



LOCAL LEADERS. STATEWIDE STRENGTH.®



2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Photos:

front cover – Lake Jocassee, photo by Dave Allen

top left – Stumphouse Tunnel, photo by Eric Lindberg

top right – Lake Keowee, photo by Eric Lindberg

bottom – South Cove County Park, photo by Eric Lindberg





A Letter from SCAC's President

Dear County Officials,

I am honored to share this year's *President's Report* highlighting the association's excellent programs, services, and accomplishments during the past year. Your commitment to working with your local delegation members throughout the year, your county's adoption of sound risk management principles, and your participation in SCAC's educational and networking sessions are truly what makes our association successful.

On the legislative front, SCAC's advocacy team continued its work this year to pass legislation that assists counties and to stop harmful bills in their tracks. Although 2022 was a challenging year, the persistent efforts of county officials and SCAC staff made the session successful for our counties.

Against enormous odds, SCAC staff and county officials were victorious in passing legislation that resolves the user fee issue, which was created by the SC Supreme Court's ruling in the *Burns* case that was issued on June 30, 2021. The association's effort to resolve the user fee issue was complicated by the fact that the association only had the second half of a legislative session during an election year to respond to the decision; with your help, the association met the challenge head-on and was successful in returning this necessary authority to counties. Other wins for counties include legislation to expand counties' fiscal authority for Local Option Sales Taxes and continued revenue sharing through the state budget. The Local Government Fund continues to be fully funded with annual increases and the newly created Rural Stabilization Fund saw a \$2 million increase.

As you read this year's report, I encourage you to learn more about SCAC's diverse service package and ways you can access these resources. Our association stands ready to assist you and your counties.

In closing, I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your support this past year. It has truly been a privilege to serve and work side by side with you. I am proud of the accomplishments we've made for our counties and for the State of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Cain., President
South Carolina Association of Counties
Oconee County Council Vice Chairman

SCAC 2021-22 Officers



PRESIDENT
Paul A. Cain
Oconee County
Council Vice Chairman



FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Debra B. Summers
Lexington County Council



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Roy Costner III
Pickens County
Council Vice Chairman



THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
William E. Robinson
Allendale County Council



SECRETARY
Steve Willis
Lancaster County



TREASURER
Belinda D. Copeland
Darlington County



PAST PRESIDENT
Johnnie Wright Sr.
Orangeburg County
Council Chairman

SCAC Board of Directors

TERMS EXPIRE 2025

Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court
W. Brian Carnes, Lancaster County Council Vice Chairman
D. Paul Sommerville, Beaufort County Council Vice Chairman
Cecil M. Thornton Jr., Calhoun County Council
Robert Winkler, York County Council Vice Chairman

TERMS EXPIRE 2024

Mary D. Anderson, Chesterfield County Council
John Q. Atkinson Jr., Marion County Council Chairman
Alphonso Bradley, Florence County Council
J. Clay Killian, Aiken County Administrator
Henry H. Livingston III, Newberry County Council

TERMS EXPIRE 2023

Cam Crawford, Horry County Council
S. Ray Graham, Anderson County Council
J. Frank Hart, Union County Supervisor/Chairman
Dwight L. Stewart Jr., Clarendon County Council Chairman
Phillip M. Taylor Sr., Colleton County Council Vice Chairman

TERMS EXPIRE 2022

Joseph R. Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman
C. David Chinnis, Dorchester County Council
Joseph B. Dill, Greenville County Council
Charles T. Edens, Sumter County Council
Charles T. Jennings, McCormick County Council Chairman

NACO BOARD MEMBER

Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council



SCAC 2022 President's Report

PAUL A. CAIN, PRESIDENT

For more than 50 years, the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) has worked to empower county officials through advocacy, education, and collaboration. By providing opportunities for county leaders to build connections and learn from shared experiences, the association helps county leaders effectively govern and lead their counties.

The association has a rich history of working with county and state leaders to safeguard Home Rule. By partnering with county officials who work with local delegation members throughout the year, SCAC successfully amplifies the voices and concerns of county government.

As the legal advocate for South Carolina's counties, association staff conducts research, provides sound advice to county attorneys and county leaders, and appears as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) in cases with state-wide impact.

SCAC's educational programs foster close connections between newcomers and seasoned county leaders and sharpen skills needed to make sound, ethical decisions. The association's research and publications keep county officials and employees abreast of trends and emerging issues.

SCAC's insurance trusts and risk management services are unparalleled and offer significant resources to help counties protect their human and financial resources. The association's debt collection programs have been highly successful in returning monies for county operations that would otherwise go uncollected.

SCAC is honored to be of service to South Carolina's 46 counties. Please explore the pages of this report, which covers the period from August 2021 to August 2022, to learn more about the association's programs and progress.

ADVOCATE FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Legislative Advocacy

The primary reason for starting the association in 1967 was to provide legislative advocacy and statewide representation for counties. County officials recognized that having a unified voice to express their positions to the General Assembly led to better results. The association achieved its first major legislative victories with the passage of the local government constitutional amendment in 1972 and the Home Rule Act in 1975.

