

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Supreme Court

**RECEIVED**

APPEAL FROM CLARENDON COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

OCT 05 2018

S.C. SUPREME COURT

R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr., Circuit Court Judge

Appellate Case No. 2018-001520

Bucky Mock,

Respondent-Appellant,

v.

Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration &  
Elections, Clarendon County Democratic Party,  
LaNette Samuels-Cooper, South Carolina Democratic  
Party, and South Carolina Election Commission,

Defendants,

Of whom LaNette Samuels-Cooper is Appellant-Respondent,

And Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration &  
Elections, Clarendon County Democratic Party, South  
Carolina Democratic Party, and South Carolina Election  
Commission are Respondents.

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECORD ON APPEAL**

Robert E. Tyson, Jr.  
SC Bar No. 10820  
rtyson@robinsongray.com  
Vordman Carlisle Traywick, III  
SC Bar No. 102123  
ltraywick@robinsongray.com  
ROBINSON GRAY STEPP & LAFFITTE, LLC  
1310 Gadsden Street  
Post Office Box 11449  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 929-1400

*Counsel for Respondent-Appellant Bucky Mock*

Other Counsel of Record:

Ronnie A. Sabb, Esq.  
Kimberly V. Barr, Esq.  
Kimberly M. Hodge, Esq.  
Ronnie A. Sabb Law Office  
Post Office Box 88  
Kingtree, South Carolina 29556  
(843) 355-5349  
*Counsel for Appellant-Respondent LaNette Samuels Cooper*

Shaun Kent, Esq.  
Kent Law Firm  
19 Mill Street  
Manning, South Carolina 29102  
(803) 433-5368  
*Counsel for Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration & Elections*

J. Eric Cavanaugh, Esq.  
Joseph Thickens, Esq.  
Cavanaugh & Thickens  
Post Office Box 2409  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
(803) 422-1990  
*Counsel for South Carolina Democratic Party and Clarendon County Democratic Party*

Harrison D. Brant, Esq.  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 500  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
(803) 734-9063

T. Parkin C. Hunter, Esq.  
SC Attorney General's Office  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 734-6151  
*Counsel for South Carolina State Election Commission*

Index

Statement of Intention of Candidacy & Party Pledge Charles J. “Bucky” Mock, Jr.....1

Statement of Intention of Candidacy & Party Pledge LaNette Samuels Cooper.....2

Candidate Filing Receipt LaNette Samuels Cooper .....3

South Carolina Election Commission Webpage..... 4

Exhibit E to Verified Complaint - *The Sumter Item* Article ..... 5

Exhibit E to Verified Complaint - *Manning Times* Article..... 7

Plaintiff’s Opposition to Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss – Exhibit A – Email correspondence  
with Trav Robertson .....10

Plaintiff’s Opposition to Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss – Exhibit B – Email correspondence  
with Patricia Pringle.....14

## Statement of Intention of Candidacy & Party Pledge

This form must be filed with the appropriate election office by any candidate seeking a political party's nomination. All information on this form will be made available to the public at the time of filing. For more information, visit [www.scVOTES.org/candidate-information](http://www.scVOTES.org/candidate-information).

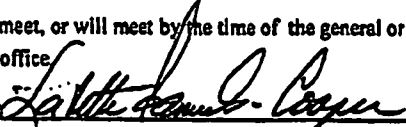
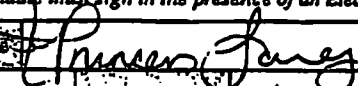
ELECTRONICALLY FILED 2018 JUN 14 5:12 PM CLarendon COUNTY CLERK CASE#2018001400037

|   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|------------|
| Name  | CHARLES J. "BUCKY" MOCK, JR |                            |                       | Party  | Democratic |
| Office  | Coroner                     |                            |                       | District   | Clarendon  |
| Voter Reg. #  | 142714276                   | Primary or Convention Date | 06/12/2018            | Election Date  | 11/06/2018 |
| <i>Name on ballot may be any combination of a candidate's given name, derivative of the given name, or nickname. A derivative name or nickname must be used in good faith for honest purposes and may not imply professional or social status, an office, or military rank. A nickname may not exceed 15 letters.</i>   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Name on Ballot  | Bucky Mock                  |                            |                       |  |            |
| Name pronunciation, if necessary, for audio ballot (e.g., Jackson Gervais: jur-VAY)   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Candidate Contact Information <i>(address not required to be residence address)</i>   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Address   | 1245 Striper Dr             | City                       | Manning               | Zip  | 29102      |
| Phone   | 803-460-5439                | Email                      | buckymock44@yahoo.com |  |            |
| Party Pledge <i>(Party Pledge not applicable to designees for the Office of Lieutenant Governor)</i><br>I hereby file my notice as a candidate for the nomination as <u>Coroner Clarendon</u> in the primary election or convention to be held on <u>06/12/2018</u> . I affiliate with the <u>Democratic</u> Party, and I hereby pledge myself to abide by the results of the primary or convention. I shall not authorize my name to be placed on the general election ballot by petition and will not offer or campaign as a write-in candidate for this office or any other office for which the party has a nominee. I authorize the issuance of an injunction upon ex parte application by the party chairman, as provided by law, should I violate this pledge by offering or campaigning in the ensuing general election for election to this office or any other office for which a nominee has been elected in the party primary election, unless the nominee for the office has become deceased or otherwise disqualified for election in the ensuing general election. |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Candidate's Oath<br>I hereby affirm that I meet, or will meet by the time of the general or special election, or as otherwise required by law, the qualifications for this office.  |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Candidate Signature   |                             |                            |                       | Date <u>03/16/2018</u>   |            |
| <i>Candidate must sign in the presence of an Election Official or Notary Public.</i>  |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Election Official Signature   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Date Received   | <u>3-16-2018</u>            | Time Received              | <u>12:13p.m.</u>      | <input type="checkbox"/> SEC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Clarendon</u> County Board |            |
| For use if candidate signs in presence of Notary Public   |                             |                            |                       |  |            |
| Name of Notary Public   |                             |                            | My Commission Expires |  |            |
| Signature of Notary Public  |                             |                            | Date                  |  |            |

