

2026 EMERGING LEADERS DIVISION

Annual Conference

MARCH 13-15, 2026

The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee
Greensboro, GA



South Carolina
Bankers Association



Chair's Invitation

On behalf of the Emerging Leaders Division Board of Directors, I am delighted to invite you to join us in Greensboro, Georgia, for our 2026 Annual Conference, to be held March 13–15 at The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee.

This event is the premier networking and professional development experience for emerging leaders in the banking industry. The purpose of the conference is threefold: to promote leadership development, enhance career knowledge and create meaningful business and networking opportunities.

Lake Oconee is truly a hidden gem—its beauty and authenticity speak for themselves. While it may feel rustic and remote to some, those are precisely the qualities that make it so special. Nestled along the peaceful waterfront just outside Atlanta, this five-star resort offers luxury, natural beauty, and a serene escape from everyday life.

We are proud to present a diverse lineup of dynamic speakers covering a wide range of timely and relevant topics. Throughout the weekend, you'll have the opportunity to connect with peers, gain valuable industry insights, develop new business leads and build lasting relationships that will benefit both you and your organization in our rapidly evolving industry.

If you're an emerging leader eager to learn from and network with some of the best in the business—don't miss the SCBA's Emerging Leaders Division Annual Conference!

— **Margi M. Fleming, The Citizens Bank
Chair, SCBA Emerging Leaders Division**

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W. Clarke Walker
Southern First Bank



Wilson G. Wicker
South Atlantic Bank

Agenda

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

HOTEL
CHECK-IN:
4 P.M.

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Registration
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Business Session – CPE Credit Available
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception

Dinner on your own

(It is strongly suggested to make your reservations on or off property as soon as you register with the SCBA)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast (prior registration required)
9:15 a.m. – Noon	Business Session – CPE Credit Available
Noon – 7:00 p.m.	Afternoon Free for Vendor Relations, Relaxing, OR A Special Activity of Your Choice:
7:00 p.m.	Cocktails <i>Sponsored by United Bank</i>
7:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Dinner and Entertainment with “88 Licks.” This dueling piano show combines music, fun and audience participation to create a high-energy show that's guaranteed to entertain all ages. Be prepared to sing-along, clap-along, and dance-along to this unique musical event!

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

11:00 a.m.	Checkout
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Information

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The SCBA is not responsible for making your hotel reservation. After completing this event registration form OR completing online, you will receive a confirmation email with a web link to make your accommodations with The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee. A group rate of \$279++ per night has been negotiated (three days prior and three days post conference, based on availability) for the Emerging Leaders Division Annual Conference. Rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes (currently 13%) as well as a State Hotel/Motel Fee (currently \$5.00) per room/per night in addition to a reduced Resort Fee of \$35.00 per room/per night.

Reservation requests must be received by The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee by February 3, 2026. Should the room block become full before February 3 or should the reservation request be made after February 3, reservations will be accepted on a space and rate availability basis. **It is not uncommon for a group room block to become full prior to the deadline date; we encourage you to make your reservations as early as possible.** The hotel will make every effort to honor specific preferences such as location, connecting rooms and bedding preferences, etc. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

EARLY DEPARTURE FEE: An Early Departure Fee (\$279) may only be charged if an attendee checks out of the Hotel prior to the attendee's scheduled departure date, without having notified the Hotel at check-in of the change in scheduled departure.

HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations made within 7 days prior to arrival will forfeit the first and last night's room rate and tax. No-shows will be charged the full room revenue for the dates of the reservation.

CHECK-IN TIME IS AFTER 4 P.M. AND CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11:00 A.M.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The registration fee of \$675 per banker/associate member and \$500 per spouse/guest includes admission to all business sessions and events (Friday's welcome reception and Saturday's cocktails, dinner & dueling piano show). For your convenience, you may register online for the conference.

Deadline to submit all registration materials is February 3, 2026.

REFUNDS

There will be no refund of registration fees after 12 p.m. on Friday, February 13, 2026. If you have extenuating circumstances, please notify Carolyn L. Bradley at carolynbradley@scbankers.org immediately.

