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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Richland County Statement on Release of Information Related to the DOR Audit

(RICHLAND PIO) – Following is a statement from Richland County regarding the release of information related to the S.C. Department of Revenue (DOR) audit:

“Richland County officials are deeply concerned by the issues outlined in the letter we received this month from DOR, and we are fully cooperating with all investigations.

Understandably, the media and the public have requested copies of a number of public documents related to these issues, and the County is compiling documents in response to each of these requests.

Our intent is to respond on a faster timeline than the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act provides despite the fact that the documents amassed since the inception of the Penny Program are voluminous, and each has to be reviewed to ensure the County complies with its obligation to safeguard personal identifying information, trade secrets, proprietary information and the like.

The South Carolina Freedom of Information Act allows public bodies 15 business days to respond (i.e., excluding weekends and holidays). Under that timeline, the County’s responses to requests for public documents received this week would not be due until January 2016 – and it is our desire to act more quickly than required by law.

We ask for patience as we continue our due diligence in releasing these documents.”

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