

Keynote Speaker

Nikki R. Haley

Governor of South Carolina

Nikki R. Haley was elected the 116th governor of the State of South Carolina in 2010. She is the first female governor in SC history and is also the youngest governor in the nation.



Haley began her career in public service when she was first elected to represent the 87th District in Lexington County in 2004 defeating the state's longest-serving legislator in the Republican primary. In 2008 she was re-elected to a second term with 83 percent of the vote.

Governor Haley played a pivotal role in securing the Royal Bank of Canada as the sponsor for the RBC Heritage presented by Boeing, helping to secure the tournament's sponsorship for the next five years.

Haley is a South Carolina native and graduate of Clemson University with a B.S in accounting. Her first job was bookkeeping for her family's clothing store at the age of 13. Following college, Gov. Haley worked in accounting management for FCR, Inc. and its five subsidiaries based in Charlotte, NC, before returning to her family business where she helped oversee its growth into a multi-million dollar operation.

Governor Haley's husband Michael is a full-time federal technician with the SC National Guard and an officer in the Army National Guard. They have two children, Rena, 14 and Nalin, 11.



**HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Today's Speakers

Drew Laughlin

Mayor, Town of Hilton Head Island

Drew Laughlin is serving his first term as mayor after serving on Hilton Head Island Town Council from 2003-2010. He is a former chairman of the Town's Planning Commission and Corridor Review Commission. Laughlin is a past-president of the Hilton Head Plantation Property Owners' Association, and served on the Hilton Head No. 1 Public Service District Board of Commissioners, among other government committees and civic organizations. Laughlin is a partner in the firm of Laughlin & Bowen, P.C.



Lisa Sulka

Mayor, Town of Bluffton

Lisa Sulka is serving her second term as mayor after serving as the mayor pro-tem for the Bluffton Town Council. Sulka has been a Lowcountry resident for 33 years and is a graduate of Clemson University. She was part of the original sales team for Hampton Hall and is currently a realtor with Carson Realty. Sulka serves on the board for the SC Association of Mayors, and is actively involved with the Bluffton Boys & Girls Club, Bluffton High School Athletics, and a participant of Riley Institute at Furman's Diversity Leaders Initiative.



Paul Sommerville

Chairman, Beaufort County Council

Paul Sommerville currently serves as chairman of the Beaufort County Council. Sommerville is a graduate of Duke University with a background in labor relations, working as a management consultant. A Beaufort native, Sommerville first took the oath of office in 2007 and was elected vice chairman in 2009 under former Chairman Weston Newton. Sommerville previously served as chairman of council's Natural Resources Committee as well as a member of the Community Services and Finance committees.