CONFERENCE ATTIRE

Attire for the business sessions is business casual. For Friday evening, please dress appropriately for your dinner reservations. For Saturday evening, come dressed to sing and dance to The Dueling Piano Show, "88 Licks."

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Carolyn L. Bradley, (803) 779-0850, carolynbradley@scbankers.org. Also, visit www.scbankers.org for more information or to register online.

Thank You Sponsors

GRAND



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Featured Speakers



SHANE BEAMER

Head Football Coach
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

"Keynote Address"

Shane Beamer, born in Charleston, SC, is the son of Hall of Fame coach Frank Beamer. He earned his Bachelor's degree at Virginia Tech, where he also played long snapper, and completed a master's in Sports Administration at the University of Tennessee.

Beamer began his coaching career at Mississippi State and then moved to the University of South Carolina, where he excelled as Recruiting Coordinator. He played a key role in signing notable NFL talents, including first-round pick Stephon Gilmore. In 2011, he joined Virginia Tech, coaching David Wilson, who broke the school's rushing record and became a first-round draft selection. Later, at Georgia, he helped the Bulldogs win the SEC Championship and reach the College Football Playoff. He also had a successful stint at Oklahoma before being named Head Coach at South Carolina in December 2020.

During his time at South Carolina, Beamer achieved notable success, including an eight-win season in 2022 and a 9-4 record in 2024, which featured a six-game winning streak. He has been recognized as the SEC Coach of the Year.

Shane is married to Emily Gladney, and they have three children. He enjoys golf and spending time with his family.



BOB J. KIRBY, CFE, CFCI

Corporate Investigator
The Citizens Bank
Turbeville, SC

"Fraud War Stories"

Bob Kirby is the Corporate Investigator at The Citizens Bank where he has built out the Investigator Fraud role and serves as the Bank's Security Officer. Bob enjoyed a distinguished 21-year career as a Special Agent with the United States Secret Service and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Department of Inspector General where he investigated crimes ranging from child exploitation to financial institution and healthcare fraud. He earned multiple National Case of the Month Awards and the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations National Employee of the Year for 2018.

During his career as a Special Agent, Bob conducted several high-profile investigations including an undercover investigation involving online criminal forums and the sale of personal identifying information, credit card information and usernames and passwords for online websites; the pursuit and arrest of an individual on the U.S. Secret Service Most Wanted List; and a \$350 million government construction fraud scheme. He also served as a Certified Computer Forensics Examiner, Digital First Responder, and a Certified Physical Fitness Coordinator for over 18 years.

Bob received his Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree from Francis Marion University and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from The University of South Carolina. He is also a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a Certified Financial Crimes Investigator (CFCI). Prior to his career in Federal Law Enforcement, Bob enjoyed over 10 years in the banking industry with The Exchange Bank of South Carolina and The Citizens Bank. He remains active in the Federal Law Enforcement Officer's Association (FLEOA), where he served as Vice-President for the South Carolina Chapter for over 10 years; The United States Secret Service Association; and currently serves as Chairman of the South Carolina Bankers Association Bank Security Committee.

Bob and his wife Shelley live in Lake City, SC and have two children, Lani and Joe Tyler.

Featured Speakers



CASSIE L. THOMPSON

Director of People Operations
Red Rover
Greenville, SC

"The Ethical Edge: How Emerging Leaders Can Leverage AI Without Losing Trust"

Cassie Thompson is a dynamic leader in People Strategy and Organizational Development with a career spanning since 2009—and a growing reputation as a sought-after public speaker at both local and international conferences. She currently serves as the Director of People Operations at Red Rover, where she acts as a cultural storyteller and oversees people strategy, training and development, and a Strengths-based approach to leadership and growth. Her career has been defined by a passion for maximizing human potential—helping individuals and organizations thrive by aligning strengths, culture, and strategy. Cassie has been recognized with multiple accolades, including the Best and Brightest Under 35, Forty Under 40, and the New Executive Power List. Known for blending insight and humor, she frequently speaks on organizational culture, leadership, using AI, and the power of doing what you do best. She holds the SHRM-SCP certification and now serves on the board of GSHRM as the Professional Development Director. Cassie is also a dedicated mentor, helping emerging professionals build confidence, clarity, and connection in their careers.



