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**Subject:** Columbia Chamber 113th Annual Gala  
**Location:** Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln St, Columbia, S.C.  
**When:** 9/24/2015 7:00:00 PM - 9:00:00 PM  
**Attachments:** ATT44370  
ATT34661  
ATT90546

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Advance: Brandon Landrum  
(803)260-0783

**APPROVED BY: NH**

**EVENT:** Columbia Chamber 113th Annual Gala

**DATE:** Thursday, September 24, 2015

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln St, Columbia, S.C.  
VIP Reception – Upstairs, prefunction area, to the right when you walk in the doors.  
Dinner - Exhibit Hall, First Floor.

**LOCATION SET-UP:** Roundtables, stage, podium, microphone, head table (see below)

**HEAD TABLE:**

1. Gov. Haley
2. Mr. Haley
3. Ashton Lee
4. Carl Blackstone
5. Mary Addison Blackstone
6. Boyd Jones, NBSC and Chairman, Columbia Chamber
7. Lisa Jones
8. Karen Smith – TD Bank (Leading Sponsor)
9. TD Bank Rep TBD

**ATTIRE:** Black Tie Optional. Last year, it was about 50/50 short to long dresses for women.

**SCHEDULING CONTACT:**

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**PRIMARY STAFF:** Ashton Lee

**ADVANCE STAFF:** Zach Pippin

**PURPOSE:** Governor Haley will be awarded the 2015 Columbia Chamber Ambassador of the Year at the Columbia Chamber of Commerce's 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala.

**PRESS:** Yes.

**PUBLIC:** Yes.

**INVITED BY:**

Carl Blackstone  
President & CEO  
Columbia Chamber

**INTRODUCED BY:** Boyd Jones, NBSC and Chairman, Columbia Chamber

**LENGTH OF SPEAKING:** 10 mins of remarks

**SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE:**

5:30 PM	VIP Reception
6:00 PM	Gala Reception
6:45 PM	Guests Begin To Move Into the Exhibit Hall for Dinner
6:45 PM	Special Music Clayton Melson
7:10 PM	Governor Haley Arrives
7:15 PM	Presentation of Colors – South Carolina Department of Public Safety
7:18 PM	National Anthem
7:21 PM	Welcome – Mary King
7:25 PM	Invocation – Rev. Ronnie Brailsford, Sr. Columbia AME Church
7:27 PM	Welcome (begin eating salads) – Carl Blackstone
7:32 PM	Presenting Sponsor Message – BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina
7:37 PM	Sponsor Recognition - Mary King
7:40 PM	Dinner (Clayton Melson)
8:10 PM	Diplomat of the Year Award Recognition
8:15 PM	Young Professional of the Year Award Recognition
8:20 PM	Small & Minority Business Advocate of the Year Award Recognition
8:25 PM	Military Advocates of the Year Award Recognition
8:30 PM	Annual Report Video
8:35 PM	Chairman's Message – Boyd Jones

8:40 PM Introduction and Messages of the Ambassador of the Year Sponsor

8:50 PM Ambassador of the Year Remarks – Governor Haley

9:00 PM Closing Remarks - Mary King

9:00 PM Gov. Haley Departs

9:00 PM Celebration Reception

10:00 PM Reception Ends

**BACKGROUND:**

**TALKING POINTS:**

**PREVIOUS AMBASSADORS OF THE YEAR:**

2014 Harris Pastides

2013 Lou and Bill Kennedy

2012 Charles D. Beaman, Jr.

2011 Ray Tanner

2010 Ed Sellers

2009 Jim Apple

2008 Bill Boyd

2007 Lee Bussell

2006 Cathy Novinger

2005 Dr. Andrew Sorensen

2004 Mayor Bob Coble

2003 Charlie Cole

2002 John Lumpkin

2001 Charlotte Berry

2000 Bob Staton

1999 Marvin Chernoff

1998 Isadore E. Lourie

1997 Hootie & The Blowfish

1996 Joel A. Smith, III

1995 Joe M. Anderson

1994 G. Cameron Todd

1993 Charles P. Austin

1992 William B. Harley

1991 Frank W. Smith

1990 John A. Warren

1989 Thomas N. Bagnel

1988 James C. Leventis

1987 O. Stanley Smith, Jr.

1986 Robert V. Royall

1985 Robert E. McNair

1984 Dr. James B. Holderman

1983 Maj. Gen. Albert B. Akers

1982 Kirkman Finlay

1981 George Rogers

1980 Jennie Dreher

1979 Donald F. Barton

1978 Robert C. Davis

1977 Dr. William C. Cantey

1976 Dr. Thomas Jones

1975 Al Rose

1974 J. Willis Cantey

1973 Lester L. Bates  
1972 Frank McGuire

**ROOM LAYOUT DIAGRAM:**