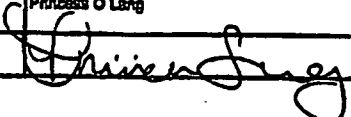
ELECTRONICALLY FILED - 2018 Jun 14 5:12 PM - CLARENDON - COMMON PLEAS - CASE#2018CP1400237

### Statement of Intention of Candidacy & Party Pledge

This form must be filed with the appropriate election office by any candidate seeking a political party's nomination. All information on this form will be made available to the public at the time of filing. For more information, visit [www.scVOTES.org/candidate-information](http://www.scVOTES.org/candidate-information).

|  |                        |   |                           |  |            |
|--|------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|------------|
| Name   | LaNette Samuels-Cooper |   | Party                     | Democratic   |            |
| Office   | Coroner                |   | District                  | Clarendon County   |            |
| Voter Reg. #   | 142123393              | Primary or Convention Date  | 06/12/2018                | Election Date  | 11/06/2018 |
| <small>Name on ballot may be any combination of a candidate's given name, derivative of the given name, or nickname. A derivative name or nickname must be used in good faith for honest purposes and may not imply professional or social status, an office, or military rank. A nickname may not exceed 15 letters.</small>  |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| Name on Ballot   | LaNette Samuels-Cooper |   |                           |  |            |
| <small>Name pronunciation, if necessary, for audio ballot (e.g., Jackson, Gervais, Joe-VAY)</small>  |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| <small>Candidate Contact Information (address not required to be residence address)</small>  |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| Address  | P.O. Box 15            | City  | Manning                   | Zip  | 29102      |
| Phone  | 803-316-3230           | Email   | lanettesamuels2@gmail.com |  |            |
| <b>Party Pledge</b> <i>(Party Pledge not applicable to designees for the Office of Lieutenant Governor)</i><br>I hereby file my notice as a candidate for the nomination as <u>Coroner Clarendon County</u> .<br>In the primary election or convention to be held on <u>06/12/2018</u> . I affiliate with the <u>Democratic</u> Party, and I hereby pledge myself to abide by the results of the primary or convention. I shall not authorize my name to be placed on the general election ballot by petition and will not offer or campaign as a write-in candidate for this office or any other office for which the party has a nominee. I authorize the issuance of an injunction upon ex parte application by the party chairman, as provided by law, should I violate this pledge by offering or campaigning in the ensuing general election for election to this office or any other office for which a nominee has been elected in the party primary election, unless the nominee for the office has become deceased or otherwise disqualified for election in the ensuing general election. |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| <b>Candidate's Oath</b><br>I hereby affirm that I meet, or will meet by the time of the general or special election, or as otherwise required by law, the qualifications for this office.  |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| Candidate Signature  |                        |  Date <u>3/19/2018</u> |                           |  |            |
| <small>Candidate must sign in the presence of an Election Official or Notary Public.</small>   |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| Election Official Signature  |                        |                        |                           |  |            |
| Date Received  | 3-19-2018              | Time Received   | 11:53am                   | <input type="checkbox"/> SEC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Clarendon</u> County Board |            |
| <small>For use if Candidate signs in presence of Notary Public</small>   |                        |   |                           |  |            |
| Name of Notary Public  | My Commission Expires  |   |                           |  |            |
| Signature of Notary Public   | Date                   |   |                           |  |            |

Filing Fee Receipt

|                      |  |          |           |
|----------------------|--|----------|-----------|
| Candidate Name       | Lanetta Samuels-Cooper   |          |           |
| Party                | Democratic   |          |           |
| Office               | Coroner (Unexpired Term)   | District |           |
| Election             | 11/8/2018, Statewide General Election (20576)                                      |          |           |
| Amount of Filing Fee | \$717.12   |          |           |
| Date Received        | 03/18/2018   |          |           |
| Time Received        | 11:53 AM   |          |           |
| Check Number         | 585  |          |           |
| Receiving Official   | Princess O Lang  |          |           |
| Signature            |  | Date     | 3-19-2018 |

The Candidate Filing Receipt is issued pursuant to S.C. Code of Laws 7-11-15(E)

SOUTH CAROLINA  
ELECTION COMMISSION

SCVotes.org

### Candidate Listing for the 6/12/2018 Statewide Primary Election

For a list of all candidates, click search without selecting any search options. You can narrow your search by making selections below. If you have questions concerning your search results, please contact your County Voter Registration office.

