Chief Administrative Officer of Oconee County concerning of the ADA. Oconee County would pay for any training, travel, lodging and meals with connection with such training.
3. Ms. Hughes will answer only to the Chief Administrative Officer of Oconee County. She would not have any direct dealings with the County Council. Any dealings with County Council would be through the Chief Administrative Officer of Oconee County.
4. Ms. Hughes will be entitled to all County benefits including medical insurance and retirement during the contract term.

5. The County will pay her \$50,000.00 per year for the three (3) year term. Ms. Hughes could be terminated for cause for any future violation of the laws of the State of South Carolina or ordinances, policies and procedures of Oconee County.
6. As part of the consideration of the contract, Ms. Hughes will be expected to sign a release releasing Oconee County, all County employees and elected officials for any causes of action she might have through the date of the release.
7. In the event that Ms. Hughes is reinstated as Supervisor upon dismissal of the criminal charges, she will resign immediately as Supervisor upon her reinstatement.
8. Ms. Hughes will sign the attached resignation letter in the event of reinstatement.
9. As for Ms. Hughes's reinstatement as Supervisor, while it is a matter for the Governor, no member of County Government, law enforcement or prosecution will oppose her reinstatement.
10. **ALL** copies of the investigative materials collected from Ms. Hughes computer, which could in any way be considered personal, will be delivered to her attorneys on or before May 1, 2004, except the Solicitor of the Thirteenth Circuit and SLED may retain an investigative file, along with the hard drive from the computer. No such investigative file in either and/or offices shall be disseminated by either entity or individually. In the event any person elected or employed by Oconee County, who has direct or indirect access, disseminates any such personal material, Ann Hamilton Hughes may institute civil litigation in this regard and the civil release executed by her in consideration for the contract of employment shall not be a bar to such action.
11. We will provide a receipt showing payment of all telephone calls to Clemson University, even though they were beyond the Statute of Limitations.

Oconee County may have an emergency meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, April 19, 2004. In this regard, we await your written confirmation of our agreement.

Yours very truly,

Julian L. Stoudemire

cc: Mr. Larry C. Brandt  
Mr. O. W. Bannister  
Ms. Ann Hamilton Hughes

# Ann Hamilton Hughes

171 Chase Drive  
Westminster, South Carolina 29693

April \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

## TO THE OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL:

After careful deliberation and many hours of discussion with my husband and family members, I hereby resign the elected office of Supervisor of Oconee County, South Carolina, effective immediately. Because I have always had, and will have, the best interests of the citizens of Oconee County as my primary concern, I regret the circumstances which led to this decision. I acknowledge that I made some serious mistakes as Supervisor and County Council was justified in the actions it took. I did not exercise the best of judgment in all instances and I regret those decisions very much.

I thank all of the people of Oconee County who have been steadfast in their support. As the last regularly elected Supervisor of Oconee County, it is not my intention to seek elected public office again. It has been an honor to serve the people of Oconee County. I wish the Oconee County Council and the Administrator much success and I will have them in my prayers.

God Bless Oconee County and all its people.

Sincerely,

Ann Hamilton Hughes