



MEMO

Greetings fellow members.

Amidst the uncertainty of all that is going on with the shutdowns and budget drawbacks, your executive council met by teleconference this week. After much discussion and regret it was determined that the SPIAA 2021 conference scheduled for Spartanburg in July 2021 is to be cancelled. This decision was not made easily and I am saddened to be the longest serving president of the SPIAA and still not hold a conference. The state of South Carolina remains under a Governor's mandate of groups no larger than 10 and there is no sign of that being lifted any time soon. I have also had several departments inform me that all non-essential travel is still on hold for this physical year. As you all are aware, it takes more than a month or two to put a conference together and if we waited until we were clear of COVID, I am afraid we would run out of time. The Marriott has released us from our hotel contract which was my biggest concern and caused many sleepless nights.

We are planning to hold an executive staff meeting in Louisville late this year to determine how to best transfer offices to the incoming president and I will continue to act as your president until such time as we get this all figured out. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Alan Bledsoe

President, SPIAA

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