

Title: **Could USC's decision to pay Spurrier prove costly?**  
 Author: BY ANDREW SHAIN ashain@thestate.com  
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# Could USC's decision to pay Spurrier prove costly?

Some state lawmakers say USC's budget requests could take a hit

Fight is on for supporters of Vice President Joe Biden

Most S.C. GOP congressmen plan to back Paul Ryan as House speaker

BY ANDREW SHAIN  
 ashain@thestate.com

The University of South Carolina's choice to keep paying former head coach **Steve Spurrier** after he resigned this month could become – pardon the pun – a political football in next year's budget talks, some state lawmakers say.

"It could be hard to get support for a bond bill (with university projects) and for other needs," said Sen. **John Courson**, a Richland Republican and USC graduate who chairs the state

Senate's higher education budget-writing panel. "This type of thing makes things more difficult."

Courson, who joked he has been called the senator from Carolina, said he would not have kept paying Spurrier when the coach stepped down Oct. 12 in the middle of his 11th season in Columbia.

"That's what I would do in my business," Courson said. "But that's their call."

USC's winningest coach

left after blaming himself for the team's 2-4 start.

Spurrier earns \$4 million a year – \$1 million in school pay and \$3 million in proceeds from agreements with the school's uniform supplier, Under Armour, and radio broadcaster, IMG.

Spurrier is scheduled to receive almost \$1.3 million in school pay and outside compensation through the end of the year, according to his contract. The former Gamecocks coach will do some appearances and help

with fundraising, a USC spokesman said.

State Rep. **Chip Limehouse**, a Charleston Republican and USC graduate who is first vice chair of the House budget-writing committee, expects some lawmakers to use the school's decision to pay Spurrier to score points when the university makes requests for extra money. Last year, the university initially asked for \$51 million in extra state money for various projects. USC received about \$9.5

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But the school will have a simple answer, he added.

The money used to pay Spurrier does not come from state coffers. The athletic department is a self-sufficient operation that gets its money from contracts, tickets sales and athletic conference revenue.

Still, Limehouse - who called Spurrier a friend - added he would not have kept paying the ball coach.

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Gov. **Nikki Haley** said last week she would not step into the debate about paying Spurrier for a job he no longer holds.

"That's a USC decision, that's a USC board decision, and that's a USC alum decision," she said. "It's not mine."

Really? As governor, Haley is an member of the USC board of trustees. She has appointed Lexington attorney **Tommy Cofield**

as her designee, but the governor would chair any trustee meeting she attends, according to state law.

That said, the USC board did not have a say in keeping Spurrier on the payroll. Athletic Director **Ray Tanner** made the call with the support of university President **Harris Pastides**.

## THE RUSH FOR BIDEN'S BACKERS

**The Buzz** is a look back at the week in politics, compiled by reporters at The State.

Four top S.C. supporters of **Joe Biden** said they have not chosen a new favorite in the days since the vice president decided not to seek the Democratic nod for president.

The quartet said they received calls last week from the long-shot campaign of former Maryland Gov. **Martin O'Malley**.

Former U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission chairwoman **Inez Tenenbaum** said she got a call from O'Malley himself. "He talked about how he could win the campaign, and he talked about education," said Tenenbaum, a former S.C. superintendent of edu-

cation.

State Rep. **James Smith**, a Richland Democrat who met with Biden last week, said he expects to chat with O'Malley next week.

Among four S.C. Biden fans, only state Sen. **Gerald Malloy**, D-Darlington, said he had heard from a representative of **Hillary Clinton**.

**Dick Harpootlian**, who was invested in a possible Biden run and backed Barack Obama over Clinton in 2008, doubts he will hear from the camp of the 2016 Democratic front-runner.

"Things have been acrimonious," the former S.C. Democratic Party chairman said.

## S.C. SPEAKS UP FOR PAUL RYAN

U.S. Rep. **Paul Ryan**, R-Wis., has the backing of more than half of South Carolina's six GOP congressmen in his bid to become House speaker.

U.S. Reps. **Jeff Duncan** of Laurens, **Trey Gowdy** of Spartanburg, **Mark Sanford** of Charleston and **Joe Wilson** of Springdale all say they will vote for the former Republican vice presidential nominee in this week's election of a new House speaker.