Office: **Coroner (Unexpired Term)** Party:

Candidates by County: **CLARENDON** Location of Ballot:

Candidate Last Name:  Candidate Status:

Candidate First Name:

Results Search:

| Office                   | Associated Counties | Name on Ballot        | Party    | Location of Ballot | Candidate Status |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------------------|------------------|
| Coroner (Unexpired Term) | CLARENDON           | DAVID BISH            | DEMOCRAT | CLARENDON          | Active           |
| Coroner (Unexpired Term) | CLARENDON           | LESLIE JOHNSON-COOPER | DEMOCRAT | CLARENDON          | Active           |

# the Sumter ITEM

Search

⚠ You have 9 free items remaining before a subscription is required. [Subscribe now!](#) (Subscribe?/town.js+1)

## Coroners question Clarendon County candidate's eligibility

Disparity over what is considered valid experience



(AutoLoc/original/20180513-201040-LoretteSamuels-Cooper\_00865.jpg)

SAMUELS-COOPER



Posted Sunday, May 20, 2018 6:09 am

BY KAYLA ROBINS

[kayla@theitem.com](mailto:kayla@theitem.com) (mailto:kayla@theitem.com)

The election for coroner in Clarendon County is heating up ahead of June 12's primary as claims have come out that the candidate challenging the incumbent is not qualified despite her claims she is.

On June 12, Democrats will choose between Coroner Charles "Bucky" Mock Jr., who replaced Hayes F. Samuels Jr. in March after his passing in January, and Lorette Samuels of the late former coroner. Mock, 73, who was a deputy coroner for more than 21 years, worked in the Clarendon County office when Samuels-Cooper was the administrator has worked for 13 years.

"She claims her experience came from being an administrative assistant, and the coroner's association says that does not qualify," Mock told The Sumter Item.

The question lies with two boxes Samuels-Cooper, 69, marked on her filing affidavit.

Of the options, which at least one must be met, Samuels-Cooper marked she has a four-year baccalaureate degree and one year of experience in death investigation with a agency, coroner or medical examiner agency. Both of those requirements total one option.

According to her filing affidavit, she graduated in 1971, and she said she has experience in death investigation because she "ran that office."

"I was the individual that handled everything that came through that office," Samuels-Cooper said.

6/14/2018

Coroners question Clarendon County candidate's eligibility | The Sumter Item

She said her duties as administrator included managing budgets, contacting doctors, pathologists and law enforcement and filing any paperwork related to a death or death certificate. When asked if she has lead a death investigation, she said no.

"What I have done, I have gathered the information for the coroner or deputy coroner needed to finish the case," she said.

Patricia Pringle, chairwoman of the Clarendon County Democratic Party said Samuels-Cooper proved she earned her degree and sent her notarized filing affidavit to the county clerk. The state party chair was unable to be reached after missed calls back and forth.

"Personally, I think she worked in the coroner's office, so in a way, she does do death investigations because anything that has to be filed, she was doing all the relaying for it," she said. "In a way, even though she might not have been in the field doing it, she still had to relay all the information in."

Mock said he has never seen her go to the scene of a death. He said she also no longer works in the coroner's office after being terminated for an undisclosed reason on

The other issue Mock and now the president of the South Carolina Coroner's Association say they are trying to highlight is the question of whether a five-day class Samuels-Cooper up to take in August can be used in replacement of not having one year of experience in death investigation and whether that class is valid.

Samuels-Cooper marked on her filing affidavit she is taking a class Aug. 13-18 that will certify her to be coroner. The class must be taken within one year of being elected. She said the class is through Saint Louis University in Missouri.

The section to mark a candidate is taking the class is listed under a section on the filing affidavit asking about "supplemental education and experience."

Dennis Fowler, the president of the coroner's association and coroner in Cherokee County, said both to The Sumter Item and in an open letter that the Coroner's Training Program of which he is a member, only recognizes one forensic science degree and certification program - the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators Inc. (ABMDI).

The five-day class Samuels-Cooper is planning to take is listed on ABMDI's website as a continuing education opportunity, not as the certification program and exam itself. "[ABMDI] is way more intensive than a five-day class," he said. "It's a 300-question exam."

