

WILLIAM C. HUBBARD

EMPLOYMENT

Dean and Educational Foundation Distinguished Professor, University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law (2020 – present)

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Partner, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough (1978 – 2020)

Chair of the Business Litigation and Employment Law Group (2000–2015)

Law Clerk for then United States District Judge Robert F. Chapman (later Judge on United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit) (1977-1978)

PROFESSIONAL

American Bar Association (1977 – present)

- ◆ **President (2014–2015)**
 - Led efforts to close the justice gap through innovation and alternatives to the traditional delivery of legal services
 - Focused on criminal justice reform, legal assistance to unaccompanied immigrant children, abrogation of punitive collateral consequences of conviction, assistance to victims of domestic violence, and commemorations of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta
- ◆ **President-Elect (2013–2014)**
- ◆ **House of Delegates (1988–1997, 1999–present)**
 - **Chair of the House of Delegates (2008–2010)**
 - Chair, Rules & Calendar Committee (2004–2006)
 - Vice Chair, Steering Committee of the Nominating Committee (2000–2002, Member 1999–2002)
 - South Carolina State Delegate to ABA House of Delegates and Nominating Committee (1999–2008)
 - Issues of Concern to the Legal Profession (2006–2008)
 - Select Committee of the House (1990–1994, 2002–2004)
 - Coordinating Committee of the House (1996–1997)
- ◆ **Board of Governors (1991, 2008–2010, 2013–2016)**
 - Strategic Planning and Action Committee (2008–2010)
 - Program Committee (2008–2010)
 - Board Liaison to Business Law Section (2015–2016)
 - Board Liaison to Rule of Law Initiative (2015–2016)
- ◆ **Chair, Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary (2019–2020); Member (1995–2001)**
 - Committee vets candidates for appointment to federal judiciary and reports evaluation results to White House, Department of Justice, and Senate Judiciary Committee
- ◆ **Ethics 20/20 Commission (2011–2012)**
- ◆ **Chair, World Justice Project Commission (2007–2008)**
- ◆ **Chair, Steering Committee for World Justice Project (2006–2007)**
- ◆ **Chair, The Fellows of the Young Lawyers (2004–2005)**
- ◆ **Chair, Standing Committee on Association Communications (1992–1995)**
- ◆ **Chair, ABA Executive Director Search Committee (2009–2010)**

- ◆ Chair, ABA Day in Washington (2010–2012)
- ◆ Co-Chair, Commission on Second Season of Service (2006–2007)
- ◆ Special Advisor, Center for Innovation (2016–present)
- ◆ Special Advisor, ABA Task Force for American Democracy (2023–2025)
- ◆ Special Advisor, Rule of Law Initiative (2016–2018)
- ◆ Special Committee on Governance (1993–1995)
- ◆ Special Coordinating Committee on Professionalism (1988–1991)
- ◆ Board of Editors, *ABA Journal* (2008–2010)
- ◆ Fund for Justice & Education Council (multiple terms)
- ◆ Resource Development Council (1988–1994)
 - Chair, Lawyer Contributions Committee (1990)
- ◆ Presidential Appointments Committee (2004–2005)
- ◆ Liaison to Board of Governors Communications Committee (1993–1994)
- ◆ Young Lawyers Division (1979–1991)
 - Chair (1987–1988): Among other responsibilities, testified in favor of confidentiality in testing before President Reagan’s Commission on the HIV Epidemic
 - Various Committees and Offices (1980–1991)
- ◆ Member at various times: Section of Business Law, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, Section of International Law, Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, and Section of Litigation

World Justice Project (2009 – present)

- ◆ **Co-founder and Chair of Board of Directors** (2009–present)
 - Inaugural and continuing chair of the board of independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law worldwide through research and scholarship, engagement, World Justice Forums and regional forums, and the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index, the world’s leading source for original data on the rule of law, covering 142 countries. (worldjusticeproject.org)

American Law Institute (1996 – present)

- ◆ ALI Council (2003–2021) (Emeritus 2021–present)
- ◆ Executive Committee (2004–2013)
- ◆ Special Committee on ALI-ABA (2004–2005)
- ◆ Advisor, Principles of Law, Policing (2015–2022)
- ◆ Advisor, Restatement of the Law, Charitable Nonprofit Organizations (2015–2019)
- ◆ Special Committee on Strategic Communications (2006–2009)
- ◆ Ad Hoc Committee on Membership Process (2011–2013)
- ◆ Awards Committee (2015–2020)
- ◆ Membership Committee (2016–2021)
- ◆ Audit Committee (2018–2024)
- ◆ Practitioner Advisory Group (2018–present)
- ◆ Regional Advisory Group 15 (2014–present)
- ◆ Chair, Class of 1996 Gift Committee (2021)
- ◆ Development Committee (2023–present)

