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**SCARLETT A. WILSON**

*Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit*

For Immediate Release

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## **Solicitor Wilson Announces Moratorium in Raffle Prosecutions**

**Charleston, SC**– Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced a moratorium on raffle prosecutions in the Ninth Judicial Circuit. Wilson stated, “I recognize the wonderful work that non-profits have done in our community. I also recognize the unpredictable ramifications of this pandemic. Charitable organizations have expressed concerns about the state of the law. I do not recall anyone ever being charged with an illegal raffle in my jurisdiction but some have reached out to me for reassurances.”

On July 1, 2020, the statute authorizing raffles for non-profits was repealed pursuant to what is generally referred to as a “sunset” clause. This type of clause allows a statute to expire and legislators to revisit them after a prescribed time. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the legislative session for this year was postponed until September 15, 2020. Legislation is pending to reauthorize nonprofit raffles, and I anticipate the legislation will pass.

The legislative intent for charitable raffles was described in South Carolina Code §33-57-120 and following statutes. As long as the guidelines of the prior law are followed, I will not prosecute those with a non-profit status for having raffles in my jurisdiction (Charleston and Berkeley Counties).

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