



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Dwight L. Stewart Jr., President
Clarendon County

Michael B. Cone
Executive Director

Timothy C. Winslow
Executive Director – Elect

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOTE: Upon request, photos will be provided by e-mail.

Contact: Stuart Morgan
Public Information Director

SCAC PRESIDENT CHARLES T. JENNINGS PRESENTS PRESIDENT’S CUP TO McCORMICK COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COLUMBUS STEPHENS

SCAC President Charles T. Jennings (McCormick County Council Chairman) presented the President’s Cup — one of the Association’s highest honors — to McCormick County Administrator Columbus Stephens at the Association’s 52nd Annual Conference, held August 3 – 7.

The prestigious award was presented to Stephens on August 6th at SCAC’s annual awards banquet. Each year, SCAC honors the county official who has merited special recognition for service to county governments and assistance to Association’s president during the past year.

“This year’s recipient, Mr. Columbus Stephens, has contributed countless hours to county government and to his community during his 44-year career, which includes serving as McCormick County administrator for almost eight years,” said SCAC President Charles Jennings. “Mr. Stephens previously served as director of personnel/purchasing for Laurens County for 12 years, assistant county administrator for Newberry County for two years and as purchasing manager for Orangeburg County for three years.

“In addition to his county government service,” Jennings said, “Mr. Stephens devoted 19 years to working with the GLEAMNS Human Resources Commission, a non-profit agency—serving Greenwood, Laurens, Edgefield, Abbeville, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties—that promotes education, employment and life skills to help clients become self-sufficient. I believe Mr. Stephens would tell you this early period of his career, coupled with his faith and family, have helped shape him into who he is today.

“Known for his humble leadership,” Jennings said, “I can tell you that Mr. Stephens is a gentleman who fosters an environment where county staff and county council work as a cohesive team for the community. He’s an invaluable public servant to the South Carolina Association of Counties. He served several years on SCAC’s Legislative Committee, as well as the County Government and Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee, and the Land Use, Natural Resources and Transportation Steering Committee.

“Mr. Stephens stays apprised of legislative matters and encourages his council to communicate regularly with the county’s local delegation members,” he added. “Recognized by his peers as a leader, he has also served as president of the S.C. County Managers, Administrators and Supervisors’ Association.”

Stephens received his bachelor’s degree from Barber Scotia College, and graduated from SCAC’s Institute of Government of County Officials.

He serves as Deacon for Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

Stephens and his wife, Thelma, have two daughters and two grandchildren.

The SCAC, chartered on June 22, 1967, is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization whose membership includes all 46 counties in South Carolina. Governed by a 29-member board of directors elected each year by county officials at the Association’s annual conference, the SCAC is the only organization representing county governments in the state.

The Association provides a number of services, programs, and activities to county governments and their officials, including: research and technical assistance; education and training; legal assistance; policy development, advocacy, and legislative information; publications, including a magazine and newsletter; meetings and conferences; public information, including an annual directory and website; and financial services, including the S.C. Counties Workers’ Compensation Trust and S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust.

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