



THE RICHMOND BAR

Volume 29, Number 4

A newsletter for members of The Bar Association of the City of Richmond

November 2020

November luncheon features election analysis by political columnist Jeff Schapiro

RBA favorite Jeff Schapiro, *Richmond Times Dispatch* political columnist, is back to give his expert insight and no-holds-barred commentary. In a year that has been tumultuous for many reasons, we are adding a contentious U.S. Presidential election to the mix, as well as a heated mayoral race.

The luncheon will be held on **Wednesday**, November 18, 2020 at the Omni Hotel beginning at 12:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by visiting <https://www.richmondbar.org/luncheons/>, returning the enclosed flier or by calling the Bar office at 780-0700. **The deadline for reservations is 12:00 noon on Friday, November 13th.** We CANNOT take reservations after the deadline listed above.

Cost to attend is \$32.00 for RBA members and \$37 for guests. If you require a vegetarian meal or have a dietary restriction, please inform us at the time you make the reservation.

The safety of our guests during this pandemic is of the utmost importance. Distancing and face masks are required; full information on the Hotel's Safe and Clean Program can be found at <https://www.omnihotels.com/-/media/files/omni-safe-and-clean-standards>.

As the political columnist for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Mr. Schapiro has covered campaigns and government for more than 30 years, a period during which Virginia has emerged as a decisive swing state prized by the national political parties.

Mr. Schapiro joined the *Times-Dispatch* in 1987 after reporting from the State Capitol for United Press International and Virginia Business magazine. His column appears in the *Times-Dispatch* Wednesday and Sunday. It is carried by many other Berkshire Hathaway-published newspapers in Virginia.

Schapiro's video column is posted Thursday to the *Times-Dispatch's* website,



Jeff Schapiro

timesdispatch.com, where you also can listen to his podcast, 'Capitol Chat.' On Friday mornings, at 8:45 a.m., Schapiro runs down the week's political news on WCVE News, 88.9 FM.

Since 1991, Mr. Schapiro has been a correspondent for *The Economist*, the British newsmagazine, writing on Southern politics and culture.

Judges are invited to attend the luncheon free of charge as guests of the Association. However, reservations are required and must be made 48 hours in advance of the program. Due to COVID-19, the Omni Hotel is not running van service at this time.

Members are reminded that a waiting list for individuals who have not made reservations by the deadline will be started at 12:00 noon at the registration table on the day of the event. If space is available, members will be accommodated on a first come, first served basis. There is no guarantee that members on the waiting list will be admitted to the luncheon.

RBA forced to cancel Holiday Cocktail Party due to COVID

During a year in which normal operations have been turned upside down for everyone, the Bar has been forced to make the difficult decision to cancel the annual Holiday Cocktail Party that was scheduled for December 9th at the Virginia Museum. The health and safety of our members is paramount and we look forward to again hosting our big social events, post-COVID. We wish you a happy, healthy holiday season!

*Message from RBA President
Connor Johnson*

We are very disappointed that we are forced to cancel the Holiday Cocktail Party this year. Please know that running a safe event during this pandemic is our top priority. The Party is meant to be a fun, interactive social event and with distancing and safety protocols in place we did not know if we could host the event with full confidence. After consulting with The McCammon Group, the sponsor of the event, leadership concluded that the best course of action was to cancel it. We sincerely hope that you will join us for the next Holiday Cocktail Party.

Because the pandemic has disrupted so many of our live events, the RBA has offered several free Zoom sessions on topics including effective legal marketing, making use of technology during COVID and criminal justice reform. In January, we will feature a program on innovative marketing ideas after COVID. Is there a topic you'd like to hear about? Send all suggestions to John Anderson (janderson@spottsfain.com) or Lee Martin (lmartin@richmondbar.org).

Share the news

If you've recently landed a new job or promotion, share the good news with the Richmond Bar. Include your full name, your company's name and location, your new title and your areas of concentration in your letter, press release, fax or e-mail. Announcements can be e-mailed to lmartin@richmondbar.org or mailed to Lee Martin, at P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Elizabeth A. McClanahan (Ret.) has joined The McCammon Group where she will serve the mediation, arbitration, special master, and judge pro tempore needs of lawyers and litigants throughout Virginia, D.C. and beyond.

Williams Mullen announces the addition of two lawyers to the Richmond office:

Carrick Brooke-Davidson is a partner in the firm's Environment & Natural Resources Group and will focus on environmental law and litigation under federal and state environmental programs, and

Evan Tucker joins as an associate in the Litigation Practice where he will focus on general litigation matters.

