Three Speakers Scheduled to Address SCAC's Annual Conference

Three speakers are scheduled to address SCAC's annual conference when it is held Aug. 2 – 4, 2022, at the Wild Dunes Resort on the Isle of Palms.

Dr. Peter Cressy

Dr. Peter Cressy, director of executive leadership programs, The Washington Presidential Library, will serve as the keynote speaker at the opening session on Wednesday, Aug. 3.

Dr. Cressy has 35 years of CEO experience in both the public and private sectors, including significant international experiences. A distinguished educator and retired U.S. Navy rear admiral, Dr. Cressy has a lengthy history of leadership positions. He served six years as chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and two years as president of the Massachusetts Maritime College.

His 28-year naval career included key appointments at the State Department, the U.S. House of Representatives, the Pentagon, and several commanding officer positions. He served as Director of Naval Aviation Training and Manpower and as Director of Total Force Naval Training and Education. Dr. Cressy now serves as The Washington Presidential Library's Director of Executive Leadership Programs.

A Yale undergraduate, Dr. Cressy has master's degrees in international affairs, business administration, and systems analysis. His doctorate in organizational development focuses on decision making and leadership in complex environments. With more than 40 years of leadership experience, Dr. Cressy is considered an expert in leadership education, training, and coaching.

Denise Winfrey

NACo First Vice President Denise Winfrey will address county officials at the general session on Thursday, Aug. 4.

Slated to become NACo's next president in July 2022, Commissioner Winfrey's NACo leadership positions include chair of the Community Economic and Workforce Development Policy Steering Committee and vice chair of the Large Urban Counties Caucus. She is a member of the Women of NACo and the National Organization of Black County Officials and has served as a NACo membership ambassador.

Commissioner Winfrey began her career in local government as a member of the Joliet, Ill.,Township Board and has served as a commissioner of the Will County, Ill. Board since 2009. A graduate of NACo's High Performance Leadership Academy, she earned a bachelor's degree from Lewis University and a master's degree from the American University School of Public Affairs. She has also conducted post graduate work at the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland at Case Western Reserve.

Darryl Ross

Darryl Ross, the keynote speaker at the general session on Thursday, Aug. 4, will inspire conference attendees to lead their counties during challenging times. For more than 15 years, Ross has found his passion motivating leaders and helping organizations improve their leadership, employee engagement, and customer experiences.

Ross, a graduate of James Madison University, began his career in broadcasting. Working as the entertainment reporter for KVVU Fox 5 News in Las Vegas, he covered the red carpet for the Billboard Music Awards, Country Music Awards, and the MTV Video Music Awards.

Ross's facilitation style is engaging, humorous, and highly interactive. He believes in the Walt Disney motto, "Laughter is no enemy of learning." He is certified in leadership through the Disney Institute and is the author of the book *Be the Light! — How Positive Projection Builds and Inspires an Extraordinary Workplace!*

SCAC's annual conference schedule has been arranged to maximize educational and networking opportunities for county officials. From workshops addressing current issues to caucus meetings and dynamic keynote speakers, this year's conference will offer a rich platform for county leaders to learn and make more informed decisions for their communities. *(See **Program at a Glance**, P. 2)*

The annual banquet will be held Wednesday

Dr. Peter Cressy

Denise Winfrey

Darryl Ross

evening when winners of the association's 2022 Awards Program will be announced. Institute of Government graduates will be recognized Wednesday during the opening session.

The opening session and award announcements during the annual banquet will be live streamed, as well as the general session on Thursday. County officials will receive more information via e-mail regarding how to participate in these sessions virtually. SCAC is grateful to Charleston County for its partnership in broadcasting conference sessions.

Institute classes will be held on Aug. 1 & 2.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@SCCounties

South Carolina Association of Counties

@SCCounties

Follow SCAC on social media to learn what's happening at the State House and how SCAC's programs and services can benefit your county. Share what's happening in your county. Let's promote the many ways our counties are making a positive difference for our citizens across the state.

