

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

Michael J. Virzi, LLC, 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, with a concentration in real estate transactions, mortgage fraud, and the unauthorized practice of law
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 EXPERIENCE

University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC

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

Legal Writing I & II
Advanced Legal Writing
Supervised Legal Research
Fundamentals of Law Practice & Professionalism

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)

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.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

Doe Law Firm v. Richardson, 371 S.C. 14, 636 S.E.2d 866 (2006).

Ex Parte Watson, 356 S.C. 432, 589 S.E.2d 760 (2003) (brief only).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Bar:

American Bar Association	2006 – present
South Carolina Bar	2000 – present
Professional Responsibility Committee	2011 – present
Ethics Advisory Committee (Chair 2007-2010)	2003 – present
Technology Committee	2001 – 2003
S.C. Association of Ethics Counsel	2008 – present
Richland County Bar	2001 – present
North Carolina Bar (inactive since 2004)	2001 – present

Courts:

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

Law Enforcement:

National White Collar Crime Center	2004 – 2007
F.B.I. Multi-Jurisdictional Lending Fraud Task Force	2004 – 2006

LECTURES & SEMINARS

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

LECTURES & SEMINARS (Continued)

- 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 this one.)
- 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
- 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, April 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, 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, 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, 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

LECTURES & SEMINARS (Continued)

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, 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, Apr. 25, 2003

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

PRESS

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 (S.C.) 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 (Charleston, S.C.), 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 (Columbia, S.C.), 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.