American Bar Endowment (1988 – 2015)

- ◆ **President** (2002–2004)
- ◆ Board of Directors (1994–2015)
- ◆ Vice President (2000–2002)
- ◆ Treasurer (1998–2000)
- ◆ Secretary (1996–1998)
- ◆ Assistant Secretary (1990–1996)
- ◆ Young Lawyer Liaison (1988–1990)

American Bar Foundation (2002 – present)

- ◆ **President** (2010–2012)
 - Preeminent institute for empirical research fundamental to legal institutions and legal processes
- ◆ Board of Directors (2002–2015)
- ◆ Executive Committee (2005–2013)
- ◆ Co-Chair, Planning Task Force (2006–2007)
- ◆ Fellow of the American Bar Foundation (1993–present, Life Fellow 2003–2009, Life Patron Fellow 2010–present, Leadership Fellow 2019–2021, Visionary Fellow 2021–present)
- ◆ Honored by ABF with establishment of William C. Hubbard Conference on Law and Education (2019–present)

American Law Institute-American Bar Association (1988 – 2004)

- ◆ Editorial Board, ALI-ABA's The Practical Litigator (1989–2004)
- ◆ Committee on Continuing Professional Education (1988–1989) (YLD Liaison)

South Carolina Bar (1977 – present)

- ◆ Chair, Professionalism Committee (1991–1992)
- ◆ Chair, Professional Responsibility Committee (1989–1991)
- ◆ Chair, Long Range Planning Committee (1986–1987)
- ◆ Civil Justice Reform Committee (1992–1993)
- ◆ Task Force on Justice for All (1993–1995)
- ◆ State Bar Delegate to ABA House of Delegates (1993–1997)
- ◆ House of Delegates (1990–1998, 1999–2008, 2020–present)
- ◆ Lawyer-Accountant Relations Committee (1995–1999)
- ◆ Life Member, S.C. Bar Foundation (1991–present)
- ◆ South Carolina Young Lawyer of the Year (1986) (Presented by South Carolina Bar)

Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (2002 – present)

- ◆ Admission to Fellowship Committee (2018–present); Vice-Chair (2021–2022); Chair (2022–2024)

Honorary Master of the Bench, Honourable Society of the Middle Temple (2015 – present)

Legal Services Corporation – Leaders Council (2016 - present)

- ◆ Member, Rural Justice Task Force (2021–2023)
- ◆ 50th Anniversary Campaign Planning Committee (2022–present)

American Board of Trial Advocates (1997 – present)

Permanent Member, U.S. Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference (1991 – present)

- ◆ Chair, Merit Selection Panel, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for District of South Carolina (2024)
- ◆ Chair, Federal Public Defender Merit Selection Committee for District of South Carolina (2021)

Justice for All Advisory Committee (Public Welfare Foundation and National Center for State Courts) (2016 – 2020)

Fellow, American Academy of Arts & Sciences

- ◆ Convening on Democracy and the Economy (2025)
- ◆ Fellow (Law) (2023-present)
- ◆ Making Justice Accessible project (2018 – 2020)

Advisor, Open Society Justice Initiative – Legal Empowerment (2016 – 2017)

Advisor, Civil Justice Innovation Project, Pew Charitable Trusts (2016)

John Belton O'Neill Inn of Court (1988 – present)

Supreme Court Historical Society

U.S. District Judge Sol Blatt Memorial and Statue Committee

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1999

Listed in *South Carolina Super Lawyers* since inception

PUBLIC SERVICE

University of South Carolina Board of Trustees (1986 – 2020)

- ◆ **Chair of Board of Trustees (1996–2000)**
 - Among other accomplishments, prepared and achieved passage of a Board resolution urging the South Carolina General Assembly to remove the confederate flag from the South Carolina State House.
- ◆ Vice-Chair (1992–1996)
- ◆ Executive Committee (1992–2004, 2012–2016)
- ◆ Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on University Advancement (1994–1996)
- ◆ Chair, Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee (1990–1992)
- ◆ Chair, Fiscal Policy Committee (1989–1990)
- ◆ Chair, Student-Trustee Liaison Committee (1988–1990)
- ◆ Chair, Task Force on Scholarships (1995–1998)
- ◆ Chair, Presidential Search Committee (2001–2002)
- ◆ Chair, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (2008–2012)
- ◆ Chair, Buildings & Grounds Committee (2004–2008, 2016–2020)

