



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Public Relations, Marketing & Media Department @ 803.545.3020

Mayor Presents U.S. Vice President with Key to the City

On Friday, July 23, 2010, Mayor Steve Benjamin presented the Key to the City to Vice President Joe Biden. The presentation was made during a dedication ceremony for the new Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library on the campus of the University of South Carolina.

The uniquely framed key included a special letter from Mayor Benjamin recognizing Biden's commitment to our country and highlighting the significant role that he plays in our nation's leadership. In addition to the key, Benjamin also presented Biden with Famously Hot t-shirts, provided by the Midlands Authority for Conventions, Sports and Tourism.

Congressman Jim Clyburn and former SC Senator Fritz Hollings, the honoree, also attended the historic ceremony. The cost of the new 50,000 square-foot library was \$18 million, and it will be connected to the Thomas Cooper Library by a glass-enclosed walkway.

Biden, who served as the keynote speaker for today's event, served with Hollings in the Senate for over three decades. However, their personal relationship covers more than four decades.

According to information released by USC, the new library will feature political collections and will house the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections and Digital Collections.

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