



Recruiting and Hiring Law Enforcement Officers/ Distracted Driving for Law Enforcement Training

South Carolina Municipal Insurance Trust and South Carolina Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund

May 14, 2024

Cooperative Conference Center
Columbia, SC

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Meeting Information

The morning session will begin with an overview of the resources provided by the SC Law Enforcement Assistance Program. The remaining morning session will focus on the hiring process and background investigations of law enforcement candidates. Kevin Sturm, employment law attorney, will present the session.

Master Trooper William Bennett with the SC Highway Patrol will present an afternoon session on distracted driving for law enforcement. Public Safety Loss Control Consultant Chris Radcliff will also provide a data review of recent law enforcement claims.

The SC Municipal Insurance Trust and SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund strongly encourage command staff, training officers, police officers and others law enforcement staff to attend. Attendance at this session counts toward risk self-assessment compliance and as an elective course for participants in the Risk Management Institute. Attendees can receive 3.16 hours of continuing education credit from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.

Agenda

9:00 – 9:55 a.m.	Registration
9:55 – 10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Overview of SC Law Enforcement Assistance Program Resources
10:30 – 11:10 a.m.	Hiring Process of Law Enforcement Officers
11:10 – 11:20 a.m.	Break
11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Background Investigations of Law Enforcement Officers
12:20 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Law Enforcement Claims Data Review
1:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Distracted Driving for Law Enforcement
2:00 – 2:10 p.m.	Break
2:10 – 3:10 p.m.	Distracted Driving for Law Enforcement
2:10 – 3:10 p.m.	Questions/Adjourn

**Eric Skidmore, Program Manager, SC Law Enforcement Assistance Program**

Eric Skidmore was hired by the SC Law Enforcement Division in 1997 to create a new program, the SC Law Enforcement Assistance Program. He currently serves as the program manager. Skidmore graduated from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in 1983 and earned a Master of Divinity in 1990 from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Skidmore earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in 1997. Skidmore is currently a parish associate at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church. Skidmore currently serves on the Presbyterian Communities Foundation Board, Presbyterian Communities of SC Board, Chaplaincy Innovation Lab Advisory Board and SCETV Commission Advisory Council.

Kevin Sturm, Attorney, Sturm and Cont, P.A.

Kevin Sturm has been practicing law for 40 years and is the senior partner with Sturm & Cont, P.A. in Spartanburg. His practice is limited to representation of public and private employers in all aspects of employment law as well as defending South Carolina public entities in civil litigation. As part of his practice, Sturm frequently conducts training on employment law, labor law and other issues of concern to employers. For the last 15 years he has been the lead employment hotline attorney for SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund. Sturm is also AV® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

Chris Radcliff, Public Safety Loss Control Consultant, Municipal Association of SC

Radcliff joined the Municipal Association of SC in 2019 as a public safety loss control consultant. He provides loss control support for the Association's two risk management programs – the SC Municipal Insurance Trust and the SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund. Radcliff has 21 years of experience in public safety including the Camden Police Department, Kershaw County Sheriff's office, and most recently as a special investigator at the Office of the Attorney General where he also served as a firearms instructor. He received an associate degree in arts and criminal justice from the University of South Carolina-Lancaster and his bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina.

William Bennett, Troop 1 Community Relations and Recruiting Officer, SC Highway Patrol

William Bennett joined the SC Highway Patrol in 2021 and currently works as Troop 1 Community Relations and Recruiting Officer. He also handles public information officer duties as well as maintains the social media accounts for SCHP. Bennett is a firearm, rifle and driving instructor. Bennett has an associate's degree in Criminal Justice and became a certified law enforcement officer in 2003. He began as an officer with the City of Columbia Police Department and later moved to the Town of Swansea, where he served as training officer and assistant police chief. Before moving to SCHP, he was the assistant police chief and training officer for the Town of Pelion Police Department. He is a member of the SC Law Enforcement Officer Association, SC Troopers Association and American Association of State Troopers.

Registration Information

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Register online by May 7 at www.masc.sc.

The session room may be cool, so you may want to bring a sweater or jacket.

For special-needs requests, contact Amy Gillian at 803.354.4774 or losscontrol@masc.sc by May 7, and staff will accommodate if possible.

General Information

The SC Municipal Insurance Trust and the SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund offer training sessions on a variety of risk management and safety and health topics. The programs also provide members a forum for sharing ideas and keeping current on state and federal laws.



Upcoming Meetings

- Supervisor Training – September 24, 2024
- Risk Management Services Annual Members Meeting – November 6, 2024

Meeting Location

Cooperative Conference Center
169 Laurelhurst Ave.
Columbia, SC 29210

Contact Information

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