- ◆ *Ex Officio* Member, USC Educational Foundation Board, USC Development Foundation Board, and USC Alumni Council (1996–2000)
- ◆ Ad Hoc Committee to Honor Enslaved Persons (2016–2017)
- ◆ Presidential Commission on University History (2019–2021)
- ◆ Ad Hoc Committee on Governance (2020)
- ◆ Presidential Search Committee Member (1990–1991; 2018–2019)
- ◆ Chair, Dean of Libraries Search Committee (2021–2022)
- ◆ Chair, Law School Dean Search Committee (2003)
- ◆ Search Committee for Executive Director of USC Foundations (2005–2006)
- ◆ Special Committee on Athletics (2006–2008)
- ◆ National Advisory Council (1996–2011)
- ◆ Member (2010–present) and chair (2021–present) Design Review Committee

Judicial Council of the State of South Carolina (2020 – present)

Chief Justice’s Commission on the Profession (2020 – present)

Co-Chair, Steering Committee, State of South Carolina Technology Transition Commission, Appointed by the Governor (2001 – 2002)

Chair, Task Force on Women in State Government, Appointed by the Governor (1997)

Board of Trustees, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education Foundation (2001 – 2003)

Chair, Committee to Study Two-Year Education in South Carolina, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (1992 – 1994)

CIVIC & CHARITABLE SERVICE

Voices for South Carolina’s Children (2005 – 2007)

- ◆ Board of Directors (2005–2007)
- ◆ Chair, Development Committee (2005–2007)

Midlands Business Leadership Group (2001 – present)

- ◆ Executive Committee (2005–present)

Thornwell Home for Children Campaign Committee (2006 – 2009)

Boy Scouts (2001 – 2004)

- ◆ Local Council President (2002–2003)

City Year Columbia (1993 – 1995)

- ◆ Founding Member and Board of Directors (1993–1995)
- ◆ Vice-Chair of Board (1993–1995)

Association of Governing Boards Intercollegiate Athletics Project Advisory Group (funded by Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics) (2011 – 2012)

Chair, Parents Council, Davidson College (2004 – 2005)

Advisory Council, Woodberry Forest School (2002 – 2004)

**SELECTED
AWARDS**

- ♦ **Rebuilding Justice Award, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (2026)**
- ♦ **Outstanding Service Award, American Bar Foundation (2026)**
- ♦ **Elected Fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2023)**
- ♦ **“Leadership in Law” award, Burton Foundation in Collaboration with Library of Congress (2017)**
- ♦ **American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit (2007)**
 - Honoring "a practicing judge or lawyer whose life and practice display sterling character and unquestioned integrity. . ."
- ♦ **Order of the Palmetto by Governor James H. Hodges (2002)**
 - Highest civilian honor in the State of South Carolina
- ♦ **University of South Carolina, Honorary Doctor of Laws (2010)**
- ♦ **Suffolk University, Honorary Doctor of Laws (2014)**
- ♦ **Charleston School of Law, Honorary Doctor of Laws (2014)**
- ♦ **John F. Williams Award (2008)**
 - Highest award of the Richland County Bar
- ♦ **University of South Carolina School of Law Compleat Lawyer Platinum Award (2010)**
- ♦ **University of South Carolina Distinguished Alumni Award (2009)**
- ♦ **Legal Rebel (ABA JOURNAL – 2016)**
 - “Hubbard, during his ABA presidency in 2014-15, chose to take on what probably is the most controversial issue facing the legal profession: how to

leverage technology and nonlawyer help to make the justice system accessible to the 80 percent of the population that can't afford it.”¹

- “In pursuing the interests of consumers as users of the legal system, he is bold and unafraid to court controversy and gone where others fear to go,” says commission member James Sandman, president of the Legal Services Corp. “That’s quite unusual, particularly from someone leading a bar association.”²
- ““He opened the door and created a discussion,” says [Richard] Granat. “That door can’t now be closed.””³

♦ **Fastcase 50 (2015)**

- “As ABA President, William Hubbard has united the legal, technology, academic, and business communities in an effort to remedy this market failure and improve the delivery of legal services to the most underserved populations in the United States. As part of this effort, he convened a National Summit on Innovation in Legal Services at Stanford Law School and started the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services.”⁴

♦ **Inaugural Recipient, Leadership in Law Award by *SC Lawyers Weekly* (2009)**

♦ **One of five “Men of the Decade” for the 1990s by *Columbia Metropolitan* magazine (2000)**

♦ **Lifetime of Service Award, City Year (2006)**

♦ **Honorary Member, Mortar Board, University of South Carolina (1997)**

♦ **Honorary Member, Order of the Coif, University of South Carolina School of Law (1998)**

♦ **Honorary Member, Euphradian Society, University of South Carolina (2017)**

♦ **SC Foundation for Education Leadership, Distinguished Public School Graduate (2023)**

**SPEECHES &
PRESENTATIONS**

Spoken extensively throughout the United States in 49 states on rule of law, issues affecting the legal profession, access to justice, higher education, civic responsibility, and leadership.