Before someone can even apply to the exam, he said, the person must have 640 hours of death investigation experience and "currently be employed by a coroner's office or an examiner's office."

He said there is a reason such rigorous training is necessary.

"There's a lot of things that come together on the scene the coroner is responsible by law for two things: determining the cause and manner of death," Fowler said.

The cause is what happened - if a person died from blunt force trauma in a vehicle collision, if they died from cancer or cardiac arrest. The manner, he said, is one of five categories: homicide, suicide, natural, accidental or undetermined. So the manner determines whether there will be a criminal investigation into the death.

"We have to beyond a shadow of a doubt be able to prove what way. We're charged with it by the state law. How we get there is the death investigative process," Fowler said.

In interviews by The Sumter Item with Fowler, he was told neither the name of the candidate nor the county of the election in question. He said he wanted to get legislation passed to prevent unqualified candidates from entering the office of coroner, not to protect sitting coroners and their jobs but "for the people of South Carolina."

In a county where the primaries are the election to win because there is Republican opposition on the November ballot in neither the three county nor the two state House districts, Mock likely know who they choose in June (write-ins are always an option on the November ballot).

Mock has lived in Clarendon County for 26 years. He obtained a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent in 1963.

The boxes he checked off on his filing affidavit, which was notarized on March 16, under question No. 10 are that he has at least three years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner or medical examiner agency and that he has a two-year associate degree and two years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner or medical examiner agency.

Under question No. 11, which asks for supplemental education and experience information, Mock marked that he received his associate degree in 1979 and that he has worked as a death investigator.

Mock has filed two candidate campaign disclosure reports with the South Carolina State Ethics Commission. According to the agency, which monitors public disclosure of contributions and expenditures, a report is due within 10 days after spending or receiving the first \$500 of the campaign funds.

His initial report shows he received \$100 from Sharon Hately, his campaign manager and a stringer for The Sumter Item who covers Clarendon county.

Samuels-Cooper said she wants to run for coroner because she has the care and compassion needed to talk to families after a loved one's death.

"I know how to be with a family who has had a loss," she said. "I'm trying to fulfill my brother's last wish. He said finish it."

Get the best of The Sumter Item in your inbox. Sign up for our free daily newsletter.

email address

SUBSCRIBE

MORE ARTICLES TO READ

ELECTRONICALLY FILED - 2018 JUN 14 5:12PM - CLARENDON - COMMON FILES - CASE#2018CP1400237



**Now Open in Manning**  
 We offer loans up to \$10,000. Rivertown Credit is dedicated to providing superior customer service with convenience and confidentiality to our clients.

**Thomas Gales**  
 Manager  
 thomasp@rivertowncredit.com  
 39 N. Mill St. • Manning, SC 29102 • (803) 435-4440

# The Manning Times

Thursday, May 17, 2018 | Volume 136, No. 20 | Serving Clarendon County Since 1882 | 75 cents | ©2018 Times Publishing Company Inc.

## STATE AWARD

**Outstanding Individual Award for  
 Local Friends of the Library member**  
 Laura Stone



and continued working during every study hall and free period until she graduated from high school. She learned about cataloging and shelving and straightening books. "My love for the library comes from my experience working in a library and appreciating the staff and what they do." When she first became Treasurer of the Friends of the Harvin Clarendon County Library eight years ago, Purvis discovered the organization had lost its 501(c)(3) status. She worked

## CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

**Taw Caw  
 Missionary Baptist Church**  
 By: Laura Stone



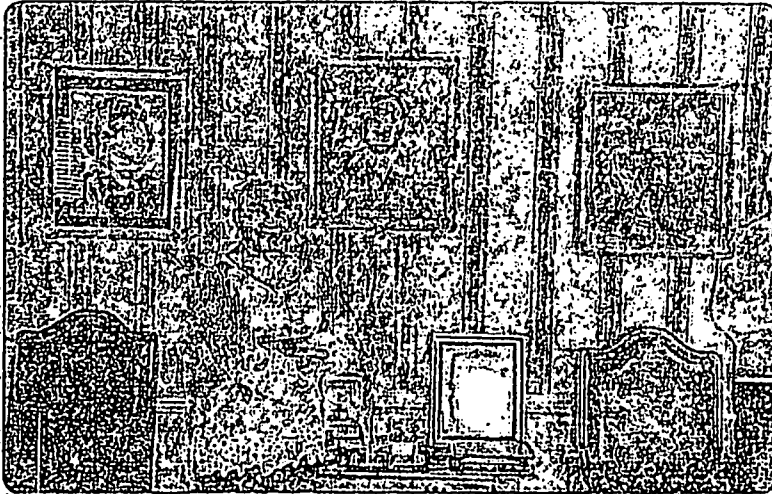
ELECTRONICALLY FILED - 2018 Jun 14 5:12 PM - CLARENDON - COMMON PLEAS - CASE#2018CP1400237

ELECTRONICALLY FILED - 2018 JUN 14 11:21 AM - CLARENDON COUNTY COMMONWEALTH

☉ CORONER CANDIDATE

# Meet LaNette Samuels-Cooper

By: Laura Stone



LaNette Samuels-Cooper was born in Sumter. In 1964, she attended Boggs Academy, a private Presbyterian school, in Keysville, Georgia. After graduation, Samuels-Cooper entered Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina. In 1971, she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in marketing and economics.

