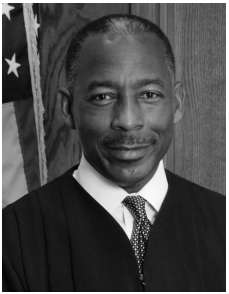
Judicial Department

Supreme Court

Supreme Court Bldg., 1231 Gervais St., Box 11330
Columbia 29211, Tel. (803) 734-1080
www.sccourts.org

The Supreme Court meets one or two weeks each month as scheduled by the Court. Members of the Court are elected by the General Assembly for terms of 10 years. The terms are staggered so that one member of the court is elected every two years.

DONALD W. "DON" BEATTY, Chief Justice, of Spartanburg. Term expires July 31, 2024. Address: P.O. Box 3543, Spartanburg 29304, Tel. (864) 596-3450, Fax (864) 596-2202



BEATTY, Donald W. "Don" (Spartanburg Co.)—*g.* S.C. State Univ., B.A., 1974; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1979; mem., City Council, City of Spartanburg, 1988–90; mil. serv.: Officer, USA; former mem.: Piedmont Legal Servs. Bd. of Dirs.; Spartanburg Residential Dev. Corp.; Southside Neighborhoods Assn. Partnership; BB&T Adv. Bd.; BMW minority Adv. Bd./BMW Construction Project; current mem., Sentencing Reform Comm.; Natl. Adv. Bd. of the Bryson Center for Judicial Science Educ.; Conference of Chief Justices Bd. of Dirs.; Natl. Courts and Sciences Institute Bd. of Dirs.; elected mem. of the American Law Institute; House of Reps., 1991–95; served as VC and Chm.-elect of the S.C. Legis. Black Caucus; Seventh Circuit Fee Dispute Resolution Com.; Sentencing Guidelines Comm.; Com. to Review S.C. Drug and Common Laws; Judge of the Seventh Circuit, 1995–03; Court of Appeals, 2003–07; elected to Supreme Court May 23, 2007 to fulfill unexpired term of E.C. Burnett, retired; qualified Aug. 10, 2007; re-elected Feb. 3, 2010; elected Chief Justice May 25, 2016, to fulfill unexpired term of Costa M. Pleicones, upon his retirement; assuming seat January 1, 2017.

Exec. Asst. . . . . . .Marjorie L. Jones
Counsel to the Chief Justice . . . . . .Dawn Przirembel
Law Clerks . . . . . .Karen Huelson
Erica Safran

JOHN WILLIAMSON KITTREDGE, Associate Justice, Seat 3, of Greenville. Term expires July 31, 2028. Home Address: 305 East North St., Suite 216, Greenville 29601, Tel. (864) 467-8593

KITTREDGE, John Williamson (Greenville Co.)—*b.* Sept. 28, 1956 in Greenville; *s.* the late E. H. Kittredge, Jr. and Marian J. Kittredge; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.S., *summa cum laude*, 1979, J.D., 1982; June 20, 1981 *m.* Lila Graham Hewell, 3 children, Lila Marian, Will, and Zay, 2 grandchildren; Phi Beta Kappa, Order of the Coif; Order of the Wig & Robe; past Pres., Crimestoppers of Greenville; past Chm., City of Greenville Civil Serv. Comm.; past mem., Gov.'s Com. on Criminal Justice, Crime & Delinquency; past Bd. mem. & VP, Greenville Tech. Coll. Foundation; past mem., S.C. Jt. Legis. Com. on Children; Gov.'s Juvenile Justice Task Force, 1995–98; First Presbyterian Church; Chm., Chief Justices Comm. on the Profession, 2008–; Natl. CALEA Comr., 2014–17; elected Family Court Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit, May 8, 1991 and served continuously until elected Judge at-large, Seat 11, Feb. 14, 1996; qualified May 3, 1996; served continuously until elected Judge of the Thirteenth Circuit May 6, 1998; qualified June 9, 1998, served continuously until elected Judge of the Court of Appeals, Seat 3, May 28, 2003–08, served continuously until elected Assoc. Justice of the Supreme Court, Seat 3, Feb. 6, 2008; qualified May 14, 2008, serving continuously since.
Admin. Asst. . . . . . .Dawn Koffskey
Law Clerks . . . . . .Katherine Heminger
Mozar Ross

KAYE G. HEARN, Associate Justice, Seat 4, of Conway. Term expires July 31, 2022. Home Address: P.O. Box 438, Conway 29528, Tel. (843) 915-8980

