

## State of South Carolina Office of the Inspector General

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Thomas C. Alexander President of the Senate South Carolina Senate 213 Gressette Building Columbia, SC 29201

The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr. Speaker of the House South Carolina House of Representatives 506 Blatt Building Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Annual Report of Public School and Interscholastic Sports Investigations by the Office of the State Inspector General for Calendar Year 2022.

Dear President Alexander and Speaker Smith:

I am pleased to provide to each of you and the members of the South Carolina General Assembly the annual report of public school and interscholastic sports investigations conducted by the Office of the State Inspector General (SIG), which is a statutory requirement pursuant to South Carolina Code of Laws, §1-6-35 (D).

On June 17, 2022, Governor Henry McMaster signed into law Act No. 223 of 2022 that provided for the circumstances by which the SIG may investigate certain public schools and interscholastic sports associations. Pursuant to SC Code of Laws, §1-6-35 (A), the SIG may only initiate an investigation of a "…public school district…" upon the request of (1) the Governor, (2) the State Superintendent of Education, or (3) the weighted majority of the membership of the legislative delegation of the county in which the subject of the investigation is located.

The SIG received two written requests from the Office of the Governor for the investigation of South Carolina public school districts in calendar year 2022. The SIG received no requests from either the State Superintendent of Education or a legislative delegation. The following table sets forth the number of requests made to the SIG along with status of these investigations and/or requests.

		<b>CALENDAR YEAR 2022</b>		
Requests	Date of	Investigation	Public School	Status of Investigation
<u>Received</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Initiated</u>	<u>District</u>	
Governor of South Carolina	6/22/2022	6/23/2022	Richland School District Two	Investigation complete. Report issued 11/3/22.
Governor of South Carolina	12/1/2022	Currently under review.	Currently under review.	Currently under review.

The first request resulted in the investigation of the Richland School District Two. The SIG issued 25 findings and 26 recommendations in the areas of district operations, fiscal matters, human capital, and board of trustees. The report may be reviewed at the following link: <u>Inspector General's Investigation of Richland School District Two</u>. The second request is currently under review and has not resulted in the initiation of an investigation.

I am available to answer your questions or provide a more detailed briefing on these matters at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to call me (803/896-1287).

Sincerely,

Brian D. Lamkin State Inspector General

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CC: The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor

The Honorable Henry McMaster, Governor of South Carolina The Honorable Molly Spearman, State Superintendent of Education