Program at a Glance
for
SCAC's Annual Conference

Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms

Aug. 1 – Aug. 4, 2022

Monday, Aug. 1, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	**Registration**
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	**Institute of Government Classes**
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	**Institute of Government Classes**

Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	**Registration**
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	**Worship Service**
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	**Exhibit Area Open**
9:00 a.m. – Noon	**Institute of Government Classes**
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	**County Managers, Administrators and Supervisors' Business Meeting**
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	**Clerks to Council**
2:00 p.m.	**Nominating Committee**
2:30 p.m.	**Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee**
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	**S.C. Coalition of Black County Officials**
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	**President's/Corporate Partners' Reception**

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

8:30 a.m. – Noon	**Exhibit Area Open**
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	**Registration**
8:45 a.m. – Noon	**Probate Judges**
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	**Opening Session (Institute of Government Graduation)**
9:00 a.m. – Noon	**Clerks to Council**
10:00 a.m. – Noon	**Councils of Governments Executive Directors**
11:00 a.m. – Noon	**Rural Caucus and Urban Caucus Meetings**
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	**Workshops**
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	**Banquet (Ticket Required)**
8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.	**Dessert Reception**

Thursday, August 4, 2022

9:00 a.m.	**General Session**

Update on Federal and State Broadband Funding and Activities

In partnership with the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS), Office of Broadband Coordinator (SC Broadband Office), SCAC would like to provide an update on federal and state broadband funding and activities.

The Broadband Advisory Council was formed in the fall of 2021 to provide input and guidance on documented challenges to expediting broadband access in the state and the development of the SC Broadband Plan. The council membership consists of representatives from K-12 and higher education, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), including electric co-ops, libraries, nonprofits, economic development, hospitals, and local governments. SCAC staff co-chairs the Broadband Advisory Council.

Only qualified ISPs are eligible for federal and state funding for broadband infrastructure in South Carolina. Orangeburg County is the only county in the state that is currently deemed an ISP because of its grandfathered status in Act 284 of 2012. The remainder of South Carolina counties are not eligible to receive broadband funding from the state; however, several counties have deemed broadband a priority and have designated a portion of their ARPA funds to partner with ISPs on broadband deployment. This investment will significantly increase the number of residents and businesses that will have access to broadband in the county and will shorten the timeframe until broadband access will be available.

Below is a summary of the state and federal funding:

Rural Broadband Grant Program—In March 2021, the S.C. Joint Bond Review Committee approved the allocation of $30 million from the S.C. Department of Commerce to the ORS to administer an infrastructure grant program in 14 of the state's neediest counties (Eligible, Tier IV), and up to $7 million could be used in adjacent counties. With assistance from the S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, the ORS produced a map showing areas of need in the 14 eligible counties and 15 adjacent counties.

The ORS began accepting competitive grant applications for this program named the Rural Broadband Grant Program in May 2021 for projects on a 1:1 matching basis in collaboration with the S.C. Department of Commerce. By July 2021, the ORS issued Notices to Proceed to 18 ISPs in 19 counties for almost $30 million in projects to expand broadband availability in rural areas of need in South Carolina.

Projects were awarded in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Chester, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Fairfield, Georgetown, Hampton, Jasper, Lancaster, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Newberry, Orangeburg, and Williamsburg counties. All projects are scheduled for completion by October 31, 2022.

CARES II Funding and Grants—The S.C. General Assembly allocated $10 million of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding to ORS on July 1, 2021, to assist ISPs with the completion of broadband projects that were started in Fall 2020 but could not be completed within the original construction window ending.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Legislation Ratified—On May 13, 2022, Governor McMaster signed H.4408. This legislation is a significant authorization of State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds (SLFRF) as well as approval for the State to apply for the Capital Projects Fund for roads, water and sewer projects, and broadband. The Office of Broadband is authorized $400M for broadband infrastructure, which will be awarded through a grant process to ISPs in South Carolina. The grant program opened in June 2022.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) Released—Also, on May 13, 2022, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), released three separate NOFOs as part of its $45 billion investment in broadband. Gov. McMaster has 60 days to designate the Eligible Applicant (EA) for South Carolina. As of the time of this article, his designation has not yet been made. There is significant funding available to South Carolina both for infrastructure and digital equity/inclusion efforts. Separate applications are required for each of these funding pools and application requirements/approvals are significant. As a result, this funding will likely not be available until late 2023 at the earliest.

