

The Honorable James H. "Jay" Lucas is an attorney and Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives, where he works tirelessly to improve the lives of the citizens of South Carolina.

After earning his bachelor's, master's and law degrees from the University of South Carolina, Speaker Lucas served as the attorney for Darlington County and judge for the city of Hartsville before becoming a partner with Lucas, Warr and White. In 1999, he was elected to represent District 65 in the South Carolina House of Representatives, and in 2010 he was named Speaker Pro Tempore by his colleagues. Since 2014, he has served as the Speaker of the House. Speaker Lucas is passionate about improving education in South Carolina, and he has been an ally for the state's institutions of higher education including The Citadel, where his counsel and support are highly respected. Speaker Lucas is a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, and he is an active fundraiser for the Pee Dee Coalition, a nonprofit organization that works to prevent sexual assault, family violence and child abuse.

In recognition of his lifetime of service to the state of South Carolina, The Citadel Board of Visitors is proud to award the Honorable James H. Lucas the honorary Doctor of Public Administration degree.