"I believe that a Ryan

speakership represents the best opportunity for conservative members to have their voices heard, to advance conservative policy, and to restore unity to the House Republican Conference," said Sanford, a member of the Freedom Caucus, which played a role in pushing out Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

Duncan, another Freedom Caucus member, also plans to back Ryan.

"We may disagree on some policy issues and some tactics, but at the end of the day I believe that he is an honest broker," Duncan said. "He is someone whom I believe the conservative members of the House Freedom Caucus could work with to move the conservative agenda."

Efforts to get an answer from the offices of U.S. Reps. **Mick Mulvaney** of Indian Land, who also is in Freedom Caucus, and **Tom Rice** of Myrtle Beach were unsuccessful.

## 2016 IN SC

**Hillary Clinton**: The Democratic front-runner will headline the Charleston branch of the NAACP's Freedom Fund Banquet at 7 p.m. Friday at the North Charleston Convention Center

Title: **Haley: S.C. to rebuild, though costs unknown**  
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# Haley: S.C. to rebuild, though costs unknown

The floods will likely be the costliest disaster since Hurricane Hugo in 1989

Haley has been praised for how she handled the historic flooding across the state

The Associated Press

## COLUMBIA

As Gov. Nikki Haley seeks to rebuild her state after a history-making storm ravaged South Carolina earlier this month, she keeps returning to the memory of seeing raging floodwaters in the capital city.

In an interview with The Associated Press the governor said she had prayed to keep the people of her state safe amid the destruction.

"The idea the water was up that high was terrifying," the governor told The Associated Press on Wednesday in a 20-minute interview in her office, recalling the sight of roaring floodwaters more than 25 feet above normal on the Congaree River, reaching almost to the top of

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THE COMPASSION, THE PAIN THAT PEOPLE OF THIS STATE HAVE GONE THROUGH HAS JUST EATEN TO MY CORE. IT IS SOMETHING THAT SITS WITH ME EVERY DAY.

Nikki Haley

a Columbia bridge. "My thought was - how many people couldn't get out."

Now, as the recovery from the floods that drowned 12 South Carolinians continues, political considerations are emerging.

Chief will be how to pay for repairs. There have been no official damage estimates, but the floods will likely be the costliest disaster since Hurricane Hugo in 1989, which did \$13.5 billion of damage to the U.S. in inflation adjusted dollars, most of it in South Carolina.

Haley says she can't know how it will be paid for until the damage estimate is in.

She insists she will keep her promise to repair everything that broke or washed

away, but needs to know the bill and how much the Federal Emergency Management Agency will pay before figuring out how the state will find the money.

"We're going to do the assessments. We're going to see what FEMA takes care of. We're going to see what the state needs to do after that. I'm not touching any of the reserve (funds) because we don't have to at this point and time. If that changes, we will deal with that," Haley said Wednesday.

Lawmakers have almost universally praised the governor for her handling of the floods. But some wonder if the infrastructure damage was made worse because

roads and bridges aren't being maintained.

Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter thinks the governor can extend the compassion she has for flood victims or the people affected by the church shooting to the poor in South Carolina looking for health care. Under Haley, the state has refused to take federal money to expand Medicaid.

"I think the governor has shown tremendous leadership. I appreciate the fact she recognizes South Carolina can't do this alone and there is a role for the federal government to play," said Cobb-Hunter, D-Orangeburg.

Haley, however, said her positions on her core issues have not changed.

"We have gone through tragedies over this past year. But my philosophical ideas have not changed," Haley said. "Just my experiences have."

The damage and the deaths have prompted Haley to display more emotion in public than she might want. Tears came to her eyes as she spoke to reporters in the days after the June shootings at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. She looks pained in photos taken flying over the flooded state.

"I think that I'm stronger than I realized. I think I am much more emotional now than I used to be," Haley said.

Title: **Crisis averted, it's time to get back to work on rural schools solution**  
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**CINDI ROSS SCOPPE**  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

# ***Crisis averted, it's time to get back to work on rural schools solution***

**D**EEP BREATH: We have stepped back from the precipice on which our government had been teetering since Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Leatherman and House Speaker Jay Lucas declared a Supreme Court enforcement order unconstitutional and vowed to ignore it.

