



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 16, 2021

Mr. Chad Connelly
107 Connelly Drive
Prosperity, South Carolina 29127
chad@chadconnelly.com

Subject : Preliminary Inquiry - Bruce Chadwick Connelly, Executive Director,
Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children's Fund

Dear Mr. Connelly:


Our office has received the above referenced report from Lt. Lansing Pete Logan on December 8, 2021 pursuant to our office's earlier request for a preliminary inquiry. Prior to the completion of my review, I became aware that the fact of my review of our requested preliminary inquiry, possibly unknown to you, became public. In light of those circumstances and my conclusion, I felt it was imperative to advise you that my review has been completed.

Under the South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct, a prosecutor is ethically obligated to "refrain from prosecuting a charge that the prosecutor knows is not supported by probable cause." S.C. Rules of Professional Conduct R. 3.8. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that the guilty are held accountable, that the innocent are protected from unwarranted harm, and that the rights of all participants, particularly victims of crime, are respected. National Prosecution Standards 1-1.1. The prosecutor is making a decision that will have a profound effect on the lives of the person being charged, the person's family, the victim, the victim's family, and the community as a whole. The magnitude of the charging decision does not dictate that it be made timidly, but it does dictate that it should be made wisely with the exercise of sound professional judgment. National Prosecution Standards, Standard 4.2, Charging Commentary.

The material is sufficient for us to conclude based upon the preliminary inquiry that this Office is not requesting a criminal investigation in the matter. This is not a conclusion related to any potential civil liability or remedy or lack thereof involving the Fund or its Directors and should not be read as such.

I have reviewed this matter with the staff in our office and agree that no further action should be taken by the Attorney General's Office, and that this matter should be closed.

Sincerely,


Donald J. Zelenka
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Jeff Young, Chief Deputy Attorney General