May 5, 2015

Memorandum of Understanding

Re: Underage Cooperating Individual (UCI) Operations

To Whom It May Concern:

The South Carolina Department of Revenue (Department) and the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) understand that you are interested in having SLED adopt violations resulting from your UCI operations. We appreciate your desire to work with us. However, we require that your investigation meet the following criteria in order to be adopted:

1. The UCI must be between the ages of 16 and 19 years old. No 20 year old UCIs can be used;

2. The UCI must have a driver’s license or identification card issued by his or her home state or a military identification card issued by the Federal government. If the UCI is asked for his or her identification, the UCI must present his or her true identification;

3. If the UCI is asked his or her age, the UCI must truthfully answer with his or her actual age;

4. A copy of the UCI’s identification card must be in the case file for each operation that day;

5. The UCI’s picture must be taken before the UCI operation begins;

6. The UCI can enter a location with only his or her true identification, a cell phone, and buy money. The UCI may not carry a wallet, pocket book, backpack, or similar item;

7. The UCI must be searched before the UCI operation begins to ensure that the UCI only has the items set forth in paragraph 6 above;

8. The UCI cannot have a beard or heavy mustache. Additionally, the UCI cannot wear heavy make-up in an attempt to look older or wear inappropriate clothing;

9. The UCI must have a clean criminal record. Minor traffic violations will be allowed. No UCI can be used who is “working off” charges;

10. The UCI must be able to attend a hearing at Magistrate’s Court or the Administrative Law Court if needed;
11. The UCI must fill out a Buy Statement with as much information as possible;

12. The officer, agent, or investigator must maintain all evidence for court. The evidence cannot be returned to the license holder in exchange for a receipt and return of the buy money;

13. If the UCI is compensated for the operation, compensation cannot be dependent upon results, i.e., the compensation must be the same whether a successful buy occurs or not;

14. All of the above must be documented in the case file for each operation that day.

Yours truly,

Lauren Acquaviva, Esquire
Counsel for Litigation
South Carolina Department of Revenue

Lt. James Causey
State Law Enforcement Division