Central Virginia Legal Aid Society (CVLAS), a non-profit community of lawyers who provide free legal services to low-income individuals in civil cases and preventative legal education in our communities, announces new leadership for its Board of Directors:

President - **Chris Tribble**, Senior Counsel at McGuireWoods

Vice President - **Earl Gee**, Principal Partner at the Gee Law Firm

Treasurer - **Heather Hays Lockerman**, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Chief Financial Law & Government Support Section

Secretary - **Patrice Shelton**, Certified Community Health Worker Senior (CCHWSr), Richmond City Health District and VP of Richmond Tenant Organization



Nominations are being accepted for all RBA awards:

Hill-Tucker Public Service Award

Hunter W. Martin Professionalism Award

John C. Kenny Pro Bono Award

Young Lawyer of the Year Award

Visit <https://www.richmondbar.org/bar-association-awards/> for criteria and nomination deadlines.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Public Notice for Appointment of New Magistrate Judge

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia at Richmond.

The current salary of the position is \$199,088. The term of office is eight years.

Application forms and or information on the magistrate judge position may be obtained from Sharon A. Cooke, Division Manager, United States District Court, 701 E. Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23219. The notice and form are also available on the court's internet website at www.vaed.uscourts.gov.

Applications must be submitted in a clearly marked sealed envelope, Attn: Division Manager, Sharon Cooke, USMJ Application Form, and only by applicants personally at the Clerk's Office drop box in the Richmond Courthouse, and must be received by the Division Manager at the court address noted by November 9, 2020.



THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

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The views expressed in The Richmond Bar do not represent the policy or carry the endorsement of the Association unless specifically noted.

Edited by Lelia N. Martin

Luncheon Registration Form

Please reserve a place for me at the **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** luncheon which will be held at the Omni Richmond Hotel at 12:30 p.m.

Name (please print): _____

Phone: _____

I would like to make reservations for the following guest(s): _____

Method of payment (check one):

- Firm billing. Firm: _____
- Check enclosed. (\$32.00 for RBA members, \$37.00 for guests; payable to "Bar Association of Richmond")
- At the door.
- Member of the Judiciary.

To comply with PCI regulations, credit card payment is not accepted by mail or Fax. For security purposes, you must register online at <https://www.richmondbar.org/events/luncheons/>.

If you require a vegetarian or special dietary meal, please inform us at the time you make the reservation.

Return this form to: Richmond Bar Association, P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, Virginia 23218-1213.

Reservations may be made by calling the Bar office at 780-0700 no later than noon on Friday, November 13, 2020.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Under the reservation policy, members who make reservations will be expected to pay whether or not they attend. No cancellations or refunds after noon on November 13th.

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The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce our newest Neutral



James W. Barkley, Esq.
Mediator and Arbitrator

James W. Barkley has recently joined The McCammon Group to serve as a mediator and arbitrator on a full-time basis. He brings more than thirty years of experience as a litigator and many years as a mediator and arbitrator involved in a wide range of commercial disputes including construction, insurance coverage, real estate, and business matters of every description, as well as complex personal injury and property damage matters. Licensed in Virginia, North Carolina, and DC, he has handled matters throughout the country. James now brings his years of experience and achievement to The McCammon Group to continue serving the mediation and arbitration needs of lawyers and litigants in Virginia, DC, Maryland, and beyond.



For a complete list of our services and Neutrals throughout VA, DC, and MD, call 888.343.0922 or visit www.McCammonGroup.com

Continuing Legal Education courses

The Future of Law Practice After COVID-19

Sharon Nelson and John Simek have been giving impactful CLEs on the Future of Law Practice for more than a decade. COVID-19 changed, in many ways, how lawyers practice law. And so, as Yogi Berra once said, "The future ain't what it used to be." This presentation will give you a data-driven look at the sea changes in law practice and a glimpse of what is likely on the horizon.

Thursday, November 12, 2020 from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

You will receive confirmation of your registration.

The Zoom invitation and written materials will be sent 1-2 days prior to the program.

\$37.50 for members (\$47.50 after November 5); \$75 for non-members (\$85 after November 5)
\$20 for support staff (\$25 after November 5)

THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA MCLE BOARD FOR **1.0 HOUR** OF LIVE, INTERACTIVE CREDIT

Pay by credit card at: <https://www.richmondbar.org/cle/registration/>.

Or return this form with payment to Richmond Bar Association, P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218

- I participate in the CLE Discount Program. Please deduct ____ hour(s) from my balance.
- I enclose a check in the amount of _____.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail address: _____



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October-November Auctions in Virginia Include:



Eastern Henrico Comm. Bldg.
Near I-64, I-95, and Airport



Bankruptcy: Halifax Co.
Home and Acreage



Former Burger King in
Colonial Heights Just Off I-95

Recent COVID-Era Successes:



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Newport News
Shopping Center



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for Non-Profit



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tranzon.com

Bill Londrey
Commercial | 804.355.2251

Linda Terry
Residential | 804.354.9090

Virtual CLE training for Pro Bono Housing Law Program set for December 1st

Join us for the Pro Bono Housing Law Training, co-sponsored by the Richmond Bar Association and the Housing Justice Program (comprised of CVLAS, LAJC, and VPLC) on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., by live webinar. The training will consist of sessions on landlord/tenant law (evictions, repairs, security deposits), Fair Housing, and some Virginia court procedure. It is anticipated that the program will be approved for 2.0 hours of live, interactive MCLE credit. Register in advance for this training: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZUocO-rrjotEtD9bxs0LsaPI-6uHQ3biYoO>.