Samuels-Cooper accepted a job in 1975 with Johnson

to provide information for autopsy scheduling, completing the authorizations for autopsies when needed.

Samuels-Cooper initiated a shift from sending blood samples to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to sending them to AIT Labs in Denton, Texas, now AXIS Forensic Toxicology. This was due to SLED's backlog, which led to delays in processing and delays in answers for grieving families. She also

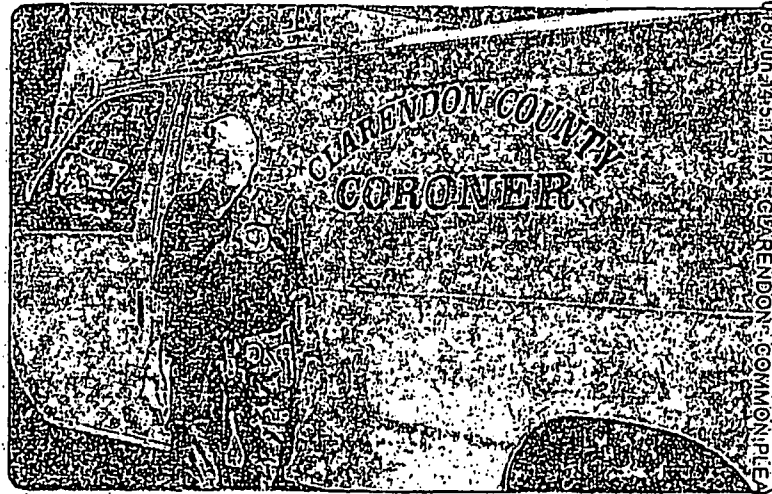
to provide information for autopsy scheduling, completing the authorizations for autopsies when needed. Once SLED had completed their investigation, local agencies would then perform their needed tasks. When done, they would release the body to the Coroner, who could then remove the body.

When Deputy Coroners were unavailable, Samuels-Cooper states she went out on cases. When I went to a case it was more to see what the surroundings were, to see if there were medical-

☉ CORONER CANDIDATE

# Meet Bucky Mock

By: Laura Stone



Bucky Mock grew up in Minnesota, where he earned a nursing degree and began working as a registered nurse in an emergency room setting. He received post-Vietnam War training as a nurse practitioner. In 1982, Mock moved to Lebanon, Virginia, where he managed the ER at Russell County Medical Center. While there, he worked closely with the director of the ER, who was also the medical examiner. During this time, he witnessed death

appointed Mock as Acting Coroner, and on Feb 21, Governor Henry McMaster made that appointment official.

Mock has developed strong ties with local, county and state police, as well as the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the Clarendon County Fire Department. He has risen to the rank of Captain with the Wybo Station 4 with the Fire Department, and in that position, he often arrives with first re-

about it, I can explain it to them. My medical knowledge allows me to do that.

Mock continued the tradition of a Coroner's float, which points out dangers such as drinking and driving, texting and driving and drug use, in the recent Striped Bass Festival. He also plans to offer safety education classes, which he hopes to implement after the election, if elected.

To keep up with state and federal offices, Mock is communicating current and

St. Johnson Baby Products. She moved to Manning in 1982, going to work for the Poultry and Meat Department for South Carolina as an inspector in 1983. In two years, she had worked her way up to a supervisor position, overseeing the largest district.

When her brother, Hayes E. Samuels, became Clarendon County Coroner in 2005, Samuels-Cooper went to work for him as an office administrator for the Coroner's Office. "As the Coroner and as the funeral director and embalmer, he couldn't always be here when questions came up for the office. So he needed someone to help him in that department, and I was the one."

During her time as office administrator, Samuels-Cooper became aware of the low pay of the Deputy Coroner staff. She assisted in raising the budget to accommodate pay raises for the Deputy Coroners.

Samuels-Cooper was instrumental in assisting law enforcement when Samuels was performing a funeral. "I assisted them with investigations as far as getting them the necessary materials they needed for their cases." She established a rapport with MUSC and the pathologist

assisted in implementing a color-coded tagging system for body identification.

Often awakened in the wee hours of the morning with a call from the Coroner, Samuels-Cooper remained at the ready to assist with setting up an autopsy, making necessary phone calls and scheduling with a pathologist as soon as possible. "I became known to them." Experienced in subpoenaing medical records and necessary physical evidence, Samuels-Cooper ensured all needed evidence was brought in to the Coroner's Office for investigation purposes.

Over the years, Samuels-Cooper worked cases with the Sheriff's Department, municipal police departments, SLED and with other county departments in cross-county situations. During this time, she built relationships with these agencies, working well with them.