Today, the development of policy positions involves significantly more participation by county officials. The Legislative Committee has 75 members: each county council chairman or designee (46), and SCAC's Board of Directors (29). Additional members with expertise in various policy areas are appointed by SCAC's president to serve on one of four policy steering committees.

2022 President's Report

The Legislative Committee begins its work in July, seeking input from more than 1,200 county officials and employees. This input is assigned to the appropriate steering committees for work sessions in September and November.

In October, the County Council Coalition provides input for draft policy positions. After further review and study in November, the steering committees develop initial policy positions for consideration by SCAC's Legislative Committee in December. The final positions are published in *Policy Positions for the South Carolina General Assembly*.

Once policy positions are adopted, it is the responsibility of the membership and SCAC staff to advocate for their implementation. The success or failure of policy positions is largely dependent upon participation of county officials.

SCAC provides resources to involve county officials in the legislative process and keep them informed of the General Assembly's actions. During the legislative session, county officials receive weekly *Friday Reports* and *Legislative Alerts* when immediate action is needed.

SCAC staff attends numerous committee meetings in order to report on legislative action. The actions of the House and Senate are monitored each day the General Assembly is in session. This includes reviewing each bill or amendment introduced and requesting input from county officials.

The success of the legislative program is the result of the relentless efforts of SCAC staff and the work of hundreds of county officials who remain informed and make timely contact with members of the General Assembly.

While much of the 2022 session of the General Assembly centered around school vouchers, medical marijuana, elections reform, restructuring the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), and convention of states, it was remarkably successful for county government and SCAC, both as it relates to policy positions that were achieved and harmful legislation that was amended or defeated.

This is the second year of a two-year session, and any legislation introduced that did not pass will have to be reintroduced next year. Following are highlights of the legislative victories and policy positions for which SCAC advocated throughout the legislative session.

User Fee Authorization – Act No. 236.

SCAC was successful in passing its top legislative priority to address the issue raised in the June 30, 2021, SC Supreme Court decision in *Burns v. Greenville County*, which imperiled various user fees, especially road use fees, imposed by counties in South Carolina. This legislation reinstates the *Brown* test (the 1997 decision establishing the criteria for a user fee prior to the *Burns* decision) and allows the general public to benefit from a user fee provided the fee payer benefits and the other elements of the *Brown* test are met. Passing this legislation was an extremely difficult task in a single legislative year that was also an election year and could not have been accomplished without the tireless support of county officials.

This legislation also clarifies when a spouse of a deceased disabled veteran or law enforcement officer may receive a property tax exemption. The Act further exempts certain agricultural structures from property taxes and provides for reduced real property assessments when the property is damaged by a hurricane, flood, or wind event.



Senator Shane Massey, SC Senate Majority Leader, talks with McCormick County officials during the 2022 legislative session.

820+ SCAC staff monitored 826 bills during the 2022 legislative session.

2022 President's Report

Local Option Sales Tax Flexibility – Act No. 189.

This legislation, an SCAC policy position, allows counties that impose a Transportation Penny Tax to also conduct a referendum to impose a 1 percent Capital Project Sales Tax. The legislation deletes the restriction that the area of the county can only be subject to one of those authorizations. Counties with the Capital Project Sales Tax may also conduct a referendum to impose the Transportation Penny. This Act provides much needed fiscal flexibility to counties and is an important step towards fiscal independence for counties that was envisioned with the passage of the Home Rule Act.

Electronic Waste – Act No. 234.

This legislation, an SCAC priority, establishes a new statewide “Manufacturer Electronic Waste Recovery Program” for covered televisions and computer monitor devices (ex: old CRT TVs). Counties are currently faced with large financial burdens to recycle these items because there is no market for the devices and these devices cannot go into a landfill. Under the old program, manufacturers only had to recycle 80 percent of the pounds sold, leaving counties to shoulder the cost of recycling any devices that remained at county facilities.

The new program requires that all covered television and computer monitor devices must be picked up from counties, providing significant cost savings for disposing of these devices. Language in the Act provides protection to counties from financial liability once these devices leave a county facility which addresses issues that have occurred in the past where counties were sued for devices that were stored off site. The legislation provides for a sunset of the program in 2029 and requires all stakeholders to reconvene on June 1, 2026, to assess how the program is working and whether there need to be changes to the program going forward.

County governments had to have legislation to continue the E-waste program that was set to expire. Not only was SCAC successful in achieving this priority, but the new framework is a vast improvement on the previous E-waste program.

Local Government Fund (LGF) and State Appropriations Bill - Act No. 239.

Under the budget adopted by the General Assembly, the LGF is funded with an increase of \$12.58 million. This represents full funding to the LGF under the statutory formula. The budget also earmarks \$12 million for the

Rural County Stabilization Fund. Any county that has a population growth, as determined by the 2020 Census, of less than 5.35 percent since the 2010 Census is eligible to receive monies from the fund. The budget also includes \$250 million in additional funding for County Transportation Committees

County Green Space – Act No. 166.

