

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Henry McMaster
State of South Carolina
1100 Gervais Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201

Dear Governor McMaster,

I am honored and humbled to have been selected to serve as your nominee to lead the South Carolina Department of Public Safety. As my nomination and confirmation has progressed, it has taken an emotional toll on my family. They have always wholeheartedly and unconditionally supported my career in law enforcement, and I believe that in this case, I must support them and place them first. I respectfully request that my nomination be withdrawn.

My family and I are thankful that you believed in my ability to lead and guide DPS just as I am confident that I have the passion, skills and tenacity to carry out the task. I was very eager to address the Senate with my plans to restore employee morale and improve recruitment and retention of our troopers. It was my intention to provide details for a review of discipline and grievance policies and procedures, such as a progressive case by case basis grievance standard handled at the troop level.

Governor, I truly thank you for selecting me, supporting me and treating my family with care and kindness. Your entire staff has been such a blessing to the Burgess family.

May the Lord continue to keep you and Mrs. Peggy, always.

Humbly yours,



Chief Reggie Burgess