Samuels-Cooper respects other law enforcement and fire agencies and would allow them to perform their necessary duties before coming to the scene. According to Samuels-Cooper, the responding local agency would quickly check the premises, then contact

issues and to speak with the resident manager."

If she becomes Coroner, Samuels-Cooper plans to maintain an open-door policy for authorized family to obtain information. She feels her depth of caring is her strongest point she can bring to the Coroner's Office. She recognizes Manning as home, and cares deeply about the community. Her deep desire to help Clarendon County families drives her campaign to become County Coroner.

Samuels-Cooper cited the one-year window to gain certification as a new Coroner, and she has signed up to take the one-week certification course starting in August. She feels any new job is a learning process and new coroners don't necessarily have an investigative background or experience identifying the dead. "But they learn. Every job anyone goes on for the first time, they have that window to learn. I'm bringing in 13 years of working with the dead, working with the families, working with law enforcement. I know the procedures. I know what I'm capable of doing. I promise this community, I will speak for the dead."

this time, he gained team investigation experience as well as experience with the court system while testifying on behalf of the medical examiner's office.

In 1992, Mock moved to Clarendon County as ER Manager for Clarendon Memorial Hospital. Soon after he arrived, he took a forensic course in sexual assault examination. In 1998, he joined the Clarendon County Fire Department.

In 1997, Mock became Deputy Coroner under Clarendon County Coroner Ranny Stephens. When Hayes E. Samuels, Jr. took the office, he asked Mock to stay on as Deputy Coroner. During his 21 years as a Deputy Coroner, he has worked on thousands of cases, including many cases involving a high level of investigation. "I want to find out as much as I can, and I work with law enforcement to do that," said Mock.

After Samuels' death in January, Clarendon County

men arrives with first responders, performing duties as coroner when needed. As investigations proceed, he works closely with local and state agencies, keeping them informed of his findings.

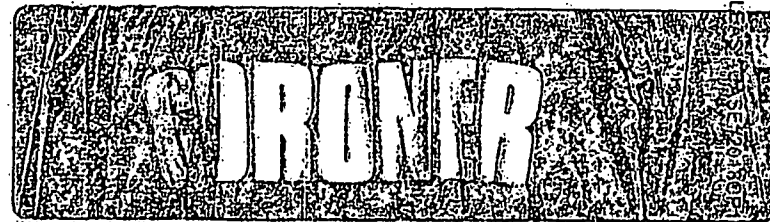
Mock works closely with medical professionals as well, communicating with doctors and medical staff regarding patient histories and determining whether there is a need for an autopsy. In the event an autopsy is necessary, he provides any information found to the medical staff. "In my medical background, we kept the doctors informed, and they kept the nurses informed. This is a continuation of that relationship."

Also in the event of an autopsy, Mock ensures families are provided with information and any questions are answered. "When I get an autopsy back, I don't make the family come looking for it. I give them a call and say this is what we found. And when they ask questions

comparing current and past records. This ensures data protection, data maintenance and easier retrieval of information. He is also sending out press releases when appropriate, ensuring the media releases correct information to the public.

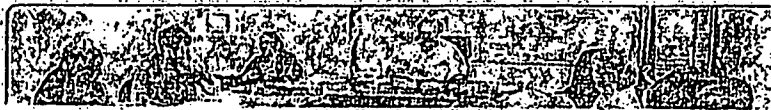
As the first Clarendon County Coroner with both medical experience and death investigation experience, Mock is also the first Clarendon County Coroner who is not a funeral home director. However, he knows the funeral homes well and feels they work well together.

Mock cares about Clarendon County and its residents. "What I do for the community is I help people. Being a fireman, I'm helping people. Being a nurse, I help people. I'm part of the disaster medical assistance team which is part of Health and Human Services. Everything I do is aimed at helping people."



## MONTHLY TOWN MEETING

# Summerton Town Council Meeting



Mr. Jutious with the Clarendon County Branch of the NAACP provided an update regarding the upcoming 63rd Annual Blues

Pollard brought up Duck Fest and presented the suggestion that more prizes are offered for the cooking contest this year to gain more

with flushable wipes clogging pipes and tanks. They have lost one pump in the area and have been going door-to-door attempting

— Forwarded Message —

From: Trav Robertson <trav@scdp.org>  
To: Bucky Mock <buckymock44@yahoo.com>  
Cc: Philip Chambers <phil@scdp.org>  
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018, 11:21:27 AM EDT  
Subject: Re: Coroner Candidate

April 6, 2018

Mr. Mock,

My hope is that you are having a great day. The South Carolina Democratic Party is in receipt of your email and attachment. After consulting with legal counsel and based on the advice of legal counsel, we certified all Democratic candidates seeking the position of coroner in Clarendon County.

Please do not hesitate to call on us if we can be of any service to you or Clarendon County.

