

# Trial & Appellate Advocacy Section Seminar

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

*by order of presentation*

### **Susan Barber Hackett**

*S.C. Court of Appeals*

*Columbia, SC*

*(Course Planner)*

Susan Barber Hackett is the Chief Staff Attorney for the Court of Appeals. Previously, she was an Appellate Defender with the Office of Appellate Defense. She has argued over one hundred cases before the South Carolina appellate courts. Prior to joining Appellate Defense, Ms. Hackett worked at the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. She also served as the Executive Director of the Center for Capital Litigation, a non-profit dedicated to the representation of individuals charged with capital crimes. Prior to her time with the Center, she was an associate at Blume, Weyble & Norris, LLC, where she represented criminal defendants in state and federal courts. Upon graduating from law school, Ms. Hackett served as a judicial clerk to the Honorable Deadra L. Jefferson in the Ninth Judicial Circuit. Ms. Hackett also taught legal writing at the University of South Carolina School of Law as an adjunct professor for two years. Ms. Hackett is an active member of the South Carolina Bar, serving on the Professional Responsibility Committee, the Law Related Education Committee, the Practice and Procedure Committee, and the Trial and Appellate Advocacy Section. Ms. Hackett also serves as a member of the Supreme Court's Committee on Character and Fitness.

**Scott Bauries**  
*University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law*  
*Columbia, SC*

Scott R. Bauries joined South Carolina Law as a professor of law in Fall 2022 after serving on the faculty of the University of Kentucky College of Law for fourteen years. His scholarship focuses mostly on judicial decision-making in state and federal constitutional cases.

Prior to academia, Bauries clerked for the Honorable Emmett Ripley Cox of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and served as an associate with McGuireWoods, LLP, where he practiced Labor & Employment Law, Higher Education Law, and Complex Commercial Litigation.

Bauries graduated first in his law school class at the University of Florida, where he was the Senior Galleys Editor of the Florida Law Review. While attending law school, Bauries pursued a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy and taught undergraduates in the University of Florida College of Education. In 2009, he successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, *Judicial Review and the Separation of Powers in State Constitutional Litigation Challenging the Adequacy of Education Spending: Complementary Analyses and a Proposed Adjudicatory Model*. Based on this work, the Education Law Association selected him as the recipient of the Joseph C. Beckham Dissertation of the Year Award for 2009.

Professor Bauries has delivered the Civil Law Update address to the South Carolina Bar's Trial and Appellate Advocacy Section in each of the years during which he has been on the Rice School of Law faculty.

### **Teaching**

Federal Courts (LAWS 659)  
Constitutional Law (LAWS  
Civil Procedure (LAWS 544)  
Conflict of Laws (LAWS 763)  
State Constitutional Law (LAWS 661)

**Professor Christine Coughlin**  
*Wake Forest University School of Law*  
*Winston Salem, NC*

Christine Coughlin is a Professor of Law at Wake Forest University School of Law, where she has been widely recognized for both her teaching and scholarship. She was named the 2024 Faculty Member of the Year and was the recipient of the Mary S. Lawrence Award from the Legal Writing Institute, the Wake Forest University Teaching and Learning Center's Teaching Innovation Award, the Joseph Branch Award for Excellence in Teaching Award, among others. Professor Coughlin also has appointments in the Wake Forest University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Her scholarship explores the legal, ethical, and policy questions that arise in human subjects research and the use of investigational drugs, as well as other issues where law and public health intersect. Beyond the law school, she is part of the Wake Forest Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, serves on the core faculty of the Center for Bioethics, Health & Society, and is a member of the American Law Institute.

**M. Dawes Cooke, Jr**  
*Barnwell Wahley Patterson & Helms, LLC*  
*Charleston, SC*

Dawes Cooke is a Member of Barnwell, Whaley, Patterson & Helms in Charleston. He has practiced with the same firm since he completed his clerkship with the Hon. Sol Blatt, Jr. in 1980. His practice focuses on complex civil litigation, professional liability defense, construction defect litigation, products liability litigation and personal injury litigation. He is also a mediator and arbitrator. He is admitted to the South Carolina Bar and the United States Supreme Court Bar. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. He holds a Martindale-Hubbell Preeminent rating, and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, personal injury litigation for defendants, personal injury litigation for plaintiffs, arbitration, and mediation.

*Best Lawyers* has named Cooke the Mediation Lawyer of the Year, the Arbitration Lawyer of the Year, the Bet-the-Company Litigator of the Year, and the Personal Injury Litigation Litigator of the Year. *Chambers USA* recognizes Cooke for his work in the areas of complex civil disputes, professional liability defense and personal injury litigation. *Benchmark Litigation* has named him as a Local Litigation Star in the areas of insurance, product liability, medical malpractice, and construction.

He is also regularly listed in *Super Lawyers* as one of the top 10 attorneys in the state of South Carolina, and was ranked number one attorney in the state in 2014, 2015 and 2016. The South Carolina Association for Justice awarded him the “Worthy Adversary Award” in 2013.

A native of Beaufort, South Carolina, Dawes received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, where he graduated with High Distinction. He earned his J.D. from the University of South Carolina *cum laude*, where he served as Clerk of Court for the Society of Wig and Robe and as Symposium Editor of the University of South Carolina Law Review. In 1993, he received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina. He is past president of the South Carolina Bar, past president of the Charleston Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, past president of the Charleston County Bar Association, past president of the James L. Petigru American Inn of Court, and past chairman of the South Carolina Bar’s Commission on Judicial Independence and Impartiality.

He is a member of the Dispute Resolution Section Council and the Professional Liability Committee of the South Carolina Bar, and a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers’ Outreach Committee. He has served on the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Public Defender selection committee. Dawes is a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference and a member of the Federal Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), and the National Association of College and University Attorneys.

Dawes is a founding member and past president of the board of directors of East Cooper Community Outreach. He is a member, past president, and past Rotarian of the Year of the East Cooper Breakfast Rotary Club.

Dawes is the grandson of James Edwin McTeer, who served for thirty-seven years as Sheriff of Beaufort County, was the author of four books, and was a nationally-recognized witch doctor.