Though there remain I's to dot and T's to cross, two important developments this week should allow legislators to resume work toward changing the curricula, governance, focus and funding of our public schools so that they provide a decent education to all children — even those who live in the 40 rural school districts concentrated in what has come to be known as the Corridor of Shame. That work was threatened as the legislative and judicial branches stared each other down over who had what authority.

The impasse grew out of the Supreme Court's Sept. 24 enforcement order requiring the Legislature and Gov. Nikki Haley to jointly appoint a member to a panel to review an education "plan" that it ordered the state to present the court by Feb. 1. The order provided teeth to the nearly year-old *Abbeville*

*v. South Carolina* school adequacy decision, which found that the state had failed in its constitutional duty to provide a decent education to all children and told lawmakers to work with the 40 plaintiff districts to craft a remedy.

The political problems with the enforcement order are huge, as is always the case when people are told to do something they don't want to do, particularly if they're used to doing the telling instead of being told. The likely constitutional problems are more discrete: creating a panel that seems to have legislative authority, and allowing it, and the court, to review something that isn't a law — thereby, potentially interfering in the lawmaking process.

On Monday, the state filed a motion asking the court to vacate that order. That step, which gives the court the vehicle it needs to change its order, should have been automatic. But some officials were adamantly against filing anything, since that suggested they were not actually ignoring the order.

Beyond filing the motion, it's encouraging that there is nothing in that motion that suggests the court overstepped its author-

ity in the 2014 decision that told the state to fix the schools. In fact, the otherwise-outrageous letter that Messieurs Lucas and Leatherman fired off to Chief Justice Jean Toal last month rejecting the legitimacy of the enforcement order actually acknowledged the legitimacy of the *Abbeville* decision.

The second important development occurred on Wednesday, when the school districts asked the court to eliminate the expert panel and the Feb. 1 deadline. Instead, they suggest the court appoint its own expert to help it evaluate the Legislature's actions, which it clearly has authority to do, and order the state to produce a program — that is, a law — by the end of the 2016 legislative session, in June. This marks a dramatic show of faith in the Legislature's good intentions, and it leaves the court with no reason to maintain those parts of the enforcement order that so irritated legislators.

Of course, the Legislature doesn't want any deadline, and I sort of wish that if the court must set a deadline, it would be merely for a progress report. Eliminating deadlines takes

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away an excuse for anger and obstruction from those legislators who are inclined to be angry and obstructionist. And the court can always impose one later, if the reform plans being crafted by House and Senate panels get bogged down.

At the same time, though, legislative leaders have already said they won't obey the order, and they insist that they are working diligently to craft a solution — and it looks like at least the House is making good progress. So even if the court simply adopts the plaintiffs' proposal, there is no reason the state can't render the deadline

moot, by passing a law before it is ordered to do so.

I can't overstate how important it is that the two sides in the lawsuit — and particularly the plaintiffs — would take these steps, because the Legislature's objection was of a far different character than the objections we normally hear to court orders.

The court has ways to force local governments and businesses and individuals to do what it orders them to do. It has no ways to force the legislative and executive branches to do what it orders *them* to do. Even if the justices were willing to hold Sen. Leatherman and Rep. Lucas and Gov. Haley in con-

tempt, who would arrest them? The Bureau of Protective Services, the Highway Patrol and SLED all think they work for the governor.

Now, all that remains is for the court to accept the gift that the plaintiffs have given it — and us. Well, that and for the Legislature to actually follow through by passing the law or laws needed to deliver on the promise our constitution makes to provide a decent education to all children in our state.

*Ms. Scoppe can be reached at [cscoppe@thestate.com](mailto:cscoppe@thestate.com) or at (803) 771-8571.*

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**THE RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS' MOTION MARKED A DRAMATIC SHOW OF FAITH IN THE LEGISLATURE'S GOOD INTENTIONS.**





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## THE BUZZ

# The political costs of Spurrier's pay deal

**T**he University of South Carolina's choice to keep paying former head coach **Steve Spurrier** after he resigned this month could become – pardon the pun – a political football in next year's budget talks, some state

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"It could be hard to get support for a bond bill (with university projects) and for other needs," said Sen. **John Courson**, a Richland Republican and USC graduate who chairs the state Senate's higher education budget-writing

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## BUZZ

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"I believe that a Ryan speakership represents the best opportunity for conservative members to have their voices heard, to advance conservative policy and to restore unity to the House Republican Conference," said Sanford.