On Wed, Apr 4, 2018 at 4:59 PM, Bucky Mock <buckymock44@yahoo.com> wrote:  
Mr. Robertson,

Please find below an attachment from the South Carolina Coroner's Association outlining the qualification to run and hold the office of Coroner in South Carolina.

Please review the qualifications due to the fact that there is a candidate in Clarendon County that is seeking election that I feel is not qualified to run for the position according to the qualifications that are mandated by state law. She has listed on her filing affidavit that she will take a one (1) week course at St. Louis University on Medicolegal Death Investigators Training. As you will see on the attached qualifications from the Coroner's Association, this course will not qualify her to be a candidate for this position.

I am asking that you review this information and determine if she is qualified or not.

Please let me know of your findings.

Thank you,

Bucky Mock  
Clarendon County Coroner  
803-480-5439

Trav Robertson  
South Carolina Democratic Party, Chair

# SOUTH CAROLINA CORONER'S ASSOCIATION



April 2, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the coroner for Cherokee County in South Carolina, and I submit this letter based upon my personal knowledge. I am also the President of the South Carolina Coroner's Association ("SCCA").

By virtue of my role as President of the SCCA, I am a member of the Coroner's Training Advisory Committee, which under section 17-5-130(G) of the South Carolina Code, is charged with the duty "to determine those forensic science degree and certification programs that qualify as "recognized" pursuant to the requirements of this section." S.C. Code Ann. 17-5-130(G).

The Coroner's Training Advisory Committee has unanimously approved the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators, Inc. ("ABMDI") certification program as the only recognized forensic science degree or certification program for coroners.

The Coroner's Training Advisory Committee selected this program because it is a rigorous training program that properly prepares persons considering being a coroner in forensic science and death investigation. Before one can apply to the ABMDI certification program, the person must have 640 hours of death investigation experience and currently be employed by a coroner's office or medical examiner's office. Any person who does not have 640 hours of death investigation experience in a coroner's office or medical examiner's office is not able to apply to this program and therefore would not be enrolled in the "recognized" certification program in the state of South Carolina.

In addition, below is the entire South Carolina Statute regarding qualifications for coroner.

**SECTION 17-5-130. Coroner qualifications; affidavits of candidates; training; exemptions; Coroners Training Advisory Committee; Expenses.**

(A)(1) A coroner in this State shall have all of the following qualifications, the person shall:

(a) be a citizen of the United States;

(b) be a resident of the county in which the person seeks the office of coroner for at least one year before qualifying for the election to the office;

(c) be a registered voter;

(d) have attained the age of twenty-one years before the date of qualifying for election to the office;

(e) have obtained a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent by the State Department of Education; and

(f) have not been convicted of a felony offense or an offense involving moral turpitude contrary to the laws of this State.

ELECTRONICALLY FILED: 2018 Jul 24 4:07 PM - CLARENDON - COMMON PLEAS - CASE#2018CP1400237

another state, or the United States.

(2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (A)(1), a coroner in this State shall have at least one of the following qualifications, the person shall:

- (a) have at least three years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;
- (b) have a two-year associate degree and two years of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;
- (c) have a four-year baccalaureate degree and one year of experience in death investigation with a law enforcement agency, coroner, or medical examiner agency;
- (d) be a law enforcement officer, as defined by Section 23-23-10(E)(1), who is certified by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council with a minimum of two years of experience;
- (e) have completed a recognized forensic science degree or certification program or be enrolled in a recognized forensic science degree or certification program to be completed within one year of being elected to the office of coroner;
- (f) be a medical doctor; or
- (g) have a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

(B)(1) A person who offers his candidacy for the office of coroner, no later than the close of filing, shall file a sworn affidavit with the county executive committee of the person's political party.

(2) The county executive committee of a political party with whom a person has filed his affidavit must file a copy of the affidavit with the appropriate county election commission by noon on the tenth day following the deadline for filing affidavits by candidates. If the tenth day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the affidavit must be filed by noon the following day.

(3) A person who seeks nomination by petition for the office of coroner, no later than the close of filing, shall file a sworn affidavit with the county election commission in the county of his residence.

(4) The affidavit required by the provisions of this subsection must contain the following information:

- (a) the person's date and place of birth;
- (b) the person's citizenship;
- (c) the county the person is a resident of, and how long the person has been a resident of that county;
- (d) whether the person is a registered voter;
- (e) the date the person obtained a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent by the State Department of Education;
- (f) whether the person has been convicted of a felony offense or an offense involving moral turpitude contrary to the laws of this State, another state, or the United States;
- (g) the date the person obtained an associate or baccalaureate degree, if applicable;
- (h) the date the person completed a recognized forensic science degree or certification program, or information regarding the person's enrollment in a recognized forensic science degree or certification program, if applicable; and

(f) the number of years of experience the person has as a death investigator, certified law enforcement officer, or licensed private investigator, if applicable.