This legislation allows counties to impose by ordinance, subject to referendum approval in the county during a general election, a Green Space Sales and Use Tax of up to 1 percent for land preservation. This legislation represents another significant achievement for fiscal flexibility for counties in South Carolina.

Opioid Recovery Fund – Act No. 222.

This legislation is part of the requirement of the opioid lawsuit settlement for South Carolina and the 46 counties and 43 municipalities that were a part of the lawsuit. The legislation establishes the opioid recovery fund accounts with the state treasurer and creates the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund Board to administer and distribute the funds. The board will be composed of nine members, five of which will be appointed from a list provided by SCAC (three appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one appointed by the President of the Senate). The association was successful in preserving counties' majority representation on the board despite attempts by other groups to increase their participation.



County officials from Greenville and Horry testify on the user fee legislation during the 2022 session.

2022 President's Report



Senator Tom Alexander, President of the SC Senate, addresses county officials during SCAC's 2022 Mid-Year Conference.



Jasper County officials talk with Senator Ronnie Sabb during SCAC's 2022 Mid-Year Conference.



Dorchester County officials advocate for the Local Option Sales Tax Flexibility legislation at the State House.

Legal Advocacy

SCAC's legal staff, working through the county attorney, spends hundreds of hours each year conducting in-depth research on pertinent statutes, case law, and attorney general opinions; preparing written advisory opinions; and providing informal telephone consultations.

The association also assists counties involved in litigation of statewide interest, including appearing as an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court). This year, legal staff assisted with legal research and filed an *amicus* brief before the state court of appeals in support of Clarendon, Florence, Lee, Sumter, and Williamsburg counties in an appeal from the administrative law court concerning a tax exemption granted to Farmer's Telephone Cooperative and its subsidiary companies.

The exemption was granted to the taxpayers for property related to cellular phone and internet services based on a statutory tax exemption provided decades ago for rural landline telephone services. The appeal is still pending before the court of appeals; however, the General Assembly passed legislation to codify a prospective tax exemption for the property at issue.

Another service SCAC legal staff provides is a monthly update of state regulations and appellate court decisions of interest to counties. The updates are sent to county chief administrative officers and county attorneys for distribution to county departments. SCAC staff ensures that counties are aware of certain regulations as they are proposed and drafted, giving counties an opportunity for input in the development of regulations. Association staff also reviews appellate court opinions and provides an overview of any decision that will impact county or other local government operations.

BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCIES FOR COUNTY LEADERS

Institute of Government for County Officials

SCAC's Institute of Government for County Officials (Institute of Government) provides the knowledge and skills that policymakers and executive staff need to address critical issues, meet the daily needs of their communities, and monitor the county's performance.

The educational program is offered in partnership with the Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities at the College of Charleston. Clemson University's Master of Public Administration Program is a program sponsor. As a result of these partnerships, the association is able to make enhancements to the Institute of Government curriculum and the pool of instructors used to teach the courses.

The primary curriculum includes two levels of certification and offers advanced courses to permit graduates to stay apprised of current issues impacting county government. Twenty-seven hours are required for Level I certification and an additional 18 hours are required for

Level II certification. Institute courses offered this year consisted of online learning and in-person classes. Several Institute of Government classes were recorded and made available for online viewing on the association's learning portal. Sixty county officials and employees participated in online Institute of Government classes. In addition, nearly 250 county officials attended in-person classes.

Last year, 13 county officials graduated from Level I and 12 graduated from Level II. Many more are expected to graduate during the 2022 annual conference, reflecting a resurgence in Institute of Government participation after a period of lower attendance during the pandemic.

At the time of this report, every sitting council member from Lancaster County has graduated from either Level I or Level II of the Institute of Government. SCAC would like to congratulate Lancaster County for its commitment to learning.



2021 Institute of Government graduates are recognized during the association's 2021 annual conference.

County leaders learn about the US Treasury's Final Rule for the American Rescue Plan Act and county investments during an Institute of Government class.



Additional Leadership Development Opportunities

SCAC partners with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to build strong county leaders in South Carolina. The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program empowering county government professionals with the leadership skills to deliver results for counties. The NACo Enterprise Cybersecurity Leadership Academy is similarly structured and geared for county employees dedicated to cybersecurity, IT, and risk management. Through the SCAC/NACo partnership, South Carolina counties are eligible for a significantly reduced registration fee. To learn more about these leadership academies and to register, visit NACo's website at naco.org.

“

Wow! Loved the feedback, engaging stories, and practical advice that the instructor provided.

The training has empowered me to do better at planning and setting goals.

— Institute of Government Participants

Orientation for Newly Elected Council Members

The association hosts an orientation program for newly elected council members in even-numbered years. Designed to provide a thorough insight into their new roles and responsibilities, the event also highlights how association programs and services are valuable resources for them. The training is provided free-of-charge, and partic-

ipants earn six hours of Institute of Government credit toward Level I certification. The next class is scheduled for December 8, 2022, and newly elected council members will be invited to attend.