MATT WALSH [mwalsh@thestate.com](mailto:mwalsh@thestate.com)

Former USC coach Steve Spurrier reflects on his career after resigning earlier this month.



BY ANDREW SHAIN  
[ashain@thestate.com](mailto:ashain@thestate.com)

Title: **Thousands of dams avoid SC inspections**  
 Author: BY SAMMY FRETWELL sfretwell@thestate.com  
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# Thousands of dams avoid SC inspections

**State has 10,000 to 20,000 unregulated dams**

**Some failed during the historic storm this month**

**Experts suggest putting some smaller dams under state regulation**

BY SAMMY FRETWELL  
 sfretwell@thestate.com

Thousands of dams across South Carolina go uninspected by state regulators every year because the structures aren't considered significant enough to warrant government oversight.

But experts say some of these unregulated dams pose risks to people and property if they fail – particularly in urban areas like Columbia, where a massive rain storm Oct. 4 broke numerous dams. During the historic flooding, as many as 23

**SEE DAMS, 12A**

## At thestate.com

**More photos and a video:** A Minnesota transplant wonders why S.C. would let dams that could affect public safety and property go unregulated

**FROM PAGE 1A**

## DAMS

dams in the Columbia area buckled under the pressure of rushing water, contributing to the overall flooding that swamped homes, washed out roads and forced evacuations of neighborhoods.

State officials acknowledge that at least four of those dams were not regulated by the state, including a northeast Richland dam believed to have sent water gushing down Jackson Creek toward Decker Boulevard and into Cary Lake. The dam holding back water at 56-acre Cary Lake also burst during the storm.

Unregulated dams are a problem in many places, experts say.

"There probably are hundreds if not thousands of dams out there (nationally) that are currently unregulated that ought to be regulated for one rea-

son or another," said Bruce Tschantz, a former chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's dam safety office.

Across the state, the S.C. Emergency Management Division estimates there are 10,000 to 20,000 dams that are not regulated by government dam safety programs. The figure is down from the 48,000 estimate the agency once gave, but still significant in light of the number of dams the state does regulate.

All told, South Carolina oversees safety on 2,400 dams that fall under its regulatory program because they reach a specific height or hold a certain amount of water. Federal agencies oversee a handful of major dams, such as at Lake Murray, as well as those on the Army's Fort Jackson training base.

In the Columbia area's

Gills Creek watershed, where more than 100,000 people live, a recent consulting report said more than 100 lakes dot the area stretching from northeast Richland to areas southeast of Columbia.

But many of the dams holding back those lakes

apparently receive no state oversight. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' national dam inventory lists just 112 regulated dams in all of Richland County, nearly one-quarter of which are in the Gills Creek watershed.

Not all unregulated dams are dangerous, said Tschantz and Steve Bradley, who led South Carolina's dam safety program before retiring about four years ago. Like Tschantz, Bradley said some of those dams hold back small farm ponds or aren't near enough people

to be a threat if they broke.

Still, Bradley agreed that some dams not regulated and inspected by the state deserve scrutiny. He estimated up to 1,000 unregulated dams in South Carolina could use some level of oversight by government agencies.

Bradley recalled that while he was running the dam safety program at the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, he would look at aerial photographs at times and think, "we ought to be regulating this dam."

A DHEC spokeswoman said last week that the department is working with an engineering consultant to determine whether some dams not under its authority should be regulated.

That could prove difficult.



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Bradley said the agency barely has enough people to keep up with the dams it does regulate. At one point during his tenure, Bradley said, he was the only staff member at DHEC specifically overseeing dams.

Asked about the possibility of putting more dams under state regulation, Bradley said: "I don't know how you could."

#### CASH-STRAPPED PROGRAM

DHEC has in recent years had one of the most poorly funded dam safety offices in the country.

