

The County of Richland

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STATEMENT REGARDING ALVIN S. GLENN DETENTION CENTER

The human beings who are public servants working in the trenches every day trying to serve and protect the great citizens of Richland County and South Carolina should be considered when speaking about the hard work they continuously do. Misstatements of facts do not help them or the citizens they serve.

Fact: County Council has appropriated millions of dollars to renovate and update Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

Fact: County Administration has been working for months procuring contractors to make vast improvements to the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center and work is well under way, including shutting down certain dorms for a complete overhaul.

Fact: Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center is not a mental health facility, but citizens charged with serious mental health concerns are being forced to remain in short-term detention facilities because of inadequate resources on the state level.

Fact: Richland County has a nationally recognized sheriff and a coroner with a medical background and both of their offices investigate whenever a death occurs at the detention facility. Richland County has not been found at fault for any recent deaths, and if any employee is found to be at fault, the Fifth Circuit Solicitor with years of legal experience, will prosecute them to the full extent of the law. Also, the civil court system is in place to deal with situations in its venue.

Fact: The TikTok video claiming to show Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center detainees living in unsanitary condition, did not show what was claimed. The detainees in the video broke into an unauthorized area of the jail that was closed for renovation and used the area to store illegal contraband. The detainees brought into the area water in a bucket because the water to that area had been disconnected. There was no flowing water to be able to leak.

Fact: Millions of dollars have been allocated to upgrade the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center security systems to combat illegal contraband and ensure the facility is secure.

Fact: The latest DHEC report rates the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center kitchen at an A.

Fact: The Richland County Administrator has been in contact with the SC Dept. of Corrections regarding ways to improve the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, and many concerns from its inspection were prior to the latest report coming out. Addressing issues is a continuous process.

Fact: Continuous mischaracterizations of the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center do not help in recruiting new employees.

Fact: The Richland County Attorney's Office has been giving periodic updates to the Court regarding progress at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

The Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center staff, Richland County Administration, and Richland County Council have taken concrete measures and allocated millions of dollars to ensure the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center becomes the facility that it needs to be.

No County Council member is becoming rich by being a public servant, but all have shown their dedication by their actions. Legitimate investigations have been done and are in process. Let us all allow those with the heavy responsibility of service do their jobs.

Sincerely,

Patrick L. Wright

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