



RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

Certificate of Action Taken by the Commission

October 12, 2023

The members of the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission consent to adopt and take the following resolutions as the action of the Commission:

Resolution in Support of the City of Columbia Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic

WHEREAS the Commission recognizes that suspension of an individual's driver's license for failure to pay fines and fees on Universal Traffic Ticket violations has been a longstanding practice in South Carolina, and additional reinstatement fees are imposed for licenses suspended for this reason, and

WHEREAS the Commission recognizes that people whose driver's licenses are suspended and who cannot afford to pay the fines and fees to reinstate their license, and who therefore are unable to drive, are often left without meaningful access to employment opportunities, affordable housing, and necessary goods and services, and

WHEREAS the Commission recognizes that even though these driver's license suspensions are carried out according to law, the City of Columbia Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic was created by the City of Columbia, the Richland County Solicitor's Office, and the Richland County Public Defender's Office, and is carried out in partnership with the Department of Motor Vehicles, and is designed to create an opportunity for those individuals who have unpaid fines and fees for traffic tickets that are two or more years old, and whose violations are not DUI or DUAC related, to have their driver's license reinstated, and

WHEREAS the Commission recognizes that meaningful access to justice solutions require collaboration among multiple stakeholders and recognizes the level of collaboration among the many agencies, offices, attorneys, and service providers that it took to plan and implement the City of Columbia Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission supports the implementation of the City of Columbia Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic, commends the innovative and collaborative effort that led to this project, and encourages the duplication and adoption of similar models throughout other communities in South Carolina.

The above resolutions are taken by a majority of the members of the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission as of October 12, 2023.