



HENRY McMASTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 13, 2005

The Honorable Mark Sanford
Governor, State of South Carolina
Statehouse, First Floor
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: State v. Larry Roy "Kwadjjo" Campbell, Jr.

Dear Governor Sanford:

I have enclosed three indictments returned today by the Charleston County Grand Jury in the matter of State v. Larry Roy "Kwadjjo" Campbell, Jr. As you know, Mr. Campbell currently serves on the Charleston City Council.

Article VI, § 8 of the South Carolina Constitution provides that the Governor may suspend a public official upon indictment for "a crime involving moral turpitude." The term "moral turpitude" implies something "immoral in itself" *State v. Horton*, 271 S.C. 413, 414, 248 S.E.2d 263 (1978).

There is no question that the common law offense of misconduct in office constitutes a crime of moral turpitude, particularly if the facts as alleged in the indictment so indicate. *Op. S.C. Atty. Gen.*, March 16, 2004, citing *In The Matter of Chiles*, 327 S.C. 105, 490 S.E.2d 259 (1997) and *In The Matter of Archie Lee*, 313 S.C. 142, 437 S.E.2d 85 (1993).

In this instance, the Indictment alleges, among other things, that Councilman Campbell filed "false disclosure reports regarding campaign contributions to the State Ethics Commission." The law abundantly recognizes that filing a false statement is a crime of moral turpitude. *Op. S.C. Atty. Gen.*, Op. No. 90-51 (August 31, 1990) (and authorities cited therein).

Accordingly, based upon well-recognized authorities, you may, pursuant to Article VI, § 8, suspend Councilman Campbell.

Yours very truly,



Henry McMaster

HDM/tw