CITATION FOR THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS

Joe Barnett Huddleston

Joe Huddleston, executive director of the Multistate Tax Commission in Washington, D.C., an organization of 47 participating state governments that works to promote equitable and efficient administration of tax laws that apply to multistate enterprises, was born on May 17, 1949, in Pleasant Hill, Tennessee.

While growing up in a Tennessee family whose roots date to pre-colonial days, Mr. Huddleston visited his maternal grandmother who was clerk and master for the White County, Tennessee, Chancery Court. That experience fostered his powerful dreams of becoming a lawyer.

He received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina in 1971 and worked as an officer with the Internal Revenue Service in South Carolina and Tennessee before receiving his law degree from the Nashville School of Law in 1982.

He entered private law practice in Nashville and also worked at the District Attorney General's Office in Cookeville, Tennessee, from 1984 to 1987, from which he participated in some 100 jury trials.

While serving as commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Revenue from 1987 to 1995, he was president of both the Federation of Tax Administrators and the Southeast Association of Tax Administrators. He also served on several boards and commissions, including the Tennessee Claims Commission and the Tennessee State Board of Equalization.

Mr. Huddleston later became the chief financial officer for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. In that position, he also served as one of the city's lead negotiators for the relocation of the Tennessee Titans and the expansion of the NHL Predators.

From 1997 to 2003, Mr. Huddleston served as a state and local tax consultant for middle market and Fortune 500 companies with Grant Thornton, the nation's fifth largest accounting and management consulting firm, and in 2003 was named by the lieutenant governor of Tennessee to serve on the Tennessee Tax Reform Commission.

Before joining the Multistate Tax Commission in August 2005, Mr. Huddleston was vice president of tax solutions with Liquid Engines Inc., a tax software firm focused on advanced state income tax planning models and methodologies for multi-state and multi-national companies.

The Multistate Tax Commission regularly advises Congressional Committees and individual members of Congress on the impact of state tax on federal legislation and Mr. Huddleston is a nationally recognized speaker at state tax forums. He is a founding trustee of the Paul Hartman Tax Forum at the Vanderbilt University School of Law, and serves on the advisory boards of New York University's State and Local Tax Institute, the Georgetown University Law School State and Local Tax Institute, the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee state tax program, and other state tax advisory boards. He has served on several community boards, including the American Red Cross and as a trustee for the Watkins College of Art and Design in Nashville.

Mr. Huddleston is a Lifetime Member of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association. He and his wife, Catherine, have three children, twins Morgan and Meagan who are students at Tennessee Tech and the University of Tennessee, respectively; and son Michael, who works in TV production in Hollywood. The Huddlestons live in Alexandria, Virginia.

For his considerable leadership in and commitment to the pursuit of efficient and effective government and commerce through sound public policies; for his dedication and devotion to the concept of equitable and simplified taxation; and for his dedication to the communities in which he has lived as well as to his alma mater; the University of South Carolina, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, now presents Joe Barnett Huddleston for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.