

Stephen L. Goldfinch Jr.
State Senator/Attorney



EDUCATION

2004	The Citadel – Charleston, SC BS, Biology
2006	The Citadel – Charleston, SC MBA
2010	The Charleston School of Law – Charleston, SC JD

LICENSES

2010	SC Bar Active
2011	Federal District Court – District of SC Active
2000	Master Captain – 50 Gross Tons Inactive
1997	Private Pilot – High Performance, Complex Ratings Inactive

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2012-Present	SC House of Representatives Member – District 108
2016	SC Senate Member – District 34

PRIVATE PRACTICE

2010-2014

Boyd Goldfinch LLC

Attorney

- Litigation Practice Focusing on Civil and Criminal Matters
- Experience in Personal Injury, Products Liability, Premises Liability, Medical Malpractice, Probate/Estate Litigation, Class Actions, MDL's, Labor and Employment Law, Administrative Law

2014-Present

Goldfinch Winslow, LLC

Senior Partner Attorney

- Litigation Practice Focusing on Complex Civil and Criminal Matters
- Experience in Personal Injury, Products Liability, Premises Liability, Mass Torts, Medical Malpractice, Probate/Estate Litigation, Class Actions, MDL's, Labor and Employment Law, Administrative Law
- Represented Classes of Clients against Major Grocery Chains, Utilities Companies, Pharmaceutical Companies and Medical Device Companies.
- Represented Clients against Major Oil and Gas Company in the Eastern District of PA, for a settlement of \$4.25 Million
- Manage an office staff of 16 and 6 attorneys

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

2012-2014

Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee
Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major environmental consequence to South Carolina.

Interacted regularly with employees, executive members and directors from agencies such as DHEC, DOT, Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Natural Resources.

2012-2015

Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Committee
Member

Responsible for working with the Council of Governments, Individual Federal, State and Local Officials to Study, Prioritize and Fund Public Infrastructure Projects in the Upper Coastal Region of South Carolina

2014-2016

House Judiciary Committee
Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. Interacted regularly with employees, executive members and directors from agencies such as DOT, DMV, DJJ, PPP, The Supreme Court of South Carolina, The Court of Appeals of South Carolina, Department of Insurance, Attorney General's Office, The SC Highway Patrol, The SC Sheriff's Association, SC Association of Justice.

2016-Present

Senate Judiciary Committee

Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. Interacted regularly with employees of the State Senators, other Senators, executive members and directors from agencies such as DOT, DMV, DJJ, PPP, The Supreme Court of South Carolina, The Court of Appeals of South Carolina, Department of Insurance, Attorney General's Office, The SC Highway Patrol, The SC Sheriff's Association, SC Association of Justice.

2016-Present

Senate Labor Commerce and Industry Committee

Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. Interacted regularly with employees of the State Senate, other Senators, employees of state agencies, such as Labor, License and Regulation, Department of Insurance, Department of Revenue and representatives from nearly every industry including banking and insurance.

2016-Present

Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. Interacted regularly with employees of the State Senate, Other Senators, employees of state agencies, such as DHEC, Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, and representatives from the farming, seafood, restaurant, heavy equipment and engineering industries, among others.

2016-Present

Senate Fish and Wildlife Committee

Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. Interacted regularly with employees of the State Senate, other Senators, Employees of state agencies, such as Department of Natural Resources, Department of Forestry, and representatives from many different industries, including but not limited to the commercial fishing industry, forestry industry and Sportsman.

2016-Present

Senate General Committee

Member

Responsible for drafting, lobbying and voting on legislation concerning issues of major importance to South Carolina. The General Committee is considered the "catch-all" committee for the Senate Judiciary, so interactions and duties are similar to those on Judiciary.

2016-Present

Senate Invitations Committee

Member

Responsible for accepting or declining invitations of the Senate, implementing and enforcing certain Senate Rules, including blocking or allowing legislation to be debated via a Special Order slot that is reserved for legislation considered extremely important and time-sensitive.