JOAN K. WOODWARD

Executive Vice President of Public Policy Travelers and President of The Travelers Institute
Washington, DC

"Woodward on Washington: An Economic, Policy and Political Outlook"

Joan Woodward is Executive Vice President of Public Policy for Travelers and President of The Travelers Institute. She is a member of the company's Management Committee, Operating Committee, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Committee, and also serves on The Diversity Council, and the Travelers Foundation Board. She is the current Chairperson of the Travelers Community Connections Campaign.

Woodward joined Travelers in 2008 from Goldman Sachs to establish The Travelers Institute as the company's thought leadership and public policy platform. Prior to her current role, Woodward worked at Goldman, Sachs & Co. for ten years, where she was the founding Executive Director of the company's Global Markets Institute, the firm's international public policy and institutional investor educational platform. She also served as Founding Director of Washington Equity and Bond Research for Goldman Sachs' Global Investment Research where Institutional Investor magazine recognized her as a top Washington analyst for investors.

Prior to joining Goldman Sachs, Woodward worked on Capitol Hill for 12 years, as Deputy Chief of Staff for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee working for Chairman Bill Roth, where she was instrumental in creating the Roth IRA. She also was the Chief Economist for the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and the U.S. House Budget Committee under Chairman John Kasich. She is currently the Chairman of the Board of the RAND Institute for Civil Justice; on the United States Chamber of Commerce Foundation; and a member of the President's National Small and Medium Enterprise Export Council. She is also a member of the American Corporate Partners Board. Reactions Magazine named her to the Top 50 Women in Insurance, and in 2016, she was named to the Hot 100 in Insurance list by Insurance Business America Magazine. In 2017, she received the 2017 Power Women's Leadership Award by NY Moves magazine.

Woodward holds bachelor's degrees in economics and political science and a master's degree from The American University. She also studied at the University of London.

Special Events

SATURDAY, MARCH 14



PRAYER BREAKFAST

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Join in fellowship to hear “Called to Be Bold.”

THE HONORABLE J. MICHAEL “MIKE” REICHENBACH

South Carolina Senate
Member, Senate Banking and Insurance Committee

President & Owner, Mike Reichenbach
Ford, Lincoln, Chevy & VW Florence, SC

Senator Mike Reichenbach, elected in 2022 to represent District 31 in Florence, is the President of three family-owned car dealerships: Mike Reichenbach Ford, Chevy, and Volkswagen. His wife, Charisse, serves as Director of Marketing and Partner in Branding. Together, they have built a strong partnership over 29 years, focusing on family, faith, community service, and entrepreneurship.

In addition to his business responsibilities, Mike is deeply involved in community service, contributing to areas like law enforcement, health care, philanthropy, politics, and education. He serves on various boards, including First Reliance Bank, the Florence Darlington Technical College Foundation, the Francis Marion University School of Business Advisory Board, and the McLeod Hospital Foundation (as Vice Chair). He is also the Chair of the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce and Vice Chair of Coastal Carolina Hospital. A Liberty Fellow (Class of 2019), he is part of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

In his political career, Mike achieved a record-setting 90% of the vote in his first election and was re-elected in 2024. He currently sits on the Banking and Insurance, Family and Veterans' Services, Judiciary, Labor Commerce & Industry, and Transportation committees. He is Chair of the Subcommittee on Child Welfare and Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Children.

Mike earned an MBA from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Bowling Green State University. He and Charisse have two children: a daughter who graduated from the University of South Carolina and a son who is currently a Senior at USC. They reside in Florence.

Prior registration is required. Space is limited. \$70 per person.

Special Events

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Building a strong network and cultivating relationships is equally as important as the educational components of this Conference. Lake Oconee offers plenty of dining, shopping, dining, historical and recreational adventures to suit anyone's taste and has numerous attractions. Saturday afternoon you may wish to play golf, shoot clays, enjoy the spa or just sit back, relax and enjoy the natural, peaceful beauty of the resort.

GOLF

The SCBA is NOT hosting an outing, so should you wish to play or put a group together, please contact the Ritz Carlton Sporting Desk at (706) 467-1587. You must be registered for the conference and have received a confirmation number from the resort in order to reserve a golf tee time. Tee times will be available after 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 14.