If you participate in this training, it is expected that you will sign up for a one year pro bono commitment with one of the 3 participating Richmond area legal aid organizations.

- Legal Aid Justice Center's Pro Bono Housing Unit commitment consists of volunteering for at least 4 one hour long appointment slots, in which you will advise approximately 3-5 clients per session and offer representation where necessary. Currently the housing unit has been operating by telephone until it is considered safe to meet clients in person.
- Central Virginia Legal Aid's Pro Bono Triage program pairs pro bono attorneys with 2 or 3 security deposit recovery and/or housing repair cases in a year. Each case may be resolved generally with between 2 and 15 hours and with as little as a demand letter or as much as a general district court trial. Cases are available via the www.Justice-Server.org portal. Our Triage Champions assist in recruiting, mentoring and training.
- Virginia Poverty Law Center's Eviction Legal Helpline: Volunteer attorneys who help with giving legal advice are the key that allows the Eviction Legal Helpline to serve as many of our neighbors as possible. The time commitment is modest, scheduling shifts is easy and flexible, and all work is done remotely from any place with a phone, an internet connection, and adequate privacy. The Helpline provides excellent training and reference materials as well as on-call support. To access the training materials and sign up for shifts, visit <https://evictionhelpline.org/>.

The proposed schedule for the training is as follows:

- 4:00 pm – 4:15 pm: Introduction to the pro bono program & ethical obligations by Lisa Bennett (Central Virginia Legal Aid), Louisa Rich (Legal Aid Justice Center) and Phil Storey/Laura Wright (Virginia Poverty Law Center)
- 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm: Eviction Defense by Palmer Heenan (CVLAS)/Louisa Rich (LAJC)
- 5:15 – 6:00 pm: Other Housing Law (conditions, security deposits, fair housing law) by Laura Wright (VPLC)

Welcome new members

The Richmond Bar Association welcomes the following new members:

Kevin Coghill
Tricia Dunlap
Victoria Pretlow
Sara Tandy
Evan Tucker

Each new member is contacted by a member of the Board of Directors to encourage them to become active in Bar activities. We invite all RBA members to reach out and welcome our new members.

Try the Bar's online Pictorial Directory

Manage your membership information using the Bar's on-line Pictorial Directory. You can also use the Directory to search for members' contact information, undergraduate and law school affiliations and areas of practice listings, as well as photos if they were provided.

To access the Directory visit <http://www.richmondbar.org/> and enter your username (your Virginia State Bar number) and password (default password is RBA2012) in the Membership Directory login box on the right side of the page. You will have the opportunity to change the default password from your personal page. If you do not have a VSB number or have questions, contact the Bar office at 780-0700.

Young Lawyers take part in James River cleanup project

It was sunshine, blue skies and good times for members of the Bar's Young Lawyers Section who participated in the James River Cleanup project on Saturday, September 19th. After meeting on Riverside Drive, the group scoured the riverbanks to collect trash and debris along trails and other parts of the park system. As the photos demonstrate, the park offers a wide range of scenic beauty and opportunities to enjoy nature. Thank you Young Lawyers for your service to the community!



The Richmond Bar appreciates the patronage of its 2020-2021 Select Sponsors:

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Important dates for your calendar!

February 18, 2021

RBA Luncheon

March 18, 2021

Bench-Bar Conference 2020 Re-Do

March 25, 2021

RBA Luncheon

April 21, 2021

Spring Cocktail Party (tentative)

May 3, 2021

RBA Law Day Luncheon

October 28, 2021

Bench-Bar Conference

We want to see what the RBA means to you!

Whether you're networking on your own or at a RBA event, share photos and short videos on your personal social media channels. Please tag the Richmond Bar Association in these posts. This will provide us with fresh content as well as help grow the Association's presence in the Richmond community.



CALENDAR

November

- 2 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 5 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 9 Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 11 Judiciary Committee interviews, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom
- 12 CLE seminar: Future of Law Practice, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom
- 18 RBA Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Omni Hotel
Speaker: Jeff Schapiro, RTD political columnist
- 25 Bar office closed ½ day for holiday
- 26-27 Bar office closed for the holiday
- 30 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom

December

- 1 Pro Bono Housing Law CLE training, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom
- 3 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 24-25 Bar office closed for the holiday

January

- 1 Bar office closed for the holiday
- 4 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., TBD
- 7 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., TBD
- 12 CLE Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., TBD
- 14 Innovative Marketing During COVID program, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom
- 29 Litigation Section Judges' Reception, 6:00 p.m., Shagbark (tentative)

February

- 1 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., TBD
- 4 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., TBD
- 18 RBA Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Omni Hotel
Speaker: TBD
- 25 Nominating Committee, 12:30 p.m., small 2nd floor conference room

PRESPORT STANDARD
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