HEARN, Kaye Gorenflo (Horry Co.)—*b.* Jan. 30, 1950 in Delaware, Ohio; *d.* James F. and Kathleen (Haines) Gorenflo; *g.* Bethany Coll., B.A., *cum laude*, 1972; Univ. of S.C., J.D., *cum laude*, 1977; Univ. of Va., LL.M., 1998; Hon. Doctorate of Law, Charleston School of Law, 2010; Hon. Doctorate of Humanities, Francis Marion Univ., 2011; Hon. Doctorate of Law, Univ. of S.C., 2013; Feb. 16, 1980 *m.* George M. Hearn, 1 child, Kathleen Wrenn; Order of the Wig and Robe; recipient, Amer. Jurisprudence Award, Conflict of Laws; Legal Writing Instructor; law clerk to the Honorable J. B. Ness, Assoc. Justice of the S.C. Supreme Court, 1977–79; private law practice, 1979–86; mem., Bd. of Bar Examiners, 1984–86; Horry Co. Family Court Judge, 1986–95; Pres., S.C. Conf. of Family Court Judges, 1992–93; S.C. Trial Lawyers Assn.'s Portrait Honoree, 2004; Pres., Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal, 2005–06; mem., St. Anne's Episcopal Church; elected Judge of the Court of Appeals Mar. 21, 1995–Feb. 2000; elected Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals June 2, 1999 to fulfill the unexpired term of Chief Judge William T. Howell, retired; qualified May 4, 1999; elected Assoc. Justice of the Supreme Court, Seat 4, May 13, 2009 to succeed John H. Waller, retired; qualified Jan. 1, 2010, serving continuously since.

Admin. Asst. . . . . . Denise S. McLean
Law Clerks . . . . . Brian Critzer
Taylor Voegel

JOHN CANNON FEW, Associate Justice, Seat 2, of Greenville. Term expires July 31, 2026. Address: 1231 Gervais St., Columbia 29201

FEW, John Cannon (Berkeley Co.)—*b.* Apr. 9, 1963 in Anderson; *s.* J. Kendall and Belva Beasley Few; *g.* Duke Univ., B.A., 1985; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1988; 3 children, Reed, Anna, and Cannon; Judge of the Thirteenth Circuit, Seat 2, 2000–10; Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, 2010–16; elected to Supreme Court, Feb. 3, 2016.

Admin. Asst. . . . . . .Kendall P. Crawford
Law Clerks . . . . . .Maura A. Greg
Sarah C. Frierson

GEORGE C. "BUCK" JAMES, JR., Associate Justice, Seat 5, of Sumter. Term expires July 31, 2030. Address: P.O. Box 1716, Sumter 29151, Tel. (803) 436-2150

JAMES, George C. "Buck", Jr. (Sumter Co.)—*b.* June 2, 1960 in Savannah, Ga.; *s.* the late George C. James and Ren F. James; *g.* The Citadel, B.S., 1982; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1985; *m.* Mar. 22, 1986, 2 children; private practice, firm of Richardson, James & Player, 1985–00; Partner, firm of Lee, Erter, Wilson, James, Holler & Smith, LLC, 2000–06; Judge of the Third Circuit, Seat 2, Feb. 15, 2006–17; elected Assoc. Justice of the Supreme Court, Seat 5, Feb. 1, 2017 to succeed Donald W. Beatty, elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Admin. Asst. . . . . . .Debbie Flinchum
Law Clerks . . . . . .Austin Reed
Fred Hanna

Clerk's Office—Supreme Court

Supreme Court Bldg., P.O. Box 11330
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Clerk . . . . . .Daniel E. Shearouse
Chief Dep. Clerk . . . . . .Brenda F. Shealy

Library—Supreme Court Building, 2nd Floor

Custodian . . . . . .The Clerk
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Reporter of Decisions . . . . . .Jason M. Bobertz

Staff Attorney's Office—Supreme Court Building

Chief Staff Atty. . . . . . .Becky Hunter
Dep. Chief Staff Atty. . . . . . .Stephen Foster

Court Administration

1220 Senate St., Suite 200
Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-1800

Dir. . . . . . .Tonnya K. Kohn

Commission on Lawyer Conduct

1220 Senate St., Calhoun Bldg., Suite 305
Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-2037

The Commission is empowered and charged to receive, inquire into, take proofs, make findings, and submit recommendations to the Supreme Court concerning practices of members of the Bar of this State.

Chm. . . . . . .Christopher Isgett
Comm. Counsel . . . . . .Deborah S. McKeown
Admin. Asst. . . . . . .Barbara W. Hinson

Commission on Judicial Conduct

1220 Senate St., Calhoun Bldg., Suite 305
Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-1965

The Commission is empowered and charged to receive, inquire into, take evidence, make findings, and submit recommendations to the Supreme Court concerning allegations of misconduct by or incapacity of judges who are part of the S.C. Unified Court System.

Chm. . . . . . .Thomas W. Cooper, Jr.
Active/Retired Circuit Court Judge

Comm. Counsel . . . . . .Deborah S. McKeown
Admin. Asst. . . . . . .Jody Gilham

Office of Disciplinary Counsel

1220 Senate St., Suite 309
Columbia 29201, Tel. (803) 734-2038

Investigates and prosecutes allegations of misconduct and incapacity concerning lawyers and judges and performs other duties imposed by the Rules for Lawyer and Judicial Disciplinary Enforcement.

Disciplinary Counsel . . . . . .John Nichols
Dep. Disciplinary Counsel . . . . . .Carey Markel

Commission on Continuing Legal Education & Specialization

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Chm. . . . . . .Debbie W. Durban
Dir. . . . . . .Mary Germack
Asst. Dir. . . . . . .Brenton G. Burry