

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION**

**FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:  
CASE NUMBER**

**COMPLAINT FORM**

C \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINANT:** Christopher Granade  
**ADDRESS:** 323 Pleasant Creek Ct., Lexington, SC  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 803-381-5940  
**TITLE:** Citizen/Taxpayer

**RESPONDENT:** Molly M. Spearman  
**ADDRESS:** Po Box 501 Columbia, SC 29202  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (843) 822-7255  
**TITLE:** Superintendent of Education

*Set forth in detail specific facts upon which you based your complaint against above-named respondent (only detailed, clear factual allegations will be considered. If additional space is needed, attach supplemental sheets).*

According to SECTION 8-13-1346, "A person may not use or authorize the use of public funds, property, or time to influence the outcome of an election." On Monday, June 6, 2022, Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman publicly endorsed Superintendent of Education candidate Kathy Maness at the state offices of the Department of Education. This is clearly using public office and state property to influence the outcome of an election. Kathy Maness was allowed to display campaign materials during the event, including at the podium where the endorsement was made. This was a concerted effort to use state property to influence the Republican primary on June 14. Had the event occurred elsewhere, this would not have been an issue. However, state property was used. Photo evidence can clearly be seen in the article by the Post and Courier ([https://www.postandcourier.com/politics/spearman-endorses-republican-kathy-maness-in-race-to-replace-her-as-schools-chief/article\\_6233782a-e580-11ec-9126-87bc9e60fae4.html](https://www.postandcourier.com/politics/spearman-endorses-republican-kathy-maness-in-race-to-replace-her-as-schools-chief/article_6233782a-e580-11ec-9126-87bc9e60fae4.html)).

**If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Personally appeared before me \_\_\_\_\_ who, first being duly sworn, says that he/she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of his/her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those he/she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complainant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public for South Carolina  
My Commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

**REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192  
ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

C102form