

Post Office Box 36123
Albuquerque, NM 87176
<https://narsol.org>



1709 19th Street, Ste 33
Dupont Circle
Washington, DC 20009

REFORM SEX OFFENDER LAWS ASKS FOR RESPONSE FROM GOVERNOR HALEY

Albuquerque, NM / September 4, 2013—On July, 21, 2013, two vigilantes, Jeremy Moody and his wife Christine, chose a victim from the South Carolina sex offender public registry, went to the victim's home, gained access through a ruse, and murdered him with knife and gun. For no offense other than being there, his wife was murdered in like fashion.

Charles Parker had been on the registry for 23 years. He was living a quiet and unobtrusive life with Gretchen, his wife, who had committed no crime. Why the Moodys chose him as their target out of thousands is known only to the Moodys. They announced to all who would listen that further victims had been targeted from the public registry and would also have been executed had he not been arrested, with one specifically planned for Wednesday, the 24th.

“He went through our sex offender registry,” said Sheriff David H. Taylor, “and individually picked out targets.”

On July 27th, RSOL sent a registered letter to Governor Nikki Haley expressing not only our dismay at these vicious murders but our concern for other registrants in the area. Rumors were flying that the Moodys were part of a larger organization, but whether or not those rumors have any factual foundation, the comments supporting and praising the Moodys that filled local online comment boards and social media left no doubt of a very real possibility of copycat incidents occurring.

RSOL specifically requested Gov. Haley to remove the home addresses of South Carolina sex offenders from public view. We asked that this be done as an interim measure until, as Gov. Haley herself had said would happen, her next legislative session would convene and consider a more comprehensive remedy.

Over a month has passed, and as of this writing, Gov. Haley has chosen not to respond to the letter that was delivered to her office and signed for by, we presume, a staffer on July 30th at 11:45 a.m.

“We are extremely disappointed and dismayed that Gov. Haley, even with all of the tasks that she undoubtedly has, does not consider the concerns of our organization and the concerns of every man, woman, and child on the public sex offender registry not only in South Carolina but also throughout the nation worthy of, at the very least, a reply acknowledging their legitimacy,” said Brenda Jones, RSOL's Executive Director.

Within the past two years, registrants are known to have been murdered in the states of Washington, California, and South Carolina, with vicious assaults and beatings occurring in many more, for no reason other than the victims were on a sex offender registry. It would be

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naive to believe that there are not more that have not been identified for the hate crimes they are or, in some cases, not even reported.

RSOL again calls on Gov. Haley to acknowledge its request and to remove from public view the home addresses of those who are registrants on South Carolina's sex offender registry. We beg her not to compound this tragedy by taking no action and consequently having to deal with another assault on a registered South Carolina citizen.

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