The state program was robust when it was part of the old Land Resources Commission, former officials say. But when the Legislature restructured government in the early 1990s, the dam safety program was put under DHEC's control.

The program began to suffer from budget cuts and gradually eroded, Bradley and other former dam safety officials said. In 2014, the program had a budget of \$260,000, according to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. DHEC said the agency had \$453,000 budgeted for its dam safety program in 2014-15.

The lack of resources led to criticism that DHEC wasn't keeping close track of dams the agency reg-

ulates.

In the wake of this month's floods, Gov. Nikki Haley and DHEC officials say they now are reviewing the program after more than three dozen dams failed across South Carolina. The agency has hired HDR Engineering, an international engineering and architectural company, to help it assess the dam safety program and any needed improvements.

Under South Carolina law, the state only regulates dams that are at least 25 feet tall or hold back at least 50 acre-feet, or 16.3 million gallons, of water. Those that don't meet those requirements are not regulated, unless state officials believe smaller dams and lakes threaten public safety, Read said.

When dams are regulated, the state is supposed to inspect the dams periodically and recommend improvements if it finds problems.

Without regulation, the maintenance and stability of a dam is up to the people who own them.

Sometimes, that falls on property owners associations that don't always have the time or the money to properly manage dams, experts say.

That's the case on parts of Gills Creek, where most dams are privately owned and maintained by people

who live along a string of lakes.

Gills Creek Watershed director Erich Miarka said the state should consider bringing unregulated dams in urban areas under government oversight because of the potential risk to people and property.

Those smaller dams can still have painful impacts on adjacent property if they fail, Miarka and

SEE DAMS, 13A

## Unregulated dams in SC

*South Carolina has 10,000 to 20,000 dams that are not regulated or inspected by the state government, officials say. South Carolina regulates 2,400 dams. Here's a list of regulated dams, ranked by the top counties.*

4. Aiken

114

5. Lexington

112

6. Richland

112

6. Calhoun

105

8. Edgefield

95

9. Chesterfield

92

10. Laurens

— SOURCE: U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NATIONAL INVENTORY OF DAMS

151

1. Greenville

147

2. Spartanburg

142

3. Orangeburg

141

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Tschantz agreed.

"Every dam should be regulated if you are in what is considered an urban setting, or if you are maybe less than a mile upstream from an urban setting, something like that," Miarka said. "There should at least be a record of the dam somewhere."

Bradley said he remembers an unregulated dam in the Orangeburg area that flooded a nearby highway. The dam had an emergency spillway, used to carry away excess water after heavy rains, into the highway.

After a heavy rain, the excess water caused traveling cars to hydroplane, he said. Bradley said the dam design would not have been allowed if it had been regulated.

"That owner should have been responsible for redirecting the flow of water," Bradley said.

## PINE TREE BLOWOUT

Among the unregulated dams that failed during the Oct. 4. storm was the Pine Tree Dam, a tree-covered earthen structure in northeast Richland County off Trenholm Road Extension.

Several property owners who live on Pine Tree Lake said they tried to take care of the dam through the years, but it was not easy.

Some of the work included managing water levels in the lake, which involves manually pulling open floodgates to release water. That's important to keep water from overtopping and eroding the

dam during storms.

Paul Lawrence, a Yorkhouse Road resident, said lakeside landowners were unwilling to put up money for management of the dam and lake. Lawrence said he is the former president of a lakeside property owners group that recently disbanded.

"Everybody wants to live on the lake, but no one wanted to take responsibility for it," Lawrence said.

It was unclear whether anyone tried to lower water levels in the 13-acre lake before the Oct. 4 storm to reduce pressure on the dam.

It also is not known when the dam actually broke. Early reports indicated the dam broke the morning of Oct. 4, but some property owners around the lake are now saying the dam broke later in the afternoon.

Either way, the failure of the dam sent water pouring out of Pine Tree Lake and down Jackson Creek above Decker Boulevard. One resident who lives just below the dam had extensive damage to her home, although it isn't known whether the failed dam or water overtopping the structure did the most damage.

Decker, a major connection between Two Notch Road and Interstate 77, suffered some of the most significant flooding in the storm.