If in the event you may have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Dennis Fowler

Cherokee County Coroner

President South Carolina Coroner's Association

— Forwarded Message —

**From:** Patricia Pringle <patriciapringle@icloud.com>  
**Cc:** Alex Craven <accraven@charlestonlaw.edu>; Mary Cooper <mcooper1948@fc-L.net>; Willie Briggs <willie.briggs215@gmail.com>; Kaye Kirkpatrick <kaykirkpatrick2@gmail.com>; Linda Jackson <bryajackson1@gmail.com>; "patriciapringle@icloud.com" <patriciapringle@icloud.com>; Cassie Nelson <cricket\_2\_29148@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018, 3:42:29 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: SCDP Certified Candidates - Clarendon

Candidates:

Congratulations on being certified for your name to be placed on the ballot for this 2018 election cycle per the South Carolina Democratic Party.

The Clarendon County Democratic Party is looking forward to working with you to insure a smooth, successful and respectful election. Once the Primary is behind us then we will be full speed ahead to secure Democratic positions locally and statewide.

Please let us know if we can be of assistance.

Thanks,  
Patricia Pringle  
Clarendon County Democratic Party Chairwoman  
803-473-8393

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Philip Chambers <phil@scdp.org>  
**Date:** April 5, 2018 at 10:18:15 AM EDT  
**To:** sblackoliver@clarendoncountygov.org, patriciapringle@icloud.com, Trav Robertson <trav@scdp.org>  
**Subject:** SCDP Certified Candidates - Clarendon

Attached please find a letter from South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Trav Robertson certifying the Democratic Candidates in your county and the list of candidates.

Best,

Phil

—  
Philip Chambers  
Chief of Staff  
South Carolina Democratic Party

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Supreme Court

**RECEIVED**

OCT 05 2018

APPEAL FROM CLARENDON COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

S.C. SUPREME COURT

R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr., Circuit Court Judge

Appellate Case No. 2018-001520

Bucky Mock,

Respondent-Appellant,

v.

Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration &  
Elections, Clarendon County Democratic Party,  
LaNette Samuels-Cooper, South Carolina Democratic  
Party, and South Carolina Election Commission,

Defendants,

Of whom LaNette Samuels-Cooper is Appellant-Respondent,

**CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL**

As required by Rule 210(g), SCACR, the undersigned certifies that the Supplemental Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by the parties and not any other material.

ROBINSON GRAY STEPP & LAFFITTE, LLC

By: 

Robert E. Tyson, Jr.

SC Bar No. 10820

rtyson@robinsongray.com

Vordman Carlisle Traywick, III

SC Bar No. 102123

ltraywick@robinsongray.com

Post Office Box 11449

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

(803) 929-1400

Columbia, South Carolina  
October 5, 2018

*Attorneys for Respondent-Appellant Bucky Mock*

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Supreme Court

---

**RECEIVED**

OCT 05 2018

S.C. SUPREME COURT

APPEAL FROM CLARENDON COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr., Circuit Court Judge

---

Appellate Case No. 2018-001520

---

Bucky Mock,

Respondent-Appellant,

v.

Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration &  
Elections, Clarendon County Democratic Party,  
LaNette Samuels-Cooper, South Carolina Democratic  
Party, and South Carolina Election Commission,

Defendants,

Of which LaNette Samuels-Cooper is the Appellant-Respondent.

---

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

---

I certify that I have caused the service of the Supplemental Record on Appeal on Appellant-Respondents and Defendants by U.S. Mail on October 5, 2018, to the attorneys of record at the following addresses:

Counsel Served:     Ronnie A. Sabb, Esq.  
                           Kimberly V. Barr, Esq.  
                           Kimberly M. Hodge, Esq.  
                           Post Office Box 88  
                           Kingstree, South Carolina 29556  
                           *Counsel for Appellant*

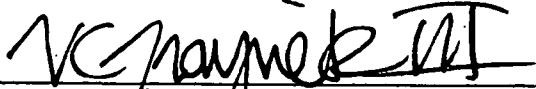
                           Shaun Kent, Esq.  
                           Kent Law Firm  
                           19 Mill Street  
                           Manning, South Carolina 29102  
                           *Counsel for Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration & Elections*

J. Eric Cavanaugh, Esq.  
Joseph Thickens, Esq.  
Cavanaugh & Thickens  
Post Office Box 2409  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
*Counsel for South Carolina Democratic Party and  
Clarendon Co. Democratic Party*

Harrison D. Brant, Esq.  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 500  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

T. Parkin C. Hunter, Esq.  
SC Attorney General's Office  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
*Counsel for South Carolina State Election Commission*

ROBINSON GRAY STEPP & LAFFITTE, LLC

By: 

Robert E. Tyson, Jr.  
SC Bar No. 10820  
rtyson@robinsongray.com  
Vordman Carlisle Traywick, III  
SC Bar No. 102123  
ltraywick@robinsongray.com  
1310 Gadsden Street  
Post Office Box 11449  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 929-1400

*Attorneys for Respondent-Appellant Bucky Mock*