Legal Training

SCAC legal staff is called upon regularly to provide presentations and training for county officials and employees on topics such as the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); legislative updates; and duties and functions of council and the county chief administrative officer in the various forms of government. This year, SCAC provided guidance to counties on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) including the acceptable uses of the funds as defined by the US Treasury. This training is provided free-of-charge and can be provided at county sites or the SCAC office in Columbia.

Each year, SCAC hosts the Local Government Attorneys' Institute (Institute). The Institute provides local and state government attorneys with timely and important legal information. The 2021 Institute was held virtually and more than 200 public sector attorneys participated. Topics included: Ethics and Discipline Update; Redistricting and the 2020 Census; Mental Health Awareness in the Legal Profession; Employment Considerations in Light of Recent Supreme Court Decisions; Ethics for Elected Officials and Certain Government Employees; and Who is My Attorney.

Planning and Zoning Training

State law requires appointed officials who serve on a planning commission, board of zoning appeals, or board of architectural review to attend at least six hours of orientation training within the first year of serving. Three hours of continuing education are required annually thereafter. The requirements also apply to planning professionals, zoning administrators, zoning officials, and deputies and assistants to these positions.

SCAC's planning and zoning training programs are approved by the S.C. Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC). The association provides orientation training and continuing education that addresses current issues and changes in state law. One course fulfills the annual planning and zoning three-hour continuing edu-

cation requirement. Local planning and zoning officials and employees may also earn continuing education credit from four specific courses offered by the Institute of Government.

In April, SCAC launched a new online planning and zoning orientation course which includes four one-and-a-half hour modules. The training meets the six-hour orientation training requirement and covers topics such as land use planning, the zoning process, land development regulations, and procedural and educational requirements. More than 135 planning and zoning officials have completed the association's online planning and zoning classes this past year.

Annual Awards Program

The association's awards program provides a unique opportunity for county officials to learn about innovative practices, technology, and trends; to strengthen their professional network; and to share ideas and expertise.

The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges in a unique way. The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award highlights the critical need for regional partnerships, strategies, and solutions.

The association hosts an online video library of award competition presentations and written entries. SCAC also highlights the projects and summarizes all entries in *County Focus* magazine and on social media.



Anderson, Charleston, Pickens, and York counties were among the counties that participated in SCAC's 2022 Annual Awards Program.

CONNECT COUNTIES TO RESOURCES & INFORMATION

Research and Technical Assistance

Online Research Resources

County officials and employees are able to access an abundance of information and resources via SCAC's website. A search tool allows users to quickly and easily access documents and publications by title, topic, and resource type. This search function connects county officials to county statistics, financial documents, council rules of procedure, personnel policies, planning and zoning documents, and county codes of ordinances. Millage rate caps and estimated Local Government Fund allocations are also available.

Property Tax Report

SCAC publishes *Property Tax Rates by County*. This annual report is the most comprehensive, up-to-date listing of county property tax millage rates. *Property Tax Rates by County* is the primary source of statewide county property taxes and, as such, is widely used by local and state officials, the legislature, developers, and the public.

Wage and Salary Report

The FY 2022 *Wage and Salary Report*, as well as the companion online searchable wage and salary database, were published in November. This report is published every other year and contains the results of SCAC's survey of more than 200 county government positions. In addition to detailed salary data by county and position, the report includes information on annual and sick leave benefits, holidays, budgets, payrolls, employee totals, and classification systems.

County Profiles

SCAC's *County Profiles* resource consists of county statistical information gathered from a variety of state and federal sources. Each county is represented by a one-page profile containing a brief county history, recent population trends, economic data, tax data, and county financial and employment data. A county profile for every county, as well as the data tables underlying each profile, is available on the SCAC website. An update to the *County Profiles* publication is currently underway and the 2022 edition is scheduled for release in September.

Surveys

Association staff conducts statewide surveys and gathers information on policies and practices of individual counties. The results help inform county policymakers and practitioners. The information is also used by the association's legislative staff, state agencies, and the SC General Assembly. A sample of recent surveys includes: ARPA Premium Pay and broadband expenditures; water and sewer infrastructure to attract business; road and user fees; emergency management organizational structure; accident response fees; top litter spots on state-maintained roads; and the impact of property tax exemptions for farm structures.

Online Discussion Forums

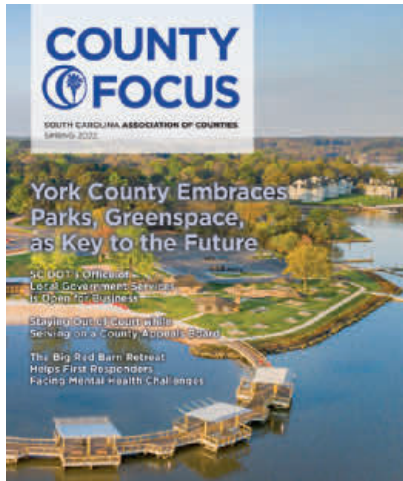
SCAC administers online discussion forums for seven distinct groups of county officials, allowing them to post questions and share county-related information. The association hosts listservs for county chief administrative officers; the SC Association of Auditors, Treasurers and Tax Collectors; the SC Association of Assessing Officials; county finance officers; county personnel directors; county risk managers; and county IT directors.



