



SOUTH CAROLINA LAW REVIEW
School of Law

August 3, 2009

Dear Incoming Student:

On behalf of the *South Carolina Law Review*, welcome to the University of South Carolina School of Law. As you will soon discover, there is much more to law school than going to class and reading old cases; however, there are few law school experiences that will have a greater formative and lasting impact on your career as an attorney than serving as a member of a legal journal. Participation on a legal journal is an exciting, rewarding, and educational experience.

The *South Carolina Law Review* is the principal legal publication in South Carolina. It is also the oldest legal publication in the state, founded in 1948 and tracing its roots to 1831. Today, the *Law Review* is one of the most frequently cited legal journals in the country, recently being ranked in the top 5% of the most frequently cited publications. The *Law Review* prides itself on being completely student-run, with no faculty or administrative oversight.

The *South Carolina Law Review* has two primary purposes: to publish an authoritative legal journal and to provide members with practical experience in legal writing and analysis. Membership on the *Law Review* is determined through participation in a journal writing competition held during or at the end of the first year of law school.

As a journal we place great importance on the legal merit and technical accuracy of the articles we publish. This emphasis is reflected in the *Law Review*'s members, many of whom lead their class academically. Additionally, the *Law Review* boasts numerous distinguished alumni, including judges on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (including the current and former Chief Judge), the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, the Attorney General of South Carolina, the former state Superintendent of Education, current and former United States Congressmen, numerous named partners at many of South Carolina's leading law firms, and many others.

We hope you will consider joining the *South Carolina Law Review* during your time at the USC School of Law, and again, welcome to law school.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Traxler, Jr.
Editor in Chief, Volume 61