

MICHAEL J. VIRZI

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EDUCATION

University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC

J.D., *cum laude*, May 2000

Honors:

- Order of the Coif
- Order of Wig & Robe
- Roy Webster Scholar
- Dean's List
- CALI Award, Business Corporations
- Articles Editor, *ABA Real Property, Probate and Trust Journal*

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

B.A., Political Science, May 1991

LAW PRACTICE

The Virzi Law Firm, Columbia, SC

Solo practitioner (part-time), August 2006 – present

Ethics & Malpractice Consultation

Attorney Grievances

S.C. Supreme Court's Office of the Disciplinary Counsel, Columbia, SC

Assistant Disciplinary Counsel, February 2003 – August 2006

Investigated and prosecuted lawyer misconduct and incapacity

Represented the Disciplinary Counsel in non-disciplinary legal matters

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte, L.L.C., Columbia, SC

Associate Attorney, July 2001 – February 2003

Business, Commercial, and Real Estate Litigation

Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights

Employment Litigation

Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A., Greenville, SC

Associate Attorney, August 2000 – July 2001

Business and Real Estate Litigation

Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights

TEACHING

University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC

Legal Writing Instructor, August 2006 – Present (adjunct 2005 – 2006)

Legal Research, Analysis & Writing I & II

Professional Responsibility

Fundamentals of Law Practice & Professionalism

Advanced Legal Writing

Midlands Technical College, Columbia, SC

Adjunct Instructor, Paralegal Degree Program, May 2003 – August 2005

Business Law I (contracts, agency)

Business Law II (payment systems, secured transactions, corporations, partnerships, LLCs)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Bar Association	2006 – present
Center for Professional Responsibility	2006 – present
South Carolina Bar	2000 – present
Professional Responsibility Committee	2011 – present
Ethics Advisory Committee (Chair 2007-2010)	2003 – present
North Carolina Bar (inactive since 2004)	2001 – present
Richland County Bar	2001 – present
U.S.D.C., District of South Carolina	2001 – present
U.S.D.C., Western, Middle & Eastern Districts of North Carolina	2001 – present
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit	2002 – present
Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers	2012 – present
South Carolina Association of Ethics Counsel	2008 – present
National Institute for Teachers of Ethics and Professionalism	2010 – present
Phi Delta Phi	1999 – present
National White Collar Crime Center	2004 – 2007
F.B.I. Multi-Jurisdictional Lending Fraud Task Force	2004 – 2006

PRESS

Warren Hughes, *Ask Us at The Star – Lawyer Advertising*, Columbia Star, Mar. 10, 2017

Stephanie Francis Ward, *Coupon, You're On: 3 Opinions Say Lawyers May Participate in Daily-Deal Websites*, ABA Journal, May 2012, at 24.

Paul Tharp, *Lawyers: Ruling Muddied Proper Handling of Flat Fees*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Mar. 14, 2011, at 1.

Diana Smith, *E-mail Marketing Presents Opportunities for Firms but Perils if Done Wrong*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Oct. 4, 2010.

Tim Smith, *High Court Puts Lawyers on Notice about Relationships*, Greenville News, Sept. 15, 2010.

Stephanie Francis Ward, *Grade Anxiety*, ABA Journal, Feb. 2010, at 52.

Adam Parker, *Complaint Filed in Diocese Settlement Case*, Post & Courier, Feb. 26, 2009.

Sandy Hodson, *After Mortgage Fraud Cases, Federal Leaders Urge Caution*, Augusta Chronicle, Dec. 28, 2008.

Bess Battle, *Battle Zone*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Sept. 1, 2008, at 6.

Gregory Froom, *Attorneys May Threaten Criminal Action While Trying to Collect on Bad Checks*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Sept. 24, 2007, at 1.

Kristy Eppley Rupon, *Lawyers Required to Oversee Refinancing*, The State, Nov. 6, 2006, at H23.

