State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267
COLUMBIA 29211

July 27, 2007

Dear Agency Director,

As our state approaches the next budget year, we believe that we have a continued need to prioritize spending and structure our operations in a way that provides maximum efficiency to the state of South Carolina. While many will suggest that such prioritization is no longer necessary due to the unprecedented surpluses experienced by the state over the past three years, I would argue otherwise. For those agency individuals who experienced mid-year cuts in the earlier part of the decade, this reasoning should make sense. To this end, it may not be long before revenue growth does slow down and we are forced to tackle serious financial issues again.

Prioritization has been and will continue to be an important part of this administration's budgets. It is for this reason we begin the fourth year of the *Budgeting for Results* process. I greatly appreciate the work that you and your staff have done this summer in compiling your budget into the activity-based format.

Enclosed you will find budget planning forms for FY 2008-09 that are in the format I'd ask you to use. These forms serve to notify us of new funding requests that you may have during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to the new requests, I would ask for you to produce a schedule of the highest ranked priorities and the lowest ranked priorities at your agency for the upcoming year. In completing these forms, we will continue our efforts to craft a budget that moves our state in the right direction.

Thanks again for your hard work on behalf of South Carolinians. Take care.

Sincerely,

Mark Sanford

MS/gg

Enclosure