On Decker, people were trapped in cars as flood waters rose Oct. 4. Fire and rescue officials saved some of those motorists.

Decker Boulevard was closed for two weeks while undergoing repairs. At this point, it remains unclear what impact the Pine Tree dam break had on the breach at the Cary Lake dam, which reportedly occurred in the morning.

Property records show that Pine Tree Lake is owned by the Pine Tree Lake Co. LLC. Richland County property records show the land along the lake not owned by individual homeowners is owned by the Pine Tree Hunt Club. That club is a nonprofit social organization, according to a federal tax form.

William Haseldon, the treasurer for the Pine Tree Hunt Club, maintained that the lake was kept in good order through the years "by certain residents and the owners." Asked by The State newspaper about plans for the blown-out dam, Haseldon said in an email that he has "no clear picture as to what we can or cannot do from a regulatory perspective."

He also said the dam broke Oct. 4 after receiving a "large flow of water from the area and upstream Windsor Lake."

## AERIAL PHOTOS HINT AT MORE FAILURES

The dam at Pine Tree lake isn't the only unregulated dam in South Carolina that might have failed during the Oct. 4 storm.

Aerial imagery, compiled by Dayton, Ohio-headquartered Woolpert Inc. and used by state officials to assess damage,

show that at least three other lakes in the Columbia area lost water after the storm hit, according to a review by The State newspaper. These lakes were not identified by DHEC in the list of 16 broken dams in Richland County.

Empty lakes showing up on the Woolpert aerial photographs, taken two days after the storm, include: an unnamed pond between Clemson Road and Spears Creek Church road in northeast Richland County; a pond commonly called Arcadia Lake, behind North Trenholm Baptist Church in the town of Arcadia Lakes; and a pond near Meadow Glen Middle School in Lexington County.

Sid Havird, whose family owns Arcadia Lake, acknowledged damage to an emergency overflow area at the unregulated dam from the storm, but says he drained the lake after the spillway blew out so he could make repairs. A hole could be seen in the dam structure from a road beside the drained lake, but Havird said the dam remains intact.

Tschantz said he doesn't know the particular circumstances in Columbia, but some unregulated dams across the country fall into disrepair because of neglect.

"Homeowners a lot of times are only interested in their own property," he said. "Then they finally discover, 'Hey, we are responsible for the darned dam. We are faced with a \$300,000 bill to (improve

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This car was washed from a driveway into nearby woods when the Pine Tree Lake dam breached.



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Jennifer Coleman and daughters Effie, Katie, Ella and Gracie explore what used to be the bottom of Pine Tree Lake, drained when its dam collapsed.

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**Title: Nexsen Pruet expands practice****Author:****Size: 6.97 square inch****Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015**

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## **Nexsen Pruet expands practice**

**John Carroll** has joined  
**Nexsen Pruet's** Hilton



**Carroll**

Head Island office as an associate with the real estate group.

Carroll is a former staff attorney with the South Carolina Association of Realtors and has a experience in construction, litigation, licensing and regulation. Before joining Nexsen Pruet, Carroll was an assistant disciplinary counsel for the S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation and he also served as Director of Boards and Commissions for Gov. Nikki Haley.

Nexsen Pruet provides legal services to the business community. For more information, go to [www.nexsen-pruet.com](http://www.nexsen-pruet.com).



Title: **Gov. Haley to visit Beaufort County**

Author:

Size: 2.32 square inch

Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015

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**Gov. Haley to visit  
Beaufort County**

Gov. Nikki Haley will visit the Beaufort County Republican Party at 6 p.m. Nov. 12 at Belfair in Bluffton.

Tickets cost \$35 and can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/1RIJHf9>.

Title: **State employees will be paid for work missed because of floods**  
 Author: BY CASSIE COPE ccope@thestate.com  
 Size: 21.08 square inch  
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



# State employees will be paid for work missed because of floods

BY CASSIE COPE  
ccope@thestate.com

Gov. Nikki Haley said Monday that state employees will be paid for the time that they missed work during flooding two weeks ago. She also appointed the head of one of her Cabinet agencies to lead flood-recovery efforts.

Haley will sign an executive order forgiving the time that state employees were out of work due to the flood.

