

PARTNER

Danny C. Crowe

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About Danny

Danny has practiced law in his native South Carolina since his admission to the Bar in November 1975. He received his B.A. degree (with a political science major) from Duke University in 1972 and his J.D. degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1975.

Danny was an attorney for the Social Security Administration for his first two years as a lawyer. From 1977 to 1980, he served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Columbia defending the City and its employees in civil litigation and prosecuting criminal and traffic cases in Municipal Court. Danny practiced with the Turner Padgett law firm in Columbia from 1980 to January 2014 with a practice focused on civil litigation, representation of municipalities and counties and their employees, and mediation and arbitration. He also was General Counsel of the Municipal Association of South Carolina from January 2003 to July 2005.

While in private practice, Danny has served as the appointed municipal attorney for eight municipalities, including his service since 1998 as the City Attorney for Cayce and since March 2019 as General Counsel for the City of Sumter. He was a substitute Municipal Court Judge for the City of Columbia for 20 years until 2003. Danny also was the 1997 President of the Richland County Bar Association, the 2001 president of the South Carolina Municipal Attorneys Association, the 2013-2014 Chair of the State Bar's Dispute Resolution Section Council, and the first lawyer recipient of the Richland County Bar's Matthew J. Perry Civility Award in 2002.

Danny is listed in the peer-selected publication The Best Lawyers in America for his practice of municipal law, for his practice of municipal litigation and for his practice as a mediator. He was recognized by that organization as the Alternative Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year for Columbia for 2011, 2013 and 2020, and as the Municipal Lawyer of the Year for Columbia for 2024. He is a certified mediator and arbitrator and has mediated more than 1200 cases.

In 2014, Danny was inducted to the South Carolina Chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, in recognition for excellence in the practice of mediation.

Bar and Court Admissions

- South Carolina Bar, 1975
- United States District Court, District of South Carolina, 1977
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, 1978

Education

- University of South Carolina, J.D., 1975
- Duke University, B.A., 1972

Associations

- South Carolina Municipal Attorneys Association (President, 2000-2001)
- Richland County Bar Association (President, 1997; Executive Committee, 1993-1998)
- South Carolina Bar (Government Law Section, Council Member, 2005-2008; Dispute Resolution Section, Council Member, 2007-2015, Chair 2013-2014)
- John Belton O'Neall Inn of Court (Master, 2002-Present; Program Committee, 2004-2005)
- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)

Speeches/Presentations

- "Disruptions in Council Meetings," South Carolina Municipal Attorneys Association, 2009
- "Preparing Ordinances and Resolutions," South Carolina Municipal Finance Officers, Clerks and Treasurers Association, 2009
- "Short Takes on Timely Topics- Municipal Committees, Business License Issues, Election Requirements," South Carolina Municipal Finance Officers, Clerks and Treasurers Association, 2009
- "The Freedom of Information Act and Municipal Committees," South Carolina Municipal Finance Officers, Clerks and Treasurers Association, 2009
- "Business License Revocations," South Carolina Business Licensing Officials Association, 2009
- "Problem Areas – Religious Activities, Fuel Dealers, Contractors and Subcontractors, Real Estate," South Carolina Business Licensing Officials Association, 2009
- "Effective Use of the Municipal Attorney," South Carolina Municipal Clerks Treasurers Institute, 2009
- "Update on Statewide Business License Litigation," South Carolina Business Licensing Officials Association, 2008
- "Charitable Organizations," South Carolina Business Licensing Officials Association, 2008
- "A River Runs Through It: Development of the Three Rivers Greenway," South Carolina Municipal Association, 2008
- "Disharmony on Council," South Carolina Municipal Attorneys Association, 2007

- “Fee Versus Tax: Avoiding the Conceptual Muddle,” South Carolina Bar Government Law Section, 2007
- “Selected Materials on Procurement Procedures for Municipalities and Legal Pitfalls of the Bid Process,” South Carolina Municipal Clerk Treasurers Institute, 2007
- “The Year in Review: Selected Significant South Carolina State and Federal Cases in 2006,” South Carolina Municipal Attorneys Association, 2006
- “The Law of Zoning and Planning,” Municipal Association of South Carolina, 2006
- “Disharmony in the Council Chambers: Managing Conflicts and Resolving Disputes,” Municipal Association of South Carolina, 2005

Honors

- Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Rating™-AV®
- South Carolina Supreme Court, Certified Circuit Court Mediator, 1996
- United States District Court, District of South Carolina, Certified Mediator, 1996
- South Carolina Supreme Court, Certified Circuit Court Arbitrator, 1997
- Richland County Bar Association, inaugural Matthew J. Perry Civility Award, 2002
- Best Lawyers’ Columbia, SC Municipal Law Lawyer of the Year, 2024
- Best Lawyers’ Columbia, SC Alternative Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year, 2011, 2013 and 2020
- SC Chapter, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, 2014-Present
- Best Lawyers in America, Municipal Law, 2007-Present
- Best Lawyers in America, Mediation, 2008-Present
- Best Lawyers in America, Municipal Litigation, 2007-Present
- 2015, 2017 & 2018 Columbia Business Magazine® Legal Elite of the Midlands
- American Board of Trial Advocates 2016-Present

Representative Cases

- Braden’s Folly, LLC v. City of Folly Beach, 2023 WL2778717 (Supreme Court of South Carolina, 2023)
- Cole Towing and Recovery, LLC v. City of Spartanburg, 2021 WL 614061 (Court of Appeals of South Carolina, 2021)
- Earley v. City of Woodruff, 2019 WL 7369298 (Court of Appeals of South Carolina, 2019)
- Shred With Us, LLC v. Dorn, 2019 WL 581068 (Court of Appeals of South Carolina, 2019)
- South Carolina Self Storage Ass’n v. City of Aiken, 2012 WL 10862806 (Court of Appeals of South Carolina, 2012)
- Sloan v. City of Conway, 555 S.E. 2d 684 (S.C. 2001)