



*State of North Carolina  
Department of the Secretary of State*

Elaine F. Marshall  
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHARITABLE SOLICITATION LICENSING DIVISION

September 12, 2013

David M Pearson, President  
Friends of the Hammocks and Bear Island, Inc.  
PO Box 1861  
Swansboro, NC 28584

Dear David M Pearson:

The Charitable Solicitation Licensing Division (CSL) of the North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State has determined that you meet the qualifications for exemption from the provisions of the Charitable Solicitation Act, N. C. Gen. Stat. § 131F-1 et seq. Exemption means that you do not need a license to solicit contributions in North Carolina.

CSL has reached its conclusions based upon the definitions section of the Act, N. C. Gen. Stat. § 131F-2, and applicable sections of the North Carolina Administrative Code, specifically 18 NCAC 11.0104, which defines relevant terms. Any exemption that refers to "person" uses the term as it is defined in the Act as "any individual, organization, trust, foundation, association, group, entity, partnership, corporation, society, or any combination of these acting as a unit."

This letter is your formal notice that exemption is granted to you on the following basis:

N. C. Gen. Stat. § 131F-3(3): As a person that receives under \$25,000 in contributions in any calendar year AND that does not provide compensation to any officer, trustee, organizer, incorporator, fund-raiser, or solicitor. Note that this exemption must be renewed annually because it is based on receipts in a calendar year and whether compensation is paid to enumerated individuals. Failure to submit renewal information in a timely manner may result in late fees, other penalties under the Charitable Solicitation Act, and/or the exemption not being renewed. **YOUR EXEMPTION EXPIRES ON May 15, 2014.**

You may appeal our decision to the Office of Administrative Hearings as outlined in the separate Notice of Appeal Rights that is enclosed with this letter.

This exemption, however, does not insulate you from criminal prosecution related to charitable solicitations in North Carolina. Changes in circumstances may affect qualifications for exemption. The Department of the Secretary of State, through CSL, may review and may modify or cancel any exemption designation at any time upon receipt or discovery of relevant new or changed information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanette Blount". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "t".

Jeanette Blount  
Document Examiner  
919-807-2212  
jblount@sosnc.com