

38th Annual
**Economic
Outlook**
Conference
DARLA MOORE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

FEATURING
**SOUTH
CAROLINA
OPPORTUNITY
ZONES**
AND
**THE SOUTH
CAROLINA AND
U.S. ECONOMIC
FORECAST
FOR 2019**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018
USC ALUMNI CENTER

UPDATED PROGRAM AGENDA

11:45 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.

Opening Lunch/Network Reception

12:45 P.M. - 12:50 P.M.

Welcome

Dean Peter Brews

Darla Moore School of Business

12:50 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.

The 2019 South Carolina Economic Outlook

State, Metro and Regional

Dr. Joseph Von Nessen

Research Economist

Darla Moore School of Business

1:15 P.M. - 2:20 P.M.

Panel: Opportunity Zones

Moderator:

Ms. Jeanne Milliken Bonds, Federal

Reserve Bank of Richmond,

Community Development Officer

The Honorable Curtis Loftis,

Treasurer, South Carolina

The Honorable Jim Hodges, Former

Governor, South Carolina

The Honorable Steve Benjamin,

Mayor City of Columbia

2:20 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Break

2:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Tariffs and Trade Wars Impact on South Carolina and United States Outlook

Dr. Doug Woodward

Director, Division of Research

and Professor of Economics

Darla Moore School of Business

3:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

After 10 Years of Economic Expansion, Will Wages Finally Rise?

Dr. Joseph Von Nessen

Research Economist

Darla Moore School of Business

3:30 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Questions and Answers

3:45 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Wrap-up

MAYOR STEVE BENJAMIN has made



it his mission to create in Columbia the most talented, educated and entrepreneurial city in America. His service in Columbia started back in 1990 when he

served as student body president at the University of South Carolina, later becoming the Student Bar Association President at the USC School of Law.

At 29 years old in 1999, Benjamin was appointed to Governor Jim Hodges' cabinet as director of the state's second largest law enforcement agency, the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. Mayor Benjamin has continued his service to the community in serving on numerous boards for nonprofit organizations such as the Columbia Urban League, Benedict College, the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce and as a founding board member of the Eau Claire Promise Zone. He also served as a founding member of Choose Children First.

Mayor Benjamin's administration has been characterized by his firm belief in Columbia's potential and intense focus on job creation. In his first term alone, his leadership helped cut unemployment in the metro by roughly half and secured billions of dollars in new regional capital investment in the midst of a national recession. Combined with the rebirth of Main Street, these accomplishments have drawn national attention and accolades including his being awarded an Aspen Rodel Fellowship and receiving an Honorary Doctor of Humanities from Francis Marion University.

Mayor Benjamin is married to the Honorable DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, Chief Administrative Judge (Common Pleas) for South Carolina's Fifth Judicial Circuit. The two are the proud parents of two daughters.



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