

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 1, 2000**

**GEORGE DEAN JOHNSON, JR. AND AMANDA BAUKNIGHT JOIN UPSTATE  
FOREVER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Upstate Forever, a non-profit organization promoting sensible growth in the upstate region of South Carolina, announced today that George Dean Johnson, Jr. of Spartanburg and Amanda Bauknight of Pickens have joined its Board of Directors.

Mr. Johnson is the founder and chairman of several successful businesses, a member of the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame, and the former chairman of both the South Carolina Development Board and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Bauknight, a cattle and timber farmer, serves as a Commissioner of the Pickens County Soil and Water Conservation District and as Secretary of the South Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Brad Wyche, Executive Director of Upstate Forever, said, "We are very excited to have Mr. Johnson and Ms. Bauknight on our Board. Their extensive knowledge of the issues and problems facing their respective counties will be of tremendous benefit to Upstate Forever."

For more information, contact Brad Wyche at 864-250-06500, George Dean Johnson, Jr. at 864-594-5800, and Amanda Bauknight at 864-869-3382.

For photographs of Mr. Johnson and Ms. Bauknight, please call Mr. Wyche at 864-250-0500.