Communications and Outreach

SCAC publishes three award-winning publications to keep county leaders informed: *County Focus* Magazine; *Carolina Counties Newsletter*; and *Directory of County Officials*. Over the years, these publications have received numerous awards from the National Association of County Information Officers, SC Society of Association Executives, and SC Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

The association's magazine and newsletter are distributed to more than 1,300 county officials and employees, Councils of Governments (COGs), members of the SC General Assembly, other state officials, and SCAC's Corporate Partners.



Carolina Counties Newsletter

SCAC's newsletter educates local leaders on important issues affecting county government. The newsletter also covers current issues, past events, and announces upcoming events.

Directory of County Officials

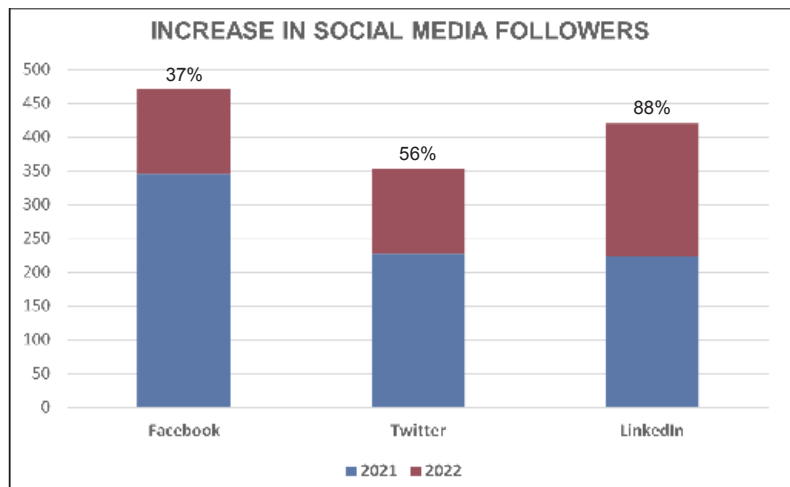
SCAC's annual directory provides contact information for elected and appointed county officials, COGs, members of the SC General Assembly, and other state and federal officials. Copies are distributed to all officials and organizations listed in the directory, and to all state associations representing counties, boroughs, and parishes nationwide.

County Focus Magazine

SCAC's quarterly magazine focuses on legislative issues, successful county programs and projects, and a broad range of other issues affecting county governments. *County Focus* also publishes local news submitted by counties and calendars for SCAC and NACo events.

Social Media

The association focuses on three platforms to help develop new connections with counties: Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Social media is an effective tool for reaching county officials, county employees, members of the SC General Assembly, and the general public on legislative issues, highlighting award winning county programs, and boosting the signal for South Carolina counties, as well as for organizations like NACo and Government Finance Officers Association. SCAC's number of followers has grown by nearly 400 individuals over the previous year and engagement has increased nearly ten-fold. Follow SCAC on Facebook and Twitter: @SCCounties. Or, visit the association's LinkedIn page: [linkedin.com/company/south-carolina-association-of-counties](https://www.linkedin.com/company/south-carolina-association-of-counties).



250+

Number of positions posted
in SCAC's career center with
20,350 views.

Career Center

The association's career center is the first place job seekers should visit when looking for local government positions in South Carolina. Job openings are categorized and easily searchable. This is a complimentary service provided to all counties. Over the past year, 60 counties, COGs, and governmental entities took advantage of this employment advertising tool.

What's New Monthly Email

The *What's New* monthly email message informs county officials on new or updated information available via SCAC's website. Links are provided to upcoming events and training opportunities, new and updated publications, and timely topics of interest.

SCAC Scholarship Program

SCAC has awarded \$207,500 in scholarships to 83 students in all 46 counties since establishing its scholarship program in 1998. This year, the association proudly awarded \$2,500 scholarships to five outstanding high school seniors who will attend an in-state college, university, or technical school in the fall.

Each year, SCAC awards a Presidential Scholarship to a graduating high school senior who resides in the same

county as the association's current president. This year's scholarship was awarded to a student from Oconee County. The association also awarded four Board of Directors Scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are residents of counties chosen by lot. Allendale, Horry, Newberry, and Williamsburg counties were selected in the 2022 draw for these awards.



ASSIST COUNTIES AS STEWARDS OF PUBLIC RESOURCES

Self-Funded Insurance Programs

The association sponsors two self-insurance pools—The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) and The S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust. Both trusts are open to counties and agencies with county government-related functions. The SCCWCT currently has 79 members, including 41 counties and The S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust has 26 members, including 16 counties.

