



Public Safety Training

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

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Hilton Garden Inn Columbia Airport

110 McSwain Drive

West Columbia, SC 29169

Meeting Information

Attendees will gain insight into current legal and liability trends affecting law enforcement officers, as a SCMIRF defense attorney discusses probable cause and qualified immunity. Fire personnel will also receive training on effective discipline to enhance individual performance. Participants will explore best practices for performance documentation, conducting fair and competent investigations, and applying discipline constructively while remaining compliant with departmental policies and legal standards.

The SC Municipal Insurance Trust and SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund strongly encourage command staff, training officers, police officers, other law enforcement staff, fire chiefs, fire personnel and first responders to attend. Attendance at this session counts toward risk self-assessment compliance and as an elective course for participants in the Risk Management Institute. Law enforcement attendees can receive 2.00 hours of continuing education credit from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.

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Agenda

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 – 9:55 a.m.	Registration
9:55 – 10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Probable Cause and Qualified Immunity
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Probable Cause and Qualified Immunity
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Importance of a Discipline Policy
2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	Break
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.	Importance of Competent Internal Investigations
3:15 – 3:45 p.m.	Creating Performance Improvement Plans
3:45 – 4:15 p.m.	Creating a Discipline and Investigation Policy
4:15 – 4:30 p.m.	Questions/Adjourn



Speakers

Drew Butler, Attorney, Richardson Plowden

Drew Hamilton Butler is a shareholder at Richardson Plowden. He joined the firm in 2002 at the Columbia office before helping to open the Charleston office in 2012. As a trial lawyer, he focuses his practice on general litigation, including but not limited to construction litigation, products liability defense, government defense and personal injury litigation. Prior to joining Richardson Plowden, Butler served as a speech writer for the Pennsylvania legislature and worked as a judicial law clerk for Pennsylvania Civil Service Commission Administrative Law Court.

John K Murphy, Attorney, Murphy Law Group

John K. Murphy, J.D., PA-C, M.S., EFO, a career firefighter, began his fire service as a firefighter/paramedic and retired as a deputy fire chief after 32 years. Murphy is an attorney licensed in Washington, focusing on firefighter health and safety, firefighter risk management, employment practices liability, employment policy, internal investigations, subject matter expert witness and litigation support, and consulting on risk management for fire departments. He is a Vietnam veteran and served as a Navy Corpsman. He is a distance learning instructor at the University of Florida Fire and Emergency Services program.

Murphy is a national and local speaker on topics related to fire and EMS operations, management, and leadership, and speaks frequently on those topics. He is the author of two books and blogs frequently on issues important to fire and EMS leaders.



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 5 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 5, 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

- Defensive Driving Training – June 16, 2026
- Defensive Driving Training – September 29, 2026
- Risk Management Services Conference/Annual Members Meeting – November 4 – 6, 2026

Meeting Location

Tuesday, May 12

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110 McSwain Drive

West Columbia, SC

Contact Information

Amy Gillian

Administrative Assistant, Risk Management Services

Municipal Association of SC

803.354.4774 | losscontrol@masc.sc