Michael Dayton, *Disbursement of Closing Funds Requires Attorney Supervision*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Oct. 30, 2006, at 1.

Gregory Froom, *Must Lawyers Disburse?*, S.C. Law. Weekly, Oct. 16, 2006, at 1.

PUBLICATIONS

Quality Control: In re Wells and the Regulation of Adverbs and Adjectives in Lawyer Advertising, S.C. Lawyer, July 2011, at 27.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS: CASES AND MATERIALS (2d ed. 2010) (with Stephen A. Spitz).

Who Can You Trust? How the TLGP, CDARS, FDIC and NCUSIF Affect the Safekeeping of Client Funds, S.C. Lawyer, May 2009, at 14.

If It Walks Like a Duck...: Ethics Advisory Opinion 06-11 & the Attorney-Client Relationship in Real Estate Transactions, S.C. Lawyer, March 2007, at 30.

LECTURES & SEMINARS

Work-Life Balance in Law Practice (panelist), USC Women In Law Meeting, Feb. 23, 2017

Ethics of Lawyer Advertising (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 22, 2017

Multi-state Law Firm Advertising, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough Firm Retreat, Feb. 18, 2017

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 9, 2017

Ethics 2016: A Year in Review, S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel CLE, Jan. 13, 2017

Practicing Lawyer Ethics & Grievance Defense (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Jan. 9, 2017

Ethics 2016: A Year in Review, Richland County Bar CLE, Oct. 28, 2016

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Sept. 27, 2016

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions, Part II (guest lecturer), USC School of School, Aug. 31, 2016

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions, Part I (guest lecturer), USC School of School, Aug. 24, 2016

Ethics Issues Facing Real Estate Lawyers (panelist), Real Estate Intensive Workshop CLE, July 9, 2016

Ethics Lunch, Real Estate Intensive Workshop CLE, July 8, 2016

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, June 23, 2016

Ethics of Lawyer Advertising (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 17, 2016

Practicing Lawyer Ethics & Grievance Defense (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Jan. 11, 2016

Justanswer.com & Online Lawyer Marketing, Richland County Bar CLE, Nov. 6, 2015

Ethics of Lawyer Advertising (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 18, 2015

Ethics 2014: A Year in Review, S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel CLE, Jan. 16, 2015

Practicing Lawyer Ethics & Grievance Defense (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Jan. 12, 2015

Social Media & Social Graces in the Courtroom (panelist), Family Court Bench-Bar CLE, Dec. 5, 2014

Ethics 2014: A Year in Review, Richland County Bar CLE, Nov. 7, 2014

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Sept. 2, 2014

Ethics of Lawyer Advertising (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Mar. 5, 2014

LECTURES & SEMINARS (continued)

Practicing Lawyer Ethics & Grievance Defense (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Jan. 27, 2014

Ethics in Discovery, SC Bar YLD Lunch & Learn CLE, Oct. 28, 2013

To Fee or Not to Fee: Protecting Yourself when Collecting Fees, SCAJ Convention, Aug. 2, 2013

Fifty Ways to Lose Your License (panelist), Richland County Bar CLE, Apr. 9, 2013

Ethics of Lawyer Advertising (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 13, 2013

Lawyer Trust Accounting (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 13, 2013

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 13, 2013

Fifty Ways to Lose Your License (panelist), S.C. Bar Convention, Jan. 26, 2013

Got a Secret, Do You Keep It? (panelist), S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel CLE, Jan. 18, 2013

Law Firm Divorces (panelist), S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel CLE, Jan. 18, 2013

Practicing Lawyer Ethics & Grievance Defense, (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Jan. 14, 2013

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Sept. 19, 2012

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, Aug. 23, 2012

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 15, 2012

Law Firm Divorces, S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel CLE, Jan. 13, 2012

Ethics Update 2011, Lexington County Bar CLE, Dec. 7, 2011

Selected Ethical Issues from 2011 (panelist), USC School of Law All-Class Reunion CLE, Nov. 5, 2011

