

SC Soil Classifiers Advisory Council

FALL 2016

Council Meeting Dates

Council meetings are held at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC, and begin at 10 a.m. on the following dates:

November 1, 2016 • March 7, 2017 • October 10, 2017

Council meeting dates are also posted on the Council website at www.llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/index.asp?file=cal.htm.

Office Hours and State Holidays

The Council office is open 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday; except on the following State holidays:

- ◆ November 11, 2016, for Veteran's Day
- ◆ November 24-25, 2016, for Thanksgiving Day
- ◆ December 23-27, 2016, for Christmas Day
- ◆ January 2, 2017, for New Year's Day
- ◆ January 16, 2017, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- ◆ February 20, 2017, for President's Day
- ◆ May 10, 2017, for Confederate Memorial Day
- ◆ May 29, 2017, for Memorial Day
- ◆ July 4, 2017, for Independence Day
- ◆ September 4, 2017, for Labor Day

Council Members & Staff

John H. Thorp, Chairman	Bill R. Smith
Christopher J. Fincham, Vice Chairman	Molly Price, Administrator
Randall K. Fowler	Hardwick Stuart, Advice Council
Dennis D. DeFrancesco	Sherri Moorner, Program Assistant



Join us on Twitter @SCDLLR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Council, Staff & Office Info	1
2017 License Renewals....	2
Reinstatement of Lapsed License	3
Meet LLR's Interim Director	3
Thanks to Dr. Smith.....	4
Serving On Council	4
Filing a Complaint.....	4
Licensure Statistics	4
Online Services.....	4

SC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATIONS

KINGSTREE BUILDING, 110 CENTERVIEW DRIVE
PO BOX 11419, COLUMBIA, SC 29211-1419

LLR.SC.GOV/POL/SOIL CONTACT.SOIL@LLR.SC.GOV (803) 896-4580





2017 LICENSE RENEWALS

Please note that UserIDs and Passwords for the online renewal system can no longer be mailed out or given over the telephone. Instructions on retrieving your UserID and Password will be included on the renewal notice. The instructions will also be posted on the Board website.

License renewal notices will be sent to actively licensed individuals by November 1, 2016. These notices contain important information on accessing the online renewal system or submitting the renewal with a complete paper renewal form and a check. Please ensure that the Council has a current mailing address and email address on file so you will receive these notices in a timely manner. Contact the Council if you do not receive your renewal notice by November 15, 2016.

Individuals renewing their license must certify that they will have the 30 hours of continuing education by January 31, 2017. Hours reported for this renewal must be obtained February 1, 2015 – January 31, 2017. The Council will allow a maximum of 15 hours to be carried over for the period of February 1, 2013 – January 31, 2015, that were not used for the 2015 license renewal. **Please do not send continuing education documentation with the license renewal.** Additional information on the continuing education requirement is available at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/index.asp?file=ce.htm>.

Important notes on license renewals:

- Renewal of licenses will keep the license(s) valid through January 31, 2019.
- The Council cannot accept credit card payments over the telephone.
- The Council cannot waive late penalty fees for any reason, so be sure to complete the license renewal by January 31, 2017. Renewals received February 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017, will be charged a \$40 late penalty fee.
- Individuals applying for a hardship exemption from the continuing education requirement must have their written request and pertinent documentation submitted to the Council office no later than January 1, 2017.
- The license renewal system will close at midnight on March 31, 2016. Licenses that are not renewed by March 31, 2016, will lapse due to failure to renew.
- Individuals randomly selected for the 2017 continuing education audit will be contacted by U.S. Mail by May 1, 2017.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We hope the information in this newsletter is beneficial to you as a Professional Soil Classifier in the State of South Carolina. We welcome you to share this newsletter and the Council's website with anybody that has an interest in soil classifying in South Carolina. If you have questions for the Council or suggestions for a future newsletter, please submit information to Contact.Soil@llr.sc.gov

REINSTATEMENT OF LAPSED LICENSES

The law only allows reinstatement of a lapsed license for a period of three years after the license lapsed. That means that you must reapply for licensure if your license lapsed before January 31, 2014.

If you qualify for reinstatement, you will need to submit the reinstatement application, the \$250 reinstatement fee, and documentation of 30 hours of continuing education activities to the Council office. The reinstatement application is available at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/PDF/Applications/Soil%20Reinstatement%20Application.pdf>.

Please contact the Council office if your license has been lapsed for more than three years. Staff will review your file to determine what documentation is necessary for reapplication.