Broadband Equity, Access & Deployment Program (BEAD)—This federal program allocates a minimum of $100 million for broadband infrastructure for each state; however, applications need to be submitted to and approved by NTIA. Funds will not likely be available until late 2023 at the earliest. https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/broadband-equity-access-and-deployment-bead-program

Digital Equity Act (DEA)—This federal funding is for digital equity and inclusion efforts. No statewide amounts are pre-determined other than initial planning dollars; however, again, applications need to be submitted and approved by each state. Funding will likely not be available until late 2023 at the earliest. https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/digital-equity-programs

Middle Mile Infrastructure—The purpose of this funding
(Continued on next page)

is to extend middle mile capacity to reduce the cost of serving unserved and underserved areas and enhance network resilience. Middle Mile awards are expected by Q2-2023.
https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/resources/grant-programs/enabling-middle-mile-broadband-infrastructure-program

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the SC Office of Broadband Office staff at Broadband@ors.sc.gov or (803) 737-0800, or Anna Berger with SCAC at aberger@scac.sc or (803) 252-7255.

Dorchester County's Data-Driven Culture

By Jordyn M. Baker, Dorchester County Budget Analyst

As data analytics has swept the nation in recent years, the public sector is just waking up to the potential of analytics to improve the delivery of public services and build transparency and trust with citizens. While the concept of big data analytics in the public sector is not new, it has yet to be uniformly adopted at the local level. Dorchester County has embraced a data-driven culture by deploying one of the first analytic pilot projects in the Lowcountry.

The Dorchester County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Dashboard was recently launched on the county's website to enhance financial transparency and engage with citizens on current funding initiatives. The county spearheaded this project to enhance public trust in the allocation and spending of federal funding received as part of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program (SLFRF). The SLFRF program provided governments across the country with the resources needed to recover from the economic impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dorchester County has allocated $24.9 million of the roughly $31.6 million in funding received for various recovery efforts. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the push for digital transformation in government has been accelerated as citizens expect larger scales of transparency and outcomes. With increasing availability of low-cost tools, such as Microsoft's Power BI, and large volumes of data for analytics, the Business Services Department worked diligently to launch this project.

Microsoft's Power BI is a low-cost business intelligence software that provides user-friendly analytical tools, such as dashboarding and visualization, to allow for pattern analysis and interactive data insights. The county's overarching goal of the pilot project is to create an active dialog with council and citizens on an innovative platform that can track financial outcomes across various initiatives and increase the county's open data.
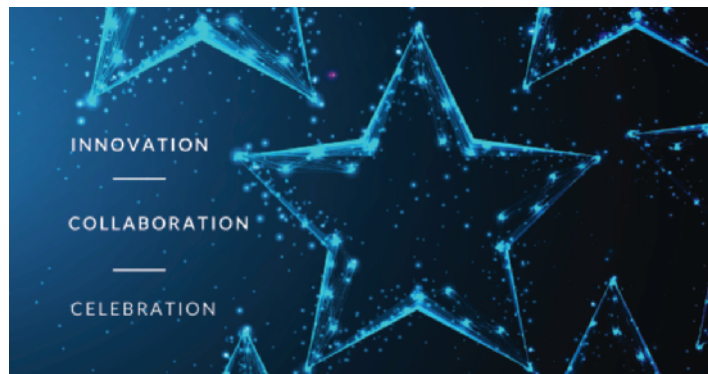
Power BI is utilized internally by the Business Services Department to assist in the creation of accurate financial forecasts by combining multiple data sources, which has proven successful. The successful internal application inspired the department to explore further application of the software, which led to the creation of the ARPA Dashboard.

