

## **NEWS RELEASE — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Media Contact: Kelly Coakley

kelly.coakley@admin.sc.gov 803-737-0555

## South Carolina launches newly updated state website

**Columbia, S.C.** — The South Carolina Department of Administration (Admin), in partnership with South Carolina Interactive, LLC, recently launched the state's new, official state website, <u>SC.gov</u>. This collaborative effort completely transformed <u>SC.gov</u>, producing a redesign that helps citizens more quickly and easily find information about all things South Carolina.

Users will benefit from features like a geo-location-based map, interconnectivity between agency, localities and government entities, and featured areas driven by site analytics. The geo-location-based map highlights several popular agency-specific, citizen-centric topics such as locations of South Carolina state parks and courthouses. Site visitors can use the interactive map by entering a ZIP code or selecting a specific category.

The new website also includes the state's first chatbot, Caroline. The questions and answers provided by Caroline were selected from a conglomerate of data analytics of commonly asked questions by <u>SC.gov</u> users. Caroline's services include 14 categories with 55 questions and 150 available answers. In addition to the traditional chatbot, Caroline includes an audio option to verbalize answers. If Caroline cannot answer a question, users have the option to have a human interaction through the <u>SC.gov</u> live chat feature.

The state launched the previous version of SC.gov in 2013. The new SC.gov was redesigned through a unique public-private partnership between Admin and South Carolina Interactive, LLC. Through this partnership, more than 1,500 services have been placed online to make interacting with government more secure and efficient for the citizens and businesses of South Carolina.

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