ONLINE APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

You can now submit applications online! Online applications are fast, easy, and secure. Please visit <https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/NewAppsV2/Login/LoginPage?ReturnUrl=%2fNewAppsV2%2f> to start the application process for licensure.

COUNCIL UPDATES FORMS

The Council has worked hard to make the licensure process easier for you. The forms on the Council's website have been updated, and are now in a more user friendly format that allows you to type directly into the required fields. The old applications and forms are no longer being accepted, so be sure to check the website for the most current applications and forms at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/index.asp?file=pub.htm>.

LICENSURE STATISTICS AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2016

Professional Soil Classifiers:

47

Soil Classifiers—In-Training:

0

FREE ROSTER AVAILABLE

A roster of all currently licensed professional soil classifiers in the State of South Carolina is available at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/PDF/Soil%20Roster.pdf>. The roster is provided free of charge and is updated regularly.

Licensure can also be verified on the "Licensee Lookup" feature on the Council website.

CHECK OUT THE COUNCIL'S ONLINE SERVICES

LLR offers many online services. You can check the status of your application, change your address, and print pocket cards. To access online services, you will need the user identification and password provided on your license renewal reminder card. Online services are available at <https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/SecurePortal/Login.aspx>.

MEET LLR'S INTERIM DIRECTOR

Emily H. Farr was appointed as the interim director of the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation by Governor Nikki R. Haley on August 8, 2016. Farr is awaiting Senate confirmation.

Farr came to LLR from Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., where she focused on employment advice and counsel, consumer financial services litigation, and title insurance defense.

While at the law firm, Farr provided advice and counsel to human resource professionals and employers to identify practical solutions to workplace issues, including drafting company policies and procedures, assisting with the preparation and implementation of employee handbooks, and preparing restrictive covenants severance agreements and independent contractor agreements.

Farr's practice also included title insurance litigation, handling a variety of real estate litigation matters such as quiet title actions, deed and mortgage reformation actions, and lien priority issues. She also handled financial litigation, which involved an array of business and banking matters under federal law, such as the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Truth in Lending Act, and state law, such as the South Carolina Consumer Protection Code and statutes addressing predatory lending.

Farr graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received her law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law where she was a Petigru Scholarship recipient and served on The South Carolina Law Review as the Student Works Editor. She was also a member of the Order of Wig and Robe and the Order of the Coif.

Currently, Farr serves on the Board of Directors Executive Committee for the Junior Achievement of Greater South Carolina, where she is Program Chair. She also is a member of the South Carolina Bar, the Richland County Bar Association, the Employment & Labor Section of the State Bar, and the Society of Human Resource Management. She is a 2015 graduate of Leadership Columbia.



Thanks to Dr. Bill Smith

The Council wishes to thank Dr. Bill Smith for his years of dedicated service to the Advisory Council. Dr. Smith's knowledge and expertise have been extremely helpful since the Council was established, and we appreciate his years of service to the profession and to Council. Dr. Smith's term ends on December 31, 2016.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE COUNCIL?

Members of the Council must be citizens of the United States, licensed in the State of South Carolina for a period of at least ten years, in positions of responsible charge for a period of at least six years, and reside in the State of South Carolina. Interested individuals should complete a resume that includes the following information:

- Education and collegiate achievements.
- Professional experience.
- Professional and technical society activities.
- Civic and humanitarian activities.
- Continuing competence.
- General personal data.
- References or letters of recommendation, if available



Submittal information:

Soil Classifiers Advisory Council
Post Office Box 11419
Columbia, SC 29211-1419
Email: Contact.Soil@llr.sc.gov
FAX: (803)896-4424

HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

Licensees perform valuable work for the public as professional soil classifiers in the State of South Carolina. The majority of licensed professionals are competent, skilled practitioners, and you are a witness to their good work. In the course of your work in this state, you may also witness work or processes that don't meet the requirements licensees must uphold, or find work performed by unlicensed individuals.

Licensees play an important role in safeguarding the public, and the Council relies on you to advise us when you encounter unprofessional, unethical, or unlicensed activities. We encourage you to file a complaint with the Council if you witness a possible violation. The Council can accept anonymous complaints and pursue them if the related information or documentation is publicly available, if you do not wish to be the formal complainant.

The public relies on you to file a complaint if you suspect violations of Council statutes or regulations. It is not taken lightly, and will be investigated in a timely manner.

Complaints must be filed through the online complaint form. Instructions on filing complaints are available at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/soil/index.asp?file=complaint.htm>.