That has been done in

the past — for example, for snow days — allowing employees to be paid without having to use their annual leave, said Brian Gaines, spokesman for the

Department of Administration.

Haley also named Department of Motor Vehicles head Kevin Shwedo as



Shwedo state disaster-recovery coordinator for an indefinite amount of time. “We are going to do it until the

job is done,” Haley said.

John Laganelli, Motor Vehicles’ chief of staff and director of operations, will fill in for Shwedo.

“The key is getting on the ground and finding out what’s needed,” said Shwedo, a board member of Haley’s The Original Six Foundation, a charitable nonprofit.

Shwedo’s flood-recovery role will include coordinating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations.

Before joining Haley’s

Cabinet, Shwedo was deputy commanding officer of the Army Training Center at Fort Jackson.

He retired from the Army in 2011, as a colonel, after 32 years of service.

Shwedo’s pay as the state’s flood-relief chief will be the same as he was paid to lead Motor Vehicles — \$122,969 a year.

In addition, all 67 Department of Motor Vehicle locations will collect flood-relief donations. Specifically, the agency wants cleaning supplies, toiletries, new clothing and money for the Red Cross.

Reach Cope at (803) 771-8657

Title: **Teach kids how to prevent domestic and sexual violence**

Author:

Size: 25.11 square inch

Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



## Teach kids how to prevent domestic and sexual violence

South Carolina has been in the top 10 states for women killed by men for more than 15 years, with a domestic violence rate more than twice the national average. This won't change until we unite as a community to address this costly and deadly problem.

Despite the implication of its name, interpersonal violence isn't a private matter that should only be addressed at home. We must discuss this at school, church and anywhere else people

gather. Domestic and sexual violence are costing our state millions of dollars each year and countless lives.

The best way to stem the tide of violence is to provide young people with primary violence prevention education as recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Our Youth Violence Prevention curriculum helps young people build communication, boundary setting and other relationship skills that prepare them to have healthy friend and dating relationships. They learn to safely intervene as bystanders to end violence much like the anti-smoking campaign worked to dramatically reduce the number of new smokers.

The domestic violence law signed by Gov. Nikki Haley this summer

requires schools to educate students on domestic violence; Erin's Law requires them to provide education on sexual violence for grades K-12. Unfortunately, there's no mechanism to make schools comply, so parents and community members must advocate for youth to receive the appropriate education.

Primary prevention addresses the societal problems that lead to domestic and sexual violence. It is often illustrated with a story of a person standing at a river watching people float by and drown. The person cannot save the hundreds of people who continue to drown, but instead goes upstream and finds where they are falling into the river and builds a bridge. We must serve people impacted by domestic and sexual violence, but it is irresponsible not to go upstream and build a bridge.

Please join us in building the bridge that will end domestic and sexual violence in our community. Make sure your schools or youth groups have invited Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands to implement our curriculum. Talk to the young people in your life about sexual and domestic violence and the important role we all play in ending violence. Don't delay acting; our future depends on you.

- Ginny Waller  
Executive Director, Sexual Trauma  
Services of the Midlands  
Columbia



Title: **Paying for roads after the floods**

Author:

Size: 12.55 square inch

Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



## Paying for roads after the floods

For now, a special session of the Legislature to deal with flooding doesn't seem like the best use of public dollars, especially since the state doesn't have estimates on the extent of the problem.

However, dealing with the flood — and its impact on the state's infrastructure — must be the top priority when lawmakers return. This dialogue should also reinforce the need to find a long-term, comprehensive plan to deal with our needs related to roads, bridges and dams.

This issue largely became a political pox for the Legislature this past session with the debate becoming bogged down by certain demands of legislators, as well as S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley.

However, the longer the state waits to make an initial investment in road funding, the greater it will cost to pay for upgrades. This doesn't mean the General Assembly should write a blank check to the state's Department of Transportation. The real trouble with South Carolina's roads isn't wholly a lack of money. Any real effort to address these roads issues must also involve taking a closer look at the bureaucratic structure of the state's Transportation Department. The agency and the current system of prioritization and funding roads projects has been marred by criticisms of little transparency and being generated through a complex formula.

— Aiken Standard