The trusts are governed by boards of trustees appointed by the SCAC Board of Directors. All trustees are either county council members or county chief administrative officers. The trusts employ independent auditors and actuaries to ensure the pools are financially strong. The key to the success of both programs is the implementation of strong risk management programs by participating counties. The insurance staff understands the risks counties face as evidenced by its customized risk management solutions.

All aspects of trust administration, including claims administration and risk management services, are handled internally by SCAC insurance staff. The association offers the flexibility of in-house underwriting. The insurance

staff includes risk managers who work in the field supplementing the county's risk management efforts through inspections, training, and mentoring.

Risk Management

The boards of trustees have always placed great importance on the application of sound risk management techniques to control the risks members of the trusts incur during county operations.

The Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting is held in January each year where risk management training is provided by SCAC insurance staff, members, and other risk management experts. Members are recognized for their safety and risk management accomplishments. These awards are also represented at county council meetings at members' request. The risk management roundtable discussions are a very popular segment of the meeting. The focus of this year's roundtable was cyber threats to local government.



County officials from Jasper and Sumter counties ask questions during the 2022 Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting.



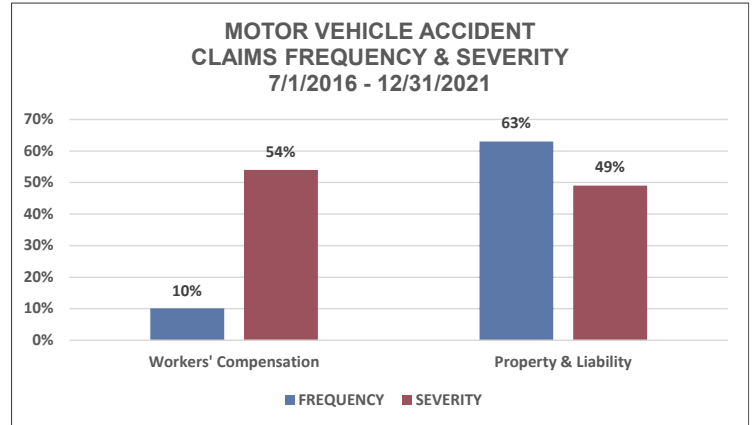
2022 President's Report

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Motor vehicle accidents are very costly for members of both trusts accounting for more than 10 percent of the claims in the SCCWCT and 54 percent of the total incurred costs of all claims. These accidents also account for more than 63 percent of the claims incurred in the S.C. Counties Property and Liability Trust. The prevention of motor vehicle accidents is a top priority for SCAC risk managers. Preventing a motor vehicle accident can eliminate three types of claims—workers compensation, auto liability, and auto property damage.

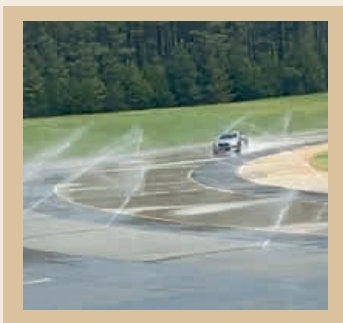
A critical component of a successful risk management program is the use of a vehicle accident review board. The purpose of this board is to review all employee motor vehicle accidents to determine if the accident could have been prevented and if the employee's actions contributed to the accident. Not all accidents are preventable, but many are due to distractions, driving too fast for conditions, and poor driving habits. It is vital that employees be held accountable for preventable motor vehicle accidents.

Motor vehicle accidents impact officers' lives and the budgets of sheriffs' offices across the state. They are also a leading cause of officer deaths. Twenty percent of law enforcement workers' compensation claims and 80 percent of property and liability claims are related to motor vehicle accidents.

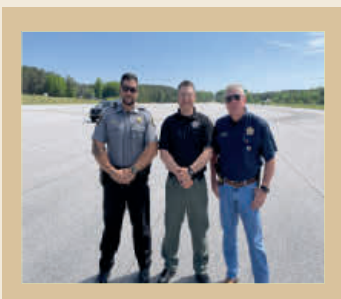


To help mitigate this exposure, the association has partnered with several entities to create a pilot Law Enforcement Defensive & Distracted Driver Program. The program includes classroom and hands-on driver training at the Michelin Laurens Proving Grounds in Laurens County. The first class, held on May 3, was tailored for sheriffs/chiefs and command staff, and the second class, held on May 5, was a train-the-trainer class geared for training officers. This session incorporated an online eLearning segment.

The goal of the program is to reduce officer deaths, vehicle collisions, time away from the job, impacts on budgets, and to improve overall officer safety.



35 Number of county personnel representing 17 counties who participated in the association's inaugural Law Enforcement Defensive & Distracted Driver Program at Michelin Laurens Proving Grounds



Pictured are law enforcement officers from Chester, Chesterfield, Lancaster, Laurens, Spartanburg, and Sumter counties.



