

Honorary Membership Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards 643 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

RE: Nomination of SC Representative Kirkland Finlay, III

Dear Members of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

I am honored to be submitting the following to nominate South Carolina Representative Kirkman Finlay, III for Honorary Membership. I served on our chapter's Advocacy Committee prior to becoming Trustee. During my time assisting with this committee, Representative Finlay diligently worked for years alongside our committee to clarify the interpretation of the scope of services included in our practice act by state regulatory agencies.

In 2017, a firm in Columbia, KBSA, was denied an encroachment permit because the SCDOT reviewer did not except a drawing produced by a landscape architect. KBSA, a firm with 70 years of practice, submitted similar permit applications for years without issues. This denial was a shock to the local firm which created the need for advocacy and education effort from our chapter's advocacy committee to help clarify services covered by our current licensure law with this state agency. Our chapter recently received an acceptance letter of landscape architects to submittal SCDOT encroachment permits.

This victory would not have been possible without the help of Representative Finlay. Kirkman was instrumental in coordinating countless meetings and persistent follow-up with the state agency. It took our chapter three years to resolve this issue and Representative Finlay was with us through the entire journey. His dedication to protecting our right to practice surpassed the role of a state representative, and we are indebted to his tireless efforts.

Representative Finlay who is no stranger to the profession. Finlay Park in downtown Columbia is named for his father, a former Mayor of the capitol city. Finlay Park is a historic landmark and award-winning park in the city which was designed by the renowned landscape architect Robert Marvin, FASLA. Representative Finlay's family has a long history with our profession which we would like to continue by bestowing Honorary Membership to Representative Finlay. He is a strong advocate and ally to our profession.

South Carolina
Chapter of the American Society
of Landscape Architects

P.O. Box 3523
Bluffton, SC 29910

scasla.org

Executive Committee (voting)
President · Kristina Harvey (-2021)
Past President · Clint Rigsby
Secretary · Blake Thomas (-2020)
Treasurer · Maria Drawdy (-2021)
Trustee · Holley Owings (-2021)
At-Large Members
Christa Jordan (-2020)
Drew Cheatham (-2020)
Sarah Marrs (-2021)
Michael Ethridge (-2021)

Regional Leaders
Chris Lambka (upstate)
Patrick Livingston (midlands)
Mary Martinich (lowcountry)

Government Affairs/Advocacy
Drew Cheatham

Membership
Bill Eubanks

PR · Public Awareness
Clint McHenry

Sponsorship
Sarah Marrs

Student & Emerging Professionals
Christa Jordan

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Awards
Barrett Armstrong

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David Lycke · Bill Eubanks

HALS Chapter Liaison
Rebekah Lawrence

Clemson University
Matt Powers (CU Liaison/faculty)
Robbie Levey (CUASLA Pres)
Derek Bussey (CUASLA VP)
Gabe Jenkins (CUASLA Trs)
Caitlyn Van de Meulebroecke
(CUASLA Sec)

Thank you for considering our nomination. We appreciate this opportunity to honor a champion that appreciates the work we do within our professional community.

Sincerely,



Holley Owings, ASLA
ASLA South Carolina Chapter Trustee

Honorary Member Nomination
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
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RE: Nomination of SC Representative Kirkland Finlay, III

Dear Members of the Executive Committee:

On behalf of the ASLA South Carolina Chapter, I am writing this letter in support of SC Representative Kirkland Finlay, III's nomination for Honorary Membership. This nomination is being submitted by one of our chapter members, K. Holley Owings, ASLA and has been endorsed by our chapter's Executive Committee.

Congressman Finlay has shown strong support for the profession over the years and especially while serving in the South Carolina House of Representatives. He was paramount in resolving misconceptions about the scope of our profession and advocating for the acknowledgment of our landscape architecture state licensure to regulatory agencies such as the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Throughout his terms in office, congressman Finlay has coordinated multiple efforts to discuss and resolve permitting conflicts with regards to rejected applications submitted by registered landscape architects for improvements or connections to SCDOT rights-of-way. His dedication led to meetings that settled misconceptions and ultimately resulted in the issued memo of clarification by SCDOT acknowledging and accepting the qualifications of landscape architects.

For these advocacy efforts to continuously support landscape architects and our licensure in South Carolina, the ASLA South Carolina Chapter is honored to endorse this nomination of Representative Finlay for Honorary Membership.

Sincerely,



Kristina Harvey, ASLA
ASLA South Carolina Chapter President

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RE: Nomination of SC Representative Kirkland Finlay, III

Dear Members of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

As the immediate past-President of ASLA South Carolina, I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Representative Finlay for honorary membership. The acceptance letter received from the South Carolina Department of Transportation this week was a tremendous victory for landscape architects in South Carolina. Over 45 years ago, a handful of landscape architects, in response to the agency's misinterpretation of SC's landscape architecture licensure law, began the decades long fight to have the SCDOT recognize our profession's right to practice. Our chapter became actively involved in this advocacy effort during the term of my predecessor. After nearly three years, the efforts of our chapter's advocacy team with the leadership, guidance, and support of Representative Finlay have finally paid off.

Our chapter is deeply grateful to Representative Finlay for making this a priority for his office and for the SCDOT. His tireless commitment to our cause ensures that landscape architects across our state will be able to practice without intimidation or limitations from government agencies which have previously been unwilling to recognize our profession's lawful right to practice. Representative Finlay spent countless hours serving as our chapter's adviser and attending meetings with SCDOT on our behalf. Disappointed that a state agency would find themselves above the law, Representative Finlay took it upon himself to see justice served on behalf of our profession.