Amid towering Georgia oak trees, flowering dogwoods, fragrant magnolias and the sparkling Lake Oconee, this resort offers a golf experience unlike any other. Designed by renowned architects Rees Jones, Tom Fazio, Bob Cupp and Jack Nicklaus, the five championship courses offer 99 holes of play, each using nature to challenge and inspire. To enhance your golf experience this year, we have decided to let you choose how you would like to play.

COURSE

Preserve Course: \$300+/player..... Approx. 5 minutes by vehicle
Landing Course: \$300+/player Approx. 5 minutes by vehicle
National Course: \$300+/player Approx. 8 minutes by vehicle
Oconee Course: \$350+/player..... Onsite within walking distance from Ritz Carlton
Great Waters Course: \$350+/player Approx. 20 minutes by vehicle

Information about all five courses can be found on The Ritz-Carlton's website.



Special Events

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

SANDY CREEK SPORTING GROUNDS

Named for the beautiful stream that flows into Lake Oconee, Sandy Creek Sporting Grounds is under the design direction of international shooting champion Justin Jones of Great Britain, one of the world's foremost experts in the development and management of elite resort shooting facilities. This luxurious sporting facility features a 20-station sporting clays course, two five-stand shooting ranges, an air rifle range and an archery range, and a 50-foot driven tower that simulates a driven pheasant. If you're not a shooter, take advantage of an endless list of additional activities, including fishing, an off-roading course, an aerial adventure course, and the unforgettable experience of falconry.

For more information, contact the Ritz Carlton Sporting Desk at (706) 467-1587.



SPA

The healing elements of water, the benefits of locally cultivated herbs and the science behind products from ESPA, Eminence and Dr. Gross Skin Care come together at this luxury spa resort. Among the highlights of this Lake Oconee resort, the spa offers a nearly 30,000 sq. ft. retreat with extensive relaxation facilities including saunas, steam rooms, cold plunge pools and an expanded ladies' lounge as well as an indoor pool. Treatments are elevated versions of traditional therapies, and The Spa includes a spacious nail area offering dedicated services.

The SCBA has negotiated a 10% discount on spa pricing.
For more information or to reserve a spa treatment, please call (706) 467-7185.



2026 EMERGING LEADERS DIVISION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 13-15, 2026 | The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee | Greensboro, GA

MAIN REGISTRANT (\$675)

FULL NAME: _____ NICK NAME: _____

☐ PRAYER BREAKFAST (\$70)

EVENT FEE SUBTOTAL:

\$

SPOUSE/GUEST (\$500)

FULL NAME: _____ NICK NAME: _____

☐ PRAYER BREAKFAST (\$70)

\$

MAIN REGISTRANT'S

ORGANIZATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

TOTAL:

\$

PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES OR DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS OR ACCOMMODATIONS _____

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METHOD OF PAYMENT TOTAL: \$ _____

☐ CHECK: MAKE PAYABLE TO SCBA ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ ACH ☐ INVOICE

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____ V-CODE (LAST 3 DIGITS) _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ BILLING ZIP CODE _____

NOTE: Images captured at this event may be used to market next year's event, in the SCBA's Palmetto Banker magazine and/or on social media. I consent to the use of images that may contain my likeness for promotional purposes.

HOW TO REGISTER

MAIL TO:

SCBA
P.O. Box 1483
Columbia, SC 29202-1483

FAX TO:

SCBA
803.779.0890

INTERNET:

www.scbankers.org
go to "Education
and Events, Calendar"

If you have questions, please contact SCBA Senior Vice President Carolyn Laffitte Bradley at 803.779.0850 or by email at carolynbradley@scbankers.org. Should you need to cancel, PLEASE CONTACT SCBA at 803.779.0850. **SCBA registration fees will NOT be refunded after 12pm on Friday, February 13, 2026.** The deadline to register is February 3, 2026. Substitutions are allowed.



South Carolina
Bankers Association

P.O. Box 1483
Columbia, S.C. 29202-1483
Phone: 803.779.0850
Fax: 803.779.0890