SCAC Boards of Trustees

S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation and Property & Liability Trusts



VICE CHAIRMAN

Waymon Mumford
Florence County Council



Joseph R. Branham
Chester County
Council Vice Chairman



Charles T. Jennings
McCormick County
Council Chairman



Henry H. Livingston III
Newberry County Council



Gary M. Mixon
Sumter County
Administrator



Debra B. Summers
Lexington County Council



Cecil M. Thornton Jr.
Calhoun County Council



**SECRETARY/
TREASURER**
Timothy C. Winslow
SCAC Executive Director

Debt Collection Programs

SCAC assists county entities in two debt collection programs administered by the SC Department of Revenue (DOR): the Setoff Debt Collection Program and the Government Enterprise Accounts Receivable Program (GEAR). These programs help county entities recover unpaid liabilities which would likely otherwise go uncollected.

Owed funds are collected by redirecting an individual debtor's state income tax refund to a county entity as payment for the previously uncollected debt. The GEAR program allows DOR to use additional methods, such as payment plans and wage garnishments, to collect the unpaid debt.

SCAC's debt collection programs have proven highly successful in returning monies for county operations such as emergency medical services, court fines and fees, delinquent taxes, hospitals, alcohol and drug treatment centers, business license fees, water and sewer services, and housing services.

The collections for counties have grown significantly from \$29 million in 2002 to more than \$100 million in 2021. The number of participating entities has increased from 81 in 2002 to more than 300 in 2022. Since the association's debt collection programs began in 1992, SCAC has returned more than \$1.5 billion to program participants.

SCAC provides numerous services to assist program participants, including free software to help counties manage their data; data searches for potential errors; and error reports and verification totals for all submitted data files. SCAC provides current addresses from state income tax returns to counties and sends all data electronically using stringent security controls. Participants may choose to receive funds via electronic transfer, allowing counties to receive funds more quickly. Additional information on the debt collection programs can be found on [SCCounties.org](https://www.sccounties.org).

Cooperative Service Programs

GovDeals

GovDeals has provided South Carolina counties an internet auction program for surplus equipment through [GovDeals.com](https://www.govdeals.com) for more than 20 years. GovDeals provides an electronic platform for counties to sell non-essential equipment, vehicles, and other surplus assets via national online auctions. GovDeals is currently working with 43 counties and 507 other agencies in the state. This past year, South Carolina counties netted more than \$4.3 million in revenue. Since the program's inception, counties have generated more than \$48 million in revenue.

FSI Office Supplies Purchasing Program

SCAC sponsors a discount purchasing program for routine office, breakroom, and janitorial supplies. This program was created by SCAC in cooperation with Forms and Supply, Inc. (FSI), and offers substantial discounts on these supplies.



NACo Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program

The NACo Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program is a no-cost plan available to all member county residents. It provides relief to uninsured and under-insured Americans who are facing the growing cost of healthcare offering three key ways to save. While the program is not insurance, it has saved residents more than \$713 million on 51 million prescriptions since 2004. To learn more or apply visit [naco.org](https://www.naco.org).



Local Leaders. Statewide Strength.®

SCAC has a rich history of providing quality programs and services to counties and county officials. As members of the association, all 46 counties, county elected officials, and employees have access to SCAC's programs designed to help counties serve their citizens.

The association is committed to building knowledge and competencies for county leaders and to providing research and educational tools related to emerging trends. SCAC will continue to offer innovative solutions to help

counties serve their citizens—including self-insurance pools, risk management services, debt collection programs, and cooperative service programs.

Local leaders must anticipate and adapt to emerging issues to keep counties safe, healthy, prosperous, and resilient. Your association will continue to partner with state and county officials to improve South Carolina's strength by delivering essential programs and services for 21st century counties and county leaders.



2022 President's Report

SCAC Staff

Timothy C. Winslow
Executive Director
twinslow@scac.sc

Joshua C. Rhodes
*Deputy Executive Director
and General Counsel*
jrhodes@scac.sc

Anna B. Berger
Senior Director of Operations
aberger@scac.sc

Tish F. Anderson
Deputy Director of Administrative Services
tanderson@scac.sc

Van Henson, CPM
Director of Risk Management Services
vhenson@scac.sc

Colleen D. Motley
Subrogation and Recovery Supervisor, SCCWCT
cmotley@scac.sc

Robert E. Benfield, ARM, AINS
Director of Insurance Services
rbenfield@scac.sc

Chris W. Hinson
Senior Adjuster, SCCP<
chinson@scac.sc

Nilda A. Padgett
Director of Administrative Services
npadgett@scac.sc

Kelly H. Benson, AIC
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
kbenson@scac.sc

Dana T. Homesley
Administrative Assistant
dhomesley@scac.sc

Beth A. Segars
Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
bsegars@scac.sc

Sharon D. Berkowitz
Program Coordinator
sberkowitz@scac.sc

Kim P. Hudson
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
khudson@scac.sc

Pam N. Selkinghaus, ARM
Insurance Trusts' Program Coordinator
pselkinghaus@scac.sc

