

**CHARLESTON
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**



David Stahl,
Music Director

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March 28, 2010

BY COURIER and EMAIL

Mr. Timothy O'Malley
President, Coastal Carolina Association of Professional Musicians
Local 502
American Federation of Musicians

Dear Mr. O'Malley:

As you are aware, representatives of the CSO Board and management, along with musician representatives of the Union Local have been meeting since early January 2010 to discuss this season's dire financial situation and its effects on next season. The Board appreciates the willingness of the Union to have such discussions; unfortunately, no resolution to the challenging situation we face has been reached. During this time the financial situation has worsened and the cash position of the CSO has reached a critical point, leaving us no option but to radically reduce the ongoing operating cash requirements of the organization.

Accordingly, effective at midnight March 28, 2010, the CSO is temporarily suspending operations for the indefinite future, and must cancel performances for the balance of this season. Thus, we have no requirement for musician services during the period of suspended operations. The CSO is forced to take this action because it does not have sufficient operating funds to pay the musicians of Local 502 for any services performed after March 28, 2010. We also are compelled by this situation to rescind any prior offers for restructuring our present agreement with the musicians.

The CSO Board is committed to presenting a 75th Anniversary Season, although it may not be in 2010-2011. Operations cannot be resumed until the orchestra has been restructured to be economically sustainable by the Charleston community. In the interim, CSO Board Representatives will be available to meet with the Union at reasonable times and places to discuss the effects of the temporary suspension of operations and/or listen to any ideas for a sustainable restructuring of the orchestra.

We regret the necessity of this action, but look forward to working with the Union to restructure the organization for sustainable future success.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted Legasey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward E. Legasey
President, Charleston Symphony Orchestra