

Government Law Section

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

by order of presentation

John J. “Jack” Pringle

Adams and Reese, LLP

Columbia, SC

Jack Pringle is a partner with Adams and Reese in Columbia, and focuses his practice on privacy, information security, and information governance; administrative and regulatory law; public utilities; land use litigation; and class action litigation.

Jack helps businesses protect, manage, and communicate information lawfully and effectively, and has received the Information Privacy Professional (CIPP-US) designation from the International Association of Privacy Professionals (“IAPP”).

In the wellness context, Jack has practiced yoga and meditation intermittently for almost 30 years, and on a daily basis for at least the last decade. He enjoys getting outside, especially in Lower Richland County and in Transylvania County, North Carolina. The youngsters continue to allow him to take part in the Columbia Attorney Basketball league so they can listen to him prattle on about what it was like “back in the day.” Jack also coaches soccer from time to time, and was a co-captain and four-year letterman for the Washington and Lee soccer team back when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

Over the past couple of years, Jack has had the opportunity to speak and write frequently on issues of attorney well-being, especially in the context of evolving technology tools and a changing practice and economy.

<https://twitter.com/jjpringleSC>

<https://www.slideshare.net/jjpringle317>

<https://medium.com/@jjpringleSC>

<https://pringlepracticeblog.blogspot.com/>

In the S/MH context, Jack has been a regular speaker and writer on attorney wellness and well-being issues. He has spoken before/at the Richland County Bar Association, the South Carolina Bar, the Georgia Bar Convention, the South Carolina Association of Counties, the Canadian Bar Association, the Greenville County Inn of Court, the South Carolina Defense Trial Lawyers Association, the South Carolina LPM-Tech Conference, the Greenville County Association of

Criminal Defense Attorneys, the SC Council of School Attorneys, the SC Association of County Attorneys, and the SC Workers' Compensation Education Association, among others.

<https://abovethelaw.com/2017/10/how-yoga-practice-helps-you-keep-calm-in-stressful-situations/>

<http://resilientlawyer.libsyn.com/rl-55-jack-pringle-understanding-yoga-and-making-it-work-for-you>

Thomas J. Keaveny, II

Beaufort County

Beaufort, SC

Tom is a 1979 graduate of the College of Charleston. Following graduation he was admitted to the Maxwell School of Public Administration at Syracuse University where, in 1981, he received a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He worked briefly for the Naval Military Personnel Command in Washington, D.C. He enrolled in the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1982 and graduated in 1985. He moved to Charleston and practiced law there continuously until 2015 when he accepted the position of County Attorney for Beaufort County. While a member of the Charleston Bar he served as a member of the House of Delegates from 1986 to 1999. He also served as Chairman of the South Carolina Resolution of Fee Disputes Board. Locally, he served as a member of Charleston County's Zoning Board of Appeals.

In 2016 Hurricane Matthew struck Beaufort County. Tom spearheaded two important components of Beaufort County's cleanup efforts. First, he charted a court which would allow the County to receive FEMA reimbursement for removing vegetative debris from private rights-of way. Second, he worked with various federal and state entities to determine who is responsible for removing marine debris from the state's tidelands and how it should be paid for.

A. Parker Barnes, III

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, PA

Columbia, SC

Parker Barnes focuses on real property and business litigation, primarily on matters involving tax sales, real estate related disputes, consumer financial services and commercial lending disputes.

- Property taxes: For over 15 years, Parker has represented tax sale purchasers, servicers, financial services companies and other businesses in cases focused on the process for collecting property taxes. These matters have included actions to both confirm and invalidate tax sales.
- Real estate litigation: Parker has represented public utility companies and other businesses, as well as individuals, in various real estate matters. His work ranges from contractual disputes arising out of property sales to actions involving title insurance, boundary disputes, easements, encroachments, commercial leases and actions to partition real property.

- Lending laws: He has represented local, regional and national financial services companies (banks, mortgage lenders and finance companies) in matters concerning the enforcement of federal lending laws, the South Carolina Consumer Protection Code, similar laws and in matters involving the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Parker has defended mortgage lenders in statewide class-action lawsuits. With the onset of the Great Recession, his consumer financial services practice expanded to include defending foreclosing lenders against various consumer-law counterclaims, as well as counterclaims arising out of the Home Affordable Modification Program and other foreclosure intervention options. He continues his practice of defending lenders and assisting with the resolution of the various issues that confront lenders.

A native of South Carolina and knowledgeable about the regional business environment, Parker represents businesses in contractual and operational disputes of many other types.

Education:

- University of South Carolina, J.D., 2000
- Furman University, B.A., cum laude, 1997

John H. Harris

*Spartanburg County Attorney's Office
Spartanburg, SC*

John H. Harris is the County Attorney for Spartanburg County. Mr. Harris' representation of Spartanburg includes advising the County Departments in all stages of the taxation process from the assessment of property through the sale of delinquent property. Mr. Harris also advises departments on legal issues related to the Planning, Building Codes and property maintenance matters, in addition to sitting with the Planning Commission and the Land Management Board of Appeals. Prior to joining the Spartanburg County Attorney's Office, Mr. Harris served as an Assistant County Attorney for another jurisdiction for seven years and was in private practice for a few years before beginning his public sector career.

He graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Financial Management and a Minor in Accounting. Mr. Harris received his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law, in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Harris is a council member of the Government Law Section of the SC Bar, a member of the Animal Law Committee of the SC Bar, the South Carolina Association of County Attorneys. When not practicing law, he enjoys waterskiing and camping with his family. He also is a member of the Boy Scouts of America, where he currently serves as a Scoutmaster.

George J.F. Bullwinkel, III

Nexsen Pruet, LLC

Charleston, SC

George J.F. Bullwinkel, III practices primarily in the areas of real estate acquisition and development, commercial real estate, administrative law, including permitting, zoning and land sales registrations; development agreements and economic development.

George represents clients in securing economic development incentives, large tract rezoning approval and infrastructure agreements with various agencies, counties and municipalities of the State of South Carolina.

Before joining Nexsen Pruet, George spent five months in Northern Ireland in 2004 as a project manager with Larne Enterprise Development Co., working on various economic development projects.

Nicole S. Ewing

Nexsen Pruet, LLC

Charleston, SC

Nicole Ewing brings a broad base of government experience to matters involving real estate law. She has a strong understanding of land use and zoning concerns, and is well versed in researching, analyzing, and drafting documentation to support transactions.

With a background that includes more than 13 years in the public sector, Nicole is particularly experienced in providing counsel to government entities and have a proven ability to effectively analyze statutes, ordinances, case law, and factual data to achieve favorable outcomes.

In her most recent position as lead attorney for Berkeley County Government – the governing authority for the 35 fastest growing county in the United States – she handled a number of legal matters to support the vitality and continued economic progress of the region.

Nicole led the effort to create an assessment district consisting of multiple developers to fund transportation infrastructure; drafted ordinances and referenda for a transportation sales tax program and Sunday sales of alcohol; negotiated multiple development and fee-in-lieu of tax agreements; and supervised condemnation procedures for transportation and airport Projects. She also coordinated litigation matters with outside counsel and the Insurance Reserve Fund and prosecuted several local ordinances.

She is a graduate of Leadership Berkeley, a 10-month program of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce designed to cultivate the next generation of community and business leaders. In 2010, she was named among the top “Forty under 40” by the Charleston Regional Business Journal.

Outside of her practice, Nicole is deeply committed to supporting the legal profession and has served as an adjunct legal writing professor at the Charleston School of Law. She's presented a number of continuing legal education seminars for organizations such as the South Carolina Bar Government Law Section and the South Carolina Institute of Government. She is actively involved in a wide range of professional associations and is a Past President of the South Carolina Association of County Attorneys.

Jeremy L. Cook

*Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, PA
Charleston, SC*

Course Planner

Jeremy Cook serves as co-leader of our Public Finance practice group at Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd and is the administrative shareholder for our Charleston office.

Jeremy regularly serves as bond counsel, disclosure counsel and underwriter's counsel in connection with bond issues for state entities, local governments and school districts across South Carolina. During his two decades with the firm, Jeremy has handled nearly every type of governmental bond issue including general obligation bonds, tax increment bonds, improvement district bonds, utility bonds, limited obligation bonds and special source revenue bonds.

Jeremy also serves as bond and underwriter's counsel on bond issues for hospitals in the Low Country, Midlands and Upstate of South Carolina. In addition, he also regularly serves as bond counsel in connection with bonds issued by the South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority for other nonprofit organizations including independent schools, foundations and YMCAs.

As disclosure counsel, Jeremy represents state, local governmental and nonprofit entities with primary and continuing disclosure matters, and in the last two years, he has served as disclosure counsel in connection with the issuance of approximately \$500 million of revenue bonds.

Jeremy also handles Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes and other economic incentive matters for corporate and county clients throughout South Carolina. In the last two years, Jeremy has been involved with more than 50 incentive transactions with companies ranging from automobile manufacturers and suppliers to corporate headquarters and distribution centers.

Jeremy is a frequent author, speaker and CLE coordinator on public finance, government and economic development matters in South Carolina.

Lisa R. Claxton
Little Mendelson, PC
Kansas City, MO

Course Planner

Lisa R. Claxton is a member of the Littler CaseSmart – Charges™ team and is based in South Carolina. She is responsible for handling charges from investigation to conclusion. She works on client-dedicated service teams, specializing in handling administrative agency charges. She investigates charge allegations, reviews pertinent documents, interviews key witnesses, and provides clients an assessment of the risks associated with the charge. In partnership with the client, she then defends the charge by drafting persuasive position statements and responses to the agency's requests for information.

Lisa has practiced labor and employment law for almost 20 years. Prior to joining Littler, she was a partner with another national labor and employment law firm before becoming the Spartanburg County Attorney.