Data science relies on experimentation, and the best organizations allow for creativity and innovative efforts. While Dorchester County has embraced the potential of data analytics, we have only begun to scratch the surface of possible applications in the public sector.

Dorchester COUNTY — American Rescue Plan Funding Initiatives

| DIRECT ASSISTANCE | CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS | CAPITAL ACQUISITION | COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS | COVID-19 |

$24.94M ARPA FUNDING ALLOCATED

$6.68M AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION

20 ARPA FUNDING INITIATIVES

ARPA Projects by Type

$1.68M (6.73%)
$7.61M (30.49%)
$14.92M (59.81%)

Projects by Type
- Community Enhancement Projects
- Capital Acquisition
- Capital Improvement Project
- Direct Assistance
- County COVID-19 Expenditures

Project Name	Approved Funding	Expended to Date	Balance Remaining
Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) Program	$535,063	$76,639	$458,424
Purchase Building Occupied by Alcohol and Drug Commission	$2,038,400	$2,038,400	$0
Purchase Ambulance for Infection Control Unit	$258,000	$0	$258,000
Purchase & Upfit of Building on Hwy 17 for Central Health & Human Services Complex	$3,050,000	$0	$3,050,000
Mobile Command Post	$573,913	$5,662	$568,251
Medical Facility in Western Dorchester County	$1,540,000	$0	$1,540,000
Matching Funds for Infrastructure Projects	$3,625,000	$3,625,000	$0
Law Enforcement Center Renovation Project	$1,044,741	$0	$1,044,741
Ladson Road Fire/EMS Station	$634,306	$117,518	$516,788
Funding for Future COVID-19 Materials/Supplies	$200,000	$28,421	$171,579
EMS Type II Ambulances	$214,868	$198,011	$16,857
Dorchester County Community Outreach - Construction of New Men's Shelter	$1,255,000	$0	$1,255,000
Community Resource Center	$40,000	$23,869	$16,131
COBRA Premium Assistance	$40,000	$5,402	$34,598
Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy and Department of Mental Health Partnership	$81,177	$19,508	$61,670
Clinician for Mental Health	$45,952	$0	$45,952
Total	**$24,944,753**	**$6,138,430**	**$18,806,324**

SCAC Live Streams 2022 Awards Program Competition on June 9th

SCAC held its 2022 Annual Awards Program Competition on June 9 and live streamed the presentations on the association's Facebook page and at SCCounties.org/livestream.

The following counties presented J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award (JMG) entries and Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award (BL) entries:

- Richland County
  Emergency Rental Assistance Program (JMG)
- Spartanburg County
  Litter Hero (BL)
- Marion County
  Amazing Grace Park (JMG)
- Abbeville, Greenwood and McCormick Counties
  MatTrans Regional Public Transportation Provider (BL)
- York County
  Bethel Lake Wylie Preservation Park District (JMG)

- Pickens County
  Pickens County Crisis Intercept Mapping for Suicide Prevention for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (JMG)
- Beaufort County
  Southern Lowcountry Stormwater Design Manual (BL)
- Pickens County
  Pickens County Drive-Thru Job Fairs (BL)
- Beaufort County
  Implementation of a Collection Center Decal System (JMG)
- Charleston County
  Emergency Rental Assistance Program (JMG)
- Anderson County
  Crisis as Opportunity: How Anderson County Emergency Medical Services Unified and Reinvented Itself during the Covid-19 Pandemic (JMG)
- Charleston County
  Charleston County Public Works Pavement Management: Titanium Dioxide Pilot Program (BL)
- Colleton County
  Pre-Hospital Whole Blood Administration by Paramedics (JMG)
- Dorchester County
  Ashley River Park (JMG)

The J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards recognize innovative projects completed by South Carolina's counties during the past fiscal year. Winners represent the best qualities of local government—attention to detail, service to citizens, efficient use of tax dollars, and improvement in the quality of life. They demonstrate how creative problem-solving and collaboration can achieve impressive results, and offer new ideas for other counties to consider.