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, Sept. 28, 2011

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Aug. 29, 2011

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, May 14, 2011

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 16, 2011

Advertising School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Dec. 17, 2010

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, Sept. 15, 2010

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Aug. 30, 2010

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, June 3, 2010

Ethics & Malpractice in a Real Estate Practice (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, May 26, 2010

Ethics School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, May 14, 2010

If I Only Had A Brain: Real Estate Ethics, Fidelity National Annual Seminar, Feb. 26, 2010

(For what it's worth, I did not name them all. -MV)

Ethics School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 19, 2010

Ethics School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Oct. 15, 2009

LECTURES & SEMINARS (continued)

Recent Issues in Trust Accounting and Real Estate, First American Fall Seminar, Oct. 9, 2009

Ethics School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, June 11, 2009

UPL in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Apr. 1, 2009

Ethics School (panelist), S.C. Bar & Supreme Court LEAPP Program, Feb. 12, 2009

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), Charleston School of Law, Feb. 11, 2009

Classroom Ethos: The Trophy Case and Beyond, NC/SC Legal Writing Conference, May 21, 2008

Guided Meditation for Getting in Touch with Your Inner Ethics Counsel, S.C. Bar, Apr. 11, 2008

Ethics and Beyond: Hot Topics in Foreclosure, S.C. Masters-in-Equity CLE, Mar. 14, 2008

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 27, 2008

The Attorney Grievance Process, Part II (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 13, 2008

The Attorney Grievance Process, Part I (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 6, 2008

Hot Topics in Ethics for Government Lawyers, SCAC Fall Seminar, Dec. 7, 2007

Practical Tips for Solo and Small-Firm Lawyers, Lexington County Bar, Dec. 5, 2007

Ethics Update for Real Estate Lawyers, Stewart Title Fall Seminar, Nov. 2, 2007

Ethics Issues in Housing Law and Beyond, S.C. Appleseed Legal Justice Center, Oct. 19, 2007

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Oct. 15, 2007

Ethics Impact of the 2006 Property Tax Reform Act, S.C. Bar CLE, Aug. 24, 2007

Real Estate Ethics (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Apr. 9, 2007

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Mar. 23, 2007

The Attorney Discipline Process (guest lecturer), USC School of Law, Feb. 29, 2007

Legal Ethics of Non-Profit Corporations, S.C. Bar CLE, Feb. 9, 2007

Real Estate Fraud, Charleston County Real Estate Section Meeting, Dec. 8, 2006

ODC's Top Ten List, S.C. Bar Solo & Small Firm Section Conference, Oct. 6, 2006

Avoiding Discipline in a Real Estate Practice, SCALA Ethics Seminar, July 27, 2006

A Closing Lawyer's Ethical Obligations (panelist), S.C. Bar Real Estate Section Update, May 12, 2006

Ethics Rules & Real Estate Practice (panelist), S.C. Bar Convention, Jan. 27, 2006

UPL Issues in Real Estate Closings, Richland County Bar Annual Ethics Seminar, Nov. 4, 2005

Real Estate Fraud & Property Flips, PLTA Fall Seminar, Sept. 13, 2005

Ethics in Real Estate Transactions, PLTA Spring Convention, May 13, 2005

Pitfalls of a Real Estate Practice (panelist), S.C. Bar Convention, Jan. 21, 2005

The Revised Lawyer's Oath (panelist), Office of the Attorney General CLE, Aug. 20, 2004

Professionalism in the Law (panelist), USC School of Law, Aug. 17, 2004

Professionalism in the Law (panelist), USC School of Law, Aug. 19, 2003

Basics of Civil Litigation, Half-Moon Seminars CLE, Apr. 25, 2003

Racial Discrimination & the 14th Amendment (guest lecturer), Columbia College, Apr. 9, 2003