



Charleston County School District
Financial Services
 75 Calhoun Street
 Charleston, SC 29401
 (843) 937-6300

**NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF CIRCLE OF LIFE FOUNDATION
 AND AARON WHITE
 BY
 CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

DATE OF POSTING: September 15, 2026

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2026, Henry Dargan McMaster, the Governor of the State of South Carolina ("SC Governor"), requested the Office of the State Inspector General to "initiate and conduct an appropriate investigation, review and analysis of the conduct of one or more members of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees"; and

WHEREAS, in August 2026, the Office of the State Inspector General issued its report entitled Investigation of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees for Potential Misconduct, Disclosure of Confidential Information and Adverse Fiscal Impacts (the "SCOIG Report"); and

WHEREAS, the SC Governor, by Executive Order No. 2026-19 indicated that, pursuant to the SCOIG Report, he found that it "appear[s] to [his] satisfaction" that Charleston County School Trustee Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson ('Dunmeyer-Roberson') has "wilfully commit[ted] or engag[d] in an act of malfeasance, misfeasance, chronic unexcused absenteeism, conflicts of interest, misconduct in office or persistent neglect of duty in office" S.C. Code Ann. §59-19-60; and

WHEREAS, Aaron White is the Executive Director of Circle of Life Foundation ("Circle of Life"), which operates as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation formed in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Aaron White previously served as Charleston County School District's ("CCSD's" or "District's") Board of Trustees ("Board") Member Dunmeyer-Roberson's campaign manager during the 2022 election campaign; and

WHEREAS, the SCOIG Report made numerous allegations regarding improprieties related to Circle of Life and Aaron White, many of which related to CCSD Procurement; and

WHEREAS, the CCSD Consolidated Procurement Code and Regulations ("CCSD Procurement Code" and "CCSD Procurement Regulations") govern CCSD procurement matters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4220 of the CCSD Procurement Code, CCSD has initiated an investigation related to potential debarment of Circle of Life and Aaron White related to the allegations against Circle of Life and Aaron White contained within the SCOIG Report; and



WHEREAS, specifically, the SCOIG Report alleges, *inter alia*, the following specific allegations against Circle of Life and Aaron White:

1. Circle of Life and Aaron White, assisted by Dunmeyer-Roberson, potentially violated the SC Ethics Act by making direct contact with a school/principal during a District procurement matter, affording Circle of Life with an unfair advantage in a contractual matter with CCSD.
2. Aaron White, on behalf of Circle of Life, improperly met with a District principal regarding a procurement matter in violation of CCSD solicitation requirements and the CCSD Procurement Code and Procurement Regulations, affording Circle of Life with an unfair advantage in a contractual matter with CCSD.
3. Circle of Life and/or Aaron White violated the requirement for good faith, fairness and ethical conduct found in the CCSD Procurement Code, CCSD Procurement Regulations, and SC law.
4. Aaron White of Circle of Life solicited a letter of support from a District employee using District resources and included it in Circle of Life's proposal in response to a CCSD Request for Proposal.
5. Circle of Life and/or Aaron White obtained money from the District under false pretenses via fraudulent invoicing scheme(s), including, but not limited to, double-billing errors and exorbitant late-fee billings.

WHEREAS, CCSD has commenced its investigation into these matters and has determined that the SCOIG Report includes probable cause for debarment of Circle of Life and Aaron White; and

WHEREAS, CCSD's Chief Financial Officer, as the chief business official, has determined that the allegations made against Circle of Life and Aaron White are so serious and compelling as to affect their responsibility as a District contractor,

NOW, THEREFORE, CCSD hereby finds as follows:

1. Pursuant to the terms of the Charleston County Consolidated Procurement Code and under the Authority granted in Section 4220(1) of same, Charleston County School District hereby suspends the Circle of Life Foundation and Aaron White from consideration for award of contracts or subcontracts.
2. The period of the suspensions will include the period of time during which CCSD conducts its investigation and/or during which any legal action(s) related to the allegations contained within the SCOIG Report, whichever is longer.
3. Pursuant to Section 4220(5), this decision is final and conclusive, unless fraudulent or unless the suspended business requests further administrative review by the Procurement Review Panel pursuant to Section 4410(1), within then (10) days of the posting of this decision in accordance with Section 4220(4). The request for review



must be directed to the Chief Financial Officer, who shall forward the decision to the Procurement Review Panel, and must be in writing, setting forth the reasons why the business disagrees with the decision of the Chief Financial Officer. The business may also request a hearing before the Procurement Review Panel.

4. These suspensions shall remain in full force and effect until retracted by another written document posted on the CCSD Procurement Department website by CCSD, including, but not limited to, a document lifting the suspension(s) and/or a document debarring Circle of Life and/or Aaron White.



Daniel T. Prentice
Chief Financial Officer

cc: Aaron White, Circle of Life Foundation, Executive Director and Registered Agent, 10070
Dorchester Road #50042, Summerville, SC 29485 (via express mail)
Circle of Life Foundation, P. O. Box 1366, Johns Island, SC 29457 (via express mail)