The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges, implement operational improvements, or enhance their citizens' quality of life in a unique way.

The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award highlights the growing need for regional partnerships, strategies, and solutions. Competition for this award is open to two or more political subdivisions (counties or county partnerships formed with cities, towns, districts, or regional government organizations) that worked together on a project.

Winners of the J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award and the Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Award will be announced, and all entries will be recognized during SCAC's Annual Conference.

Pickens County Council Chairman Chris Bowers and Collaboration Manager Jessica Varney present their county's entry on Crisis Intercept Mapping for Suicide Prevention for Services Members, Veterans and their Families.

Lancaster County Opens New EMS Headquarters Facility

Lancaster County hosted a ribbon cutting on May 17 for its new $2.2 million EMS headquarters facility, housed in the old Founders Federal building on U.S. 521 between North Corner and S.C. 5.

Founders Federal Credit Union gave the 36-year-old, 19,000-square-foot building to the county in 2010 when consolidating multiple operations at its headquarters on Gillsbrook Road.

"It's been a long time coming for those of us who have been around for a while," said Lancaster County EMS Director Clay Catoe, quoted in The *Lancaster News* after the ceremony. "Without (Founders), this building would not be possible."

Catoe also thanked Steve Willis, who retired recently as Lancaster County ad-

ministrator, for working behind the scenes to get the headquarters built.

The county's EMS headquarters was previously housed for almost 40 years in the old, county-owned Gardner Nursing Home on Pageland Highway in Lancaster. The nursing home was built in 1937. Although EMS Station 1 remains at the previous EMS headquarters location on Pageland Highway, the county's new EMS headquarters has been moved to the new facility.

The construction of Lancaster County's new EMS headquarters facility was funded by a General Obligation Bond, approved by county council.

Two EMS stations, one in Heath

The upper photo shows Lancaster County council members, EMS staff members and others participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the county's new EMS headquarters, shown in the lower photo. (Photos by Greg Summers, *The Lancaster News*)

Springs and the other in Van Wyck, are scheduled to be built and funded by the county's third Capital Project Sales Tax, approved by voters in November 2020.

SC RIA Announces Sept. 12th Deadline for SCIIP/ARPA Grants

The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (SC RIA) recently announced that Sept. 12, 2022, is the application deadline for S.C. Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) and 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants.

SCIIP is a major one-time initiative to improve water, wastewater, and stormwater systems throughout the State using $900 million in federal funds allocated by ARPA. SCIIP offers a

SCAC Launches New Online Planning and Zoning Orientation Courses

SCAC has launched an updated online planning and zoning orientation course that consists of four modules. Each module lasts approximately 1.5 hours. Officials who complete all four modules will earn six hours of orientation training credit approved by the SC Planning Education Advisory Committee.

Planning and zoning officials in South Carolina are required by state law to complete a minimum of six hours of orientation training within one year of appointment or hiring. Thereafter, a minimum of three hours of continuing education training is required annually.

SCAC's planning and zoning training classes are offered at no cost to county planning and zoning officials. To access the courses, you can use your Member Portal credentials that you use to register for events and other training opportunities. If you do not have an account, you can create one at: SCCounties.site-ym.com/.

For additional information, visit SCAC's website at SCCounties.org/planning-zoning-education, or contact Ryan Tooley at rtooley@scac.sc.

NEWS BRIEFS

Awards Competition Presentations Available for Online Viewing
If your county is looking for inspiration for its next project, best practice, or operational improvement, check out SCAC's online Video Awards Library. The county innovations and successes presented at this year's J. Mitchell Graham and Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition may be viewed at SCCounties.org/awards/video-library.