I want to thank the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees for reviewing our nomination. We humbly ask that you join our chapter in honoring this deserving advocacy champion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clint Rigsby", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clint Rigsby, ASLA
ASLA South Carolina Chapter
Immediate Past-President

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Honorary Membership
Nomination American Society
of Landscape Architects 636
Eye Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20001-3736

February 7, 2020

RE: ASLA Honorary Membership for Representative Kirkman Finlay III, Member of the South Carolina House of Representatives 75th District

Dear ASLA Board of Trustees,

I strongly endorse the nomination of Rep. Kirkman Finlay, member of South Carolina House of Representative 75th District, for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscapes Architects. I have had the pleasure working with Representative Finlay both professionally and while serving as the SCASLA Advocacy Chair. Rep. Finlay understands the value and expertise that landscape architects provide to not only to his personal endeavors but to projects throughout our state.

In 2017, our firm was denied a permit to connect a driveway onto a South Carolina Department of Transportation owned road. It was acknowledged by SCDOT permit engineers that all design criteria and standards had been met, except one. SCDOT required all certification had to be by a licensed professional engineer. We knew that this prohibited our right to work to the full extent allowed to us by South Carolina's professional landscape architecture licensure law. With support of SCASLA, we approached Representative Finlay about how we should challenge a large state agency. He responded that he would personally take on this issue and do whatever necessary to ensure SCDOT complied with state law. Through his uncompromising efforts we were able to have multiple meetings with top personnel of SCDOT. In January of 2020, SCDOT issued a written memo to all district permit engineers that a landscape architect's certification would now be accepted by SCDOT for work inside of their rights of way. This would not have happened if not for the efforts of Representative Finlay.

Therefore, I strongly encourage the Board of Trustees to elect Representative Kirkman Finlay as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Recognition of his work, ensuring landscape architects right to work, would be well deserved. He is and continues to be a great ally of our profession in our state's legislature. Thank you for your consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew M. Cheatham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andrew M. Cheatham, ASLA (SC PLA #1249)

SCASLA Advocacy Chair



Kenneth B. Simmons Associates, LLC
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February 7, 2020

RE: ASLA Honorary Membership for Representative Kirkman Finlay III, Member of the South Carolina House of Representatives 75th District

Dear ASLA Board of Trustees,

I wholeheartedly endorse the nomination of Rep. Kirkman Finlay, member of South Carolina House of Representative 75th District, for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscapes Architects. I believe the Rep. Finlay embodies the principles that we, as landscape architects live by, as well as the mission of our Society.

Our firm lead the lobbying efforts in 1976 for the establishment of registration of landscape architects in SC. Because of this we are fierce defenders of our professional licensure law and the full extent of which it allows landscape architects to practice. For more than five decades we have lobbied the SC Dept. of Transportation to recognize and accept the certification of work by landscape architects within their rights of way. SCDOT is a large state agency, dominated by engineering professionals with frequent personnel changes. This prevented us from ever receiving documentation of acceptance in written form. Even when acknowledgement of design requirements had been met, projects would routinely be delayed or denied permit approval from SCDOT purely on the bases that the certification was completed by a landscape architect and not a professional engineer. In 2017, Representative Finlay recognized this limited our right to practice to the full extent of SC law. Over the course of two years Representative Finlay relentlessly lobbied SCDOT on behalf of our state's landscape architects. In 2019, his efforts resulted in multiple meetings between me, the SCASLA Advocacy Chair, and all top personnel at SCDOT. From these face to face meetings, SCDOT has now provided written guidance to all permit district engineers to accept certifications of SC professional landscape architects. This would not have happened if not for the efforts of Representative Finlay.

Therefore, I strongly encourage the Board of Trustees to elect Representative Kirkman Finlay as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Recognition of his tireless work and leadership to better our profession and expand its scope of services, would be well deserved. Thank you for your consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth B. Simmons', written in a cursive style.

Kenneth B. Simmons, FASLA (SC PLA #0004)



RE: Nomination of SC Representative Kirkland Finlay, III

Dear Members of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

I have been involved with ASLA South Carolina for over thirty years. During these years, I have never seen a state representative support of profession with such dedication as that of Representative Finlay. His devotion to ensure that KBSA's business would not be negatively affected by the interpretation of our practice law by a state agency. Representative Finlay provided us resources including introducing our chapter's advocacy committee to the House of Representatives SCDOT liaison as well as attending meetings with SCDOT leadership on our behalf. His involvement started in 2017, when this issue first arose for one of the oldest firms in our state. After three years of persistence efforts this matter has finally been resolved in our favor.

This was an important battle in defending our professional practice act. South Carolina Landscape Architects are fortunate to have this relationship with a state official. Representative Finlay was determined to defend our right to work in this state. His advocacy efforts on our behalf justify him deserving this honor.

His knowledge and respect for the profession goes back decades. Early in my career I worked on the design of Finlay Park, named for his father, when I worked for ASLA Medal recipient Robert Marvin, FASLA. Walking that beautiful park with his father exposed him to the importance of our profession in the life of a city and its citizens.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request and for your dedication to serving the profession.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William T. Eubanks'.

William T. Eubanks, FASLA
Creative Director
SeamonWhiteside

Representative Kirkman Finlay, III

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