

State of Connecticut

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

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SENATOR MARY ANN HANDLEY
CO-CHAIR

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERTA B. WILLIS
CO-CHAIR

June 3, 2010

Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
55 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-1774

Dear Attorney General Blumenthal:

Pursuant to our meeting with Special Counsel Richard Kehoe and Commissioner of Higher Education, Michael Meotti, on June 1, 2010, we formally request that your office conduct an investigation into the actions taken by Chancellor David Carter and the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System (hereinafter "CSUS") with regard to the proposed non-continuation and subsequent resignation of Southern Connecticut State University's president, Cheryl Norton.

In particular, we are interested in obtaining your opinion regarding whether (1) Chancellor Carter's intended action of non-continuing President Norton without the approval of the Board of Trustees violated state law, specifically Connecticut General Statutes sections 10a-20, 10a-89 or 10a-149, or any provision of the Human Resources Policies for the CSU System Chancellor and University Presidents (hereinafter "CSUS Policies"); (2) the failure to provide the Board of Trustees with the opportunity to vote on the intended non-continuation of President Norton violated said sections of the Connecticut General Statutes or any provision of the CSUS Policies; (3) the delegation of the authority of CSUS's Board of Trustees to approve the non-continuation of a university president to its Chairman violated said sections of the Connecticut General Statutes; and (4) whether the process by which the CSUS Policies were revised in 2009 to change the manner in which a university president may be non-continued violated said sections of the Connecticut General Statutes or any provision of the CSUS Policies.

June 3, 2010

Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General

Page 2

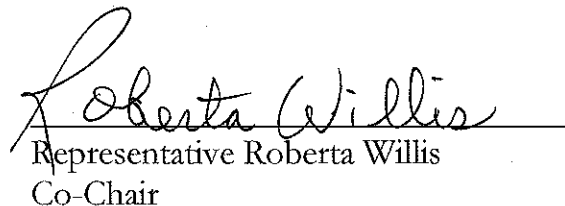
In addition, we request a synopsis of the authority vested in the Board of Trustees of each constituent unit and the frequency at and extent to which such authority is delegated by such Boards to their respective Chairpersons, Executive Committees or any of their other subcommittees. We further request copies of President Norton's employment contract with Southern Connecticut State University and/or CSUS and any correspondence between President Norton and the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee or Chancellor Carter concerning her proposed non-continuation and subsequent resignation.

Please let us know whether you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss this matter further.

Very truly yours,



Senator Mary Ann Handley
Co-Chair



Representative Roberta Willis
Co-Chair

cc: Richard Kehoe, Special Counsel
Office of the Attorney General