SCAC would like to thank the participants in this year's competition. Winners for the 2022 J. Mitchell Graham and Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards will be announced during the Annual Conference Banquet on Aug. 3, 2022.

SCCCMA Meeting Update
County and city officials convened at the S.C. City County Managers Association (SCCCMA) meeting in June, where local government officials received some very timely and useful information. The S.C. Department of Transportation provided an update to include grant and funding opportunities for local government, the S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority discussed allocation of ARPA funds through S.C. Infrastructure and Investment Program (SCIIP) grants, and the S.C. Office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs provided a state economic and budget update. PowerPoint slides from these presentations are available on SCAC's website.

In further SCCCMA news, Marion County Administrator Tim Harper was elected the 2022-23 President of the S.C. City and County Management Association on June 18. SCAC congratulates Tim Harper!

Stay in Sync with SCAC's Annual Conference App
The Association is pleased to announce the SCAC Annual Conference App. The app contains the schedule, speaker information, exhibitor information, and maps of the venue. It updates automatically, making sure users always have the most current information right at their fingertips.

The app is free and available for download from the App Store or Google Play by searching for "Grupio". Once you've downloaded the Grupio app, simply search the app for "SCAC".

Opt-In Form Due By August 1 For New S.C. E-Waste Recycling Program
Counties or solid waste authorities can now opt-in to a new manufacturer-funded e-waste program. Manufacturers will fund the transportation and recycling of covered television and computer monitor devices of each county or solid waste authority that participates. Counties participating in programs offered by manufacturers must submit an opt-in form by August 1, to participate in the 2023 program year. For more information, please visit SCAC's website.

(Continued from previous page)

unique opportunity to make long-term capital improvements that will strengthen critical services to residents and businesses across the State, create more resilient communities, and build the capacity to support future opportunities for growth and economic development.

For more information, call SC RIA at (803) 737-0390 or visit ria.sc.gov/sciip/

SCAC's 2022 Conference Calendar

Aug. 1 & 2
Institute of Government
Aug. 3 & 4
Annual Conference, Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms

Aug. 17
Setoff Debt/GEAR, DoubleTree, Columbia

Oct. 19
Institute of Government
Oct. 20
County Council Coalition, Embassy Suites, Columbia

Nov. 18
S.C. Local Government Attorney's Institute, Virtual

Dec. 1 & 2
Legislative Conference, AC Hotel, Greenville

Dec. 8
Newly Elected Officials, DoubleTree, Columbia

NACo's 2023 Conference Calendar

Feb. 11 - 14
Legislative Conference, Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C.

July 21 - 24
Austim, Tex.

SCAC's New Location and Schedule for 2022 Annual Conference

SCAC's 2022 Annual Conference will be held Aug. 1-4, 2022, at the Wild Dunes Resort on Isle of Palms.

To receive the lowest room rate for county officials, the conference schedule has been modified. County officials received conference and hotel registration information, including details on accommodation options, in early spring.

2022 Annual Conference Schedule
Monday, Aug. 1 — Institute Classes
Tuesday, Aug. 2 — Institute Classes, Committee Meetings, Group Meetings, President's/Corporate Partners' Reception
Wednesday, Aug. 3 — Opening Session, Group Meetings, Caucus Meetings, Workshops, Banquet
Thursday, Aug. 4 — General Session

Information for SCAC's annual conference is available at SCCounties.org/conferences-and-meetings. The registration deadline is Friday, July 22.

Did You Know?
S.C. State Ethics Commission:

Did you know that it is a violation of the Ethics Act to use public resources to influence the outcome of an election? As election season nears, please remember that under Section 8-13-765 of the Ethics Act, "no person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Make sure that you aren't working on campaign activity, including campaign disclosures, during business hours.

S.C. State Ethics Commission
201 Executive Center Dr., Suite 150
Columbia, S.C. 29210
Office: (803) 253-4192 Fax: (803) 253-7539