¹ Terry Carter, *Legal Rebels Profile - William C. Hubbard: A president presses buttons*, A.B.A. JOURNAL (Aug. 30, 2016), http://www.abajournal.com/legalrebels/article/william_hubbard_profile.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *About the Fastcase 50*, FASTCASE (2015), <http://www.fastcase.com/fastcase50/?class=2015>.

Spoken, presented, or lectured on rule of law, human rights, access to justice, and related topics in Argentina, Austria, China, Czech Republic, Canada, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Spoken, presented, or lectured extensively at various university and law school convocations, graduations, classes, and national and international conferences at various institutions and venues on professionalism, rule of law, human rights, access to justice, law reform, and innovation.

Selected university examples: Stanford, Harvard, Duke, Chicago, Northwestern, Renmin University, Guangxi Normal University, University of Edinburgh, University of Oxford (Lady Margaret Hall), Washington & Lee, Dartmouth, Wisconsin (Thomas E. Fairchild Lecture), Vanderbilt, Arizona State, University of North Carolina, Davidson, Samford (Cumberland Law-Cordell Hull Lecture), Suffolk, Texas Tech, Memphis, University of South Carolina.

Selected other venues: World Bank; World Forum (The Hague); United Nations (Geneva and New York); United States Institute of Peace; Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; The Reichstag; Eisenhower Executive Office Building; National Press Club; Newseum; Library of Congress; Judicial Conference of the United States; United States Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference; Woodrow Wilson Center; Aspen Institute (Washington, DC); United States Embassies in Ireland, United Kingdom, and Saudi Arabia; Runnymede; Middle Temple; Lincoln's Inn; and Oxford Union.

Presented or lectured numerous times at CLE and other professional conferences with a focus on rule of law, federal practice, civil procedure, and professional responsibility.

Spoken at higher education conferences on higher education issues and role of trustees.

RECENT
SELECTED
PUBLISHED
PIECES

William C. Hubbard, [Keynote Address at the William C. Hubbard Conference on Law and Education: Restoring Faith in Democratic Institutions](#), University of Chicago Gleacher Center (Apr. 10, 2026).

William C. Hubbard, Making Justice Real (Feb. 27, 2025), in 76 S.C. L. REV. 811 (2025).

William C. Hubbard, Welcome and Opening Remarks – Future of Legal Ethics and Lawyer Regulation (Mar. 17, 2023), in 74 S.C. L. REV. 733 (2023).

William C. Hubbard and Sherrilyn Ifill, Editorial, *Charleston Massacre is Pivotal Point for Profession*, NAT'L LAW J. (July 20, 2015).

William C. Hubbard, [*Regulating a Changing Profession*](#), THE PRACTICE, Vol. 2, Issue 2 (Jan./Feb. 2016).

William C. Hubbard, Wisconsin Law Review Thomas E. Fairchild Lecture: Our Justice System at an Inflection Point (April 7, 2016), in 2017 WIS. L. REV. 1 (2017).

William C. Hubbard & Judy Perry Martinez, Foreword to WHAT WE KNOW AND NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE FUTURE OF LEGAL SERVICES: WHITE PAPERS FOR THE ABA COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF LEGAL SERVICES, 67 S.C. L. REV. 191, 191-92 (2016).

William C. Hubbard, Lecture at the St. Petersburg International Legal Forum (May 19, 2016), in 2016 KATUFIN UNI. L. REV. 388 (2016).

William C. Hubbard, *Foreword* to THE RELEVANT LAWYER: REIMAGINING THE FUTURE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION, at xvii (Paul A. Haskins, ed., Am. Bar Assoc. 2015).

William C. Hubbard, *Preface* to NICHOLAS VINCENT ET AL., MAGNA CARTA: THE FOUNDATION OF FREEDOM 1215-2015, at 7 (2014).

Civics 101: [A Podcast – Founding Documents: Magna Carta](#), NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC RADIO (Jan. 22, 2019).

William C. Hubbard and Sherrilyn Ifill, American Bar Association & Legal Defense Fund, [ABA-LDF Joint Statement on Eliminating Bias in the Criminal Justice System](#) (July 16, 2015).

OTHER

Co-Editor, *South Carolina Jurisprudence*, Vols. 24 & 25, “Civil Procedure” (1994)

Contributing Author, *South Carolina Civil Trial Techniques Handbook*, Chapter I, Civil Pre-Trial Practice in South Carolina (1997)

EDUCATION

University of South Carolina, School of Law, J.D. (1977)

University of South Carolina, B.A. (History), Magna Cum Laude (1974)

- Solomon Blatt Carolina Scholar
- Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award (for the outstanding graduating senior)
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Omicron Delta Kappa

ADMISSIONS

State of South Carolina; District of Columbia; U.S. District Court for South Carolina; U.S. Court of Appeals for Federal, Fourth, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits; Supreme Court of the United States