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June 13, 2022

HAND-DELIVERED

Jan Hammond, Chairperson
School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties
1020 Dutch Fork Road
Irmo, SC 29063

Re: Termination of Representation

Dear Jan:

Please accept this letter as notice to the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties (the Board) of my intent to terminate my representation of the Board as its general counsel. This notice is provided pursuant to the provisions of Rule 1.16 of the South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct for attorneys-Declining or Terminating Representation. Specifically, I am terminating my representation of the Board based on subsection (b)(4), which states that a lawyer may withdraw where the client insists upon taking action that the lawyer considers repugnant or with which the lawyer has a fundamental disagreement.

My decision in this matter is based on my conclusion that the Board is, at the present time, operating in a manner that is dysfunctional and not conducive to the well-functioning of the District. As an attorney, I am bound to provide advice and counsel I believe is in a client's best interest. That legal advice is necessarily based on the facts with which I am presented. When a school board fails to consult me prior to making a legal decision that could adversely impact the board or the school district; ignores my advice; and/or does not provide complete and accurate facts about a matter, I am placed in a position where I cannot represent that client without compromising my own integrity and professional reputation.

Please know I have given much thought and consideration to this decision and that I do not make it lightly. In my 34 years of representing school districts across South Carolina, I have not been placed in the position in which I find myself with this Board.

Unless the Board directs me otherwise by a vote in public session, my resignation will be effective once the Board is able to retain new general counsel. By separate memo, I have provided

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the Board with the status of the pending matters I am currently handling. I will continue to represent the Board in those matters if that is the desire of the Board.

I wish each of you collectively and individually the very best in your future personal and professional endeavors. White & Story, LLC maintains committed to serving our clients and, by extension, the students, employees, and other stakeholders of our client school districts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea E. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Andrea E. White

C: Dr. Akil Ross, Superintendent (Via Hand-delivery & Email)
Ashley C. Story, Esq. (Via Email)