2014-Present

Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Committee

Chairman

Responsible for Facilitating Meetings Among Various Representatives of Government, Organizing and Running Policy Meetings of the Members of the GSATS and Interaction with Executive Members of DOT on Funding Mechanisms and Strategy.

PUBLICATIONS

Stephen Goldfinch, Johnnie Fryar, Clark Parker and Kevin Gause

ALL ABOUT FAITH AND FINANCE – A TEAM APPROACH

Co-Authored book on a Biblical Approach to Securing One's Financial Future. I authored the Estate Planning and Liability Protection Portion of the Book.

TESTIMONY PROVIDED

Testimony to Congress, October 11, 2017

United States House of Representatives, Natural Resources Committee, on offshore energy policy. Economic impacts; employment impacts, environmental impacts, tourism impacts and natural resources/fisheries impacts addressed before the committee.

SOME REPORTED AND PUBLISHED CASES OF INTEREST

REPKO V. COUNTY OF GEORGETOWN

Repko among many others similarly situated and represented by Mr. Goldfinch, brought suit against Georgetown County. It was alleged that the County breached its own ordinance by reducing a Letter of Credit that was deposited with the County, on behalf of the Developer/Development where Repko and the others owned undeveloped property. The property was abandoned by the developer after the developer went bankrupt. It was later discovered that the County, contrary to its own ordinance, released the Letter of Credit to the Developer many times, and reduced the amount illegally, to less than the required amount.

Repko brought suit and tried the case to a jury in Georgetown County. Judge Culbertson granted a Directed Verdict based on 1. The County owed no duty to the Plaintiffs, 2. The Tort Claims Act Preempted any recovery, and 3. The County's own Sovereign Immunity Provision Preempted any recovery. Repko Appealed. The Court of Appeals reversed and remanded, agreeing with every point made by the Plaintiff, affirming three key elements of law: 1. That the county did owe a duty to the Plaintiffs because there was an affirmative undertaking, 2. That the Tort Claims Act provided for a gross negligence exception, because Defendants pled No. 12 of the Tort Claims Act as an affirmative Defense, and 3. Sovereign Immunity was abolished with the enactment of the Tort Claims Act.

MURRAY V. D.R. HORTON

Murray received third degree burns on nearly a third of his body when he opened the oven to change a lightbulb. His wife was trying to prepare the thanksgiving turkey when the lightbulb burned out. The oven tipped over because the subcontractor for D.R. Horton neglected to install the required anti-tip bracket, which mounts the oven to the floor or the wall. The oven's manufacturer and installation manual clearly indicated that the oven must not be used without the anti-tip bracket and that severe injury or death could occur without its use.

D.R. Horton removed the case to federal court and filed a Motion for Summary Judgement based on The Statute of Repose. The lawsuit had been filed less than a week after D.R. Horton claimed the 8 years had run. Murray asserted that the Statute of Repose was inapplicable because the oven was not a fixture. The Statute of Repose only applies to fixtures, and Murray claimed that, because the oven was not mounted with the anti-tip bracket, that it should not be considered a fixture. Judge Harwell issued an order agreeing with the Plaintiffs and giving the first real guidance on fixtures in South Carolina in nearly a century. The case was soon thereafter settled for a confidential amount.

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

BRANCH

- SC STATE GUARD

UNIT/MOS

- JAG / SPEC OPS – RESCUE DIVER

LOCATON

- DRILL – OLYMPIA GUARD HEADQUARTERS, COLUMBIA, SC

PERSONAL DATA

DATE OF BIRTH:

- November 19, 1982

PLACE OF BIRTH

- Conway, SC

MARITAL STATUS

- Married to Renee Bodie Goldfinch, May 27, 2006

CHILDREN

- One Daughter, Hadlee – Born January 21, 2014
- One Son, Stephen Lewis Goldfinch III “Tripp” – Born June 2, 2016