Isabella F. Branham
Research Associate
ibranham@scac.sc

Lang C. Kelly, ARM, AIC
Claims Manager, SCCWCT
lkelly@scac.sc

Leslie M. Simpson
Staff Attorney
lsimpson@scac.sc

Amber L. Brazell
Program Coordinator
abrazell@scac.sc

Pearlena A. Khalif-Govan
Administrative Assistant
pkhalif@scac.sc

Alexander W. Smith
Deputy General Counsel
asmith@scac.sc

Janet L. Cook
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
jcook@scac.sc

Cindy J. King
Accounting Manager, SCCWCT
cking@scac.sc

John J. Snelling
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
jsnelling@scac.sc

Sandra L. Corley
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
scorley@scac.sc

N. Taylor Lee
Senior Claims Coordinator, SCCWCT
tlee@scac.sc

Rachael P. Stephenson
Claims Supervisor, SCCWCT
rstephenson@scac.sc

H. Warren Counts Jr., CPA
Controller
wcounts@scac.sc

M. Kent Lesesne
Director of Governmental Affairs
klesesne@scac.sc

Ryan C. Tooley
Special Projects Coordinator
rtooley@scac.sc

Caroline Deevey, CIC, AAI, CISR, CRIS, INS
Insurance Trusts' Assistant Coordinator
cdeevey@scac.sc

Chase J. Lloyd
Claims Coordinator, SCCWCT
clloyd@scac.sc

Susan B. Turkopuls
Director of Research and Training
sturkopuls@scac.sc

John K. DeLoache
Senior Staff Attorney
jdeloache@scac.sc

Robert J. Lyon
IT/Procurement Director
rlyon@scac.sc

Rick K. Ucinski, ARM
Field Representative
rucinski@scac.sc

Sue L. Grist
Senior Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
sgrist@scac.sc

Owen A. McBride
Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs
omcbride@scac.sc

John O. Wienges Jr.
Staff Attorney
jwienges@scac.sc

Jennifer M. Haworth
Member Services Coordinator
jhaworth@scac.sc

Mark A. McKinney
Claims Manager, SCCP<
mmckinny@scac.sc

Mary E. Williams
Administrative Assistant
mwilliams@scac.sc

Crystal D. Hayden-Jeffcoat
Claims Adjuster II, SCCWCT
cjeffcoat@scac.sc

Burdetta M. Miller
Claims Adjuster, SCCWCT
bmiller@scac.sc

John D. Henderson, ARM, ALCM
Senior Advisor to Director of Insurance Services
jhenderson@scac.sc

W. Stuart Morgan III
Public Information Director
smorgan@scac.sc

SCAC Past Presidents

1960s – 1970s

Charles W. Lawrimore, Georgetown County*
J. Mitchell Graham, Charleston County
John L. Greer, Union County
J. Hugh McCutchen, Williamsburg County
James O. Thomason, Spartanburg County
Arthur H. Burton, Charleston County
Jack Q. Gerrald, Horry County
Harold L. King, Darlington County
E.E. Johnson, Hampton County
Berry L. Mobley, Lancaster County
Marjorie H. Sharpe, Lexington County

1980s

Howard A. Taylor, Charleston County
Alfred B. Schooler, Georgetown County
Lonnie Hamilton III, Charleston County
James P. Whitlock, Pickens County
Charlie I. Crews, Hampton County
Sue H. Roe, Aiken County
O.V. Player Jr., Sumter County
Danny E. Allen, Spartanburg County
David K. Summers Jr., Calhoun County
Lowell C. "Butch" Spires, Lexington County

1990s

Kenneth R. Huckaby, Spartanburg County
James R. McGee, Orangeburg County
Belle J. Kennette, Greenwood County
William L. McBride, Beaufort County
Raymond C. Eubanks Jr., Spartanburg County
George E. Bomar, Greenville County
Betty T. Roper, Clarendon County
Alzena Robinson, Bamberg County
Robert R. Nash Sr., Ph.D., Pickens County
Polly C. Jackson, Lancaster County

2000 – 2009

James H. Rozier Jr., Berkeley County
Steve S. Kelly Jr., Kershaw County
James A. Coleman, Laurens County
Gonza L. Bryant, Greenwood County
Barrett S. Lawrimore, Charleston County
Waymon Mumford, Florence County**
Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County
K.G. "Rusty" Smith Jr., Florence County
L. Gregory Pearce Jr., Richland County

2010 – 2019

Diane B. Anderson, Laurens County
R. Carlisle Roddey, Chester County
Joseph B. Dill, Greenville County
Charles T. Edens, Sumter County
Joseph R. Branham, Chester County
James R. Frazier, Horry County
John Q. Atkinson Jr., Marion County
Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County
Henry H. Livingston III, Newberry County
Charles T. Jennings, McCormick County

2020 to Present

Dwight L. Stewart Jr., Clarendon County
Johnnie Wright Sr., Orangeburg County



Photos:

top – Chattooga Belle Farm, photo by Eric Lindberg

middle – Oconee Bells, photo by Russell Carlson

bottom – Upper Brasstown Falls, photo by Eric Lindberg





**SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**