



# THE RICHMOND BAR

Volume 31, Number 8

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

April-May 2023

## Justice Wesley Russell of the Supreme Court of VA is Bar's Law Day speaker

The Honorable Wesley G. Russell, Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, will be the featured speaker at the Richmond Bar's luncheon on Monday, May 1, 2023. The luncheon will be held at the Omni Hotel beginning at 12:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by returning the enclosed flier or by calling the Bar office at 804-780-0700. Additionally, you may make a reservation by visiting <https://www.richmondbar.org/luncheons/>. **The deadline for reservations is 12:00 noon on Tuesday, April 25th. The Omni Hotel is now strictly enforcing the guarantee policy in our contract; we CANNOT take reservations after the deadline listed above.**

Cost to attend is \$38.00 for RBA members and \$43 for guests. **If you require a vegetarian meal or have a dietary restriction, please inform us at the time you make the reservation.**

Wesley G. "Wes" Russell, Jr. was born in Hampton and raised in Newport News. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia



*Hon. Wesley G. Russell, Jr.*

and the George Mason University School of Law. Upon graduation from law school, Justice Russell served as a law clerk for four of the judges of the Circuit Court of the City

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## Lee Martin to receive Liberty Bell Award; May luncheon is her last as Bar's ED

Lee Martin, long-time Executive Director of the Richmond Bar, is the 2023 recipient of the Liberty Bell Award. The Award is based on criteria established by the American Bar Association to recognize individuals and organizations who have promoted a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law and encourages a greater respect for law and the courts.

Lee started her career as the Bar's Communications Assistant in 1992 and was promoted to Executive Director in 1996. In addition to managing day-to-day activities, during her tenure at the Bar she has overseen the creation of a multitude of new programs and events. Most significantly, she has nurtured

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## Chesterfield judges comment on court activities

In its continued effort to promote the administration of justice in the Richmond area and to facilitate cooperation between the bench and the bar, the Administration of Justice Committee recently concluded its annual interviews with the Honorable Judges for the County Chesterfield. As in years past, the Judges were gracious with their time and spoke with candor to Committee members regarding technology, professionalism and court personnel.

**The Honorable David E. Johnson**  
*Chesterfield Circuit Court*

Judge Johnson is very pleased with the professionalism and caliber of attorneys who

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## Report of the Nominating Committee and Notice of Annual Meeting

T. O'Connor Johnson, Chair of the Nominating Committee, has reported to the President the following list of nominees recommended by the Committee for the respective positions to be filled at the Association's Annual Meeting on April 19, 2023:

President-Elect:	Deanna H. Hathaway
Vice President:	Jennifer J. West
Honorary Vice President:	Hon. Richard B. Campbell
Secretary-Treasurer:	W. Benjamin Pace
At-Large Board of Directors Members:	Annemarie D. Cleary, Alexandria E. Cuff and Charles K. Seyfarth

Julie M. Cillo, the current President-Elect, succeeds automatically to the office of President for the next Bar year.

The Annual Meeting of The Bar Association of the City of Richmond will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the Willow Oaks Country Club. The meeting precedes the Bar's Spring Cocktail party, which begins at 6:00 p.m.

R. Braxton Hill IV, President

Jennifer J. West, Secretary-Treasurer

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](mailto:lmartin@richmondbar.org) or mailed to Lee Martin, at P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218

**Cynthia E. Hudson, Esq.**, has recently joined **The McCammon Group**. She has more than twenty years experience in state and local government, including service as Chief Deputy Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Her wide-ranging legal background serves the mediation, arbitration and ombuds needs of lawyers and litigants throughout Virginia and beyond.

Substitute judges needed for Henrico District Courts

The Henrico Circuit Court has openings for substitute judges for the District Courts. Any member of the bar, who is a Henrico resident, who is interested in serving as a substitute Judge should notify Chief Judge John Marshall, by letter including resume, before May 1, 2023, to: Circuit Court Judges’ Chambers, P. O. Box 90775, Henrico, VA 23273-0775.

The Bar office is moving!

While we are experiencing delays with permits and construction, the Bar staff expects to relocate the office to our new space in the Truist Building by the beginning of April. The Bar’s new physical address will be 919 E. Main Street, Suite 1401, Richmond, VA 23219. The mailing address remains the same: P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218-1213.



# It's Party Time!!

## Spring Cocktail Party

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

at Willow Oaks Country Club

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cost to attend is \$55 per RBA member  
First non-member guest - \$55  
additional non-member guests - \$70

Includes an open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres

Attire is business casual

Make reservations at  
<https://www.richmondbar.org/events/event/scp-4-19-23/>





THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

**Office Address**  
Eighth and Main Building  
707 East Main Street, Suite 1620  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 1213  
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**Staff**  
Lelia N. Martin, *Executive Director*  
Sharon R. Potter, *Membership Director*

*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 **Monday, May 1, 2023** 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. (\$38.00 for RBA members, \$43.00 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 804-780-0700 no later than noon on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

**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 April 25th.



Accelerated real estate disposition solutions for legal professionals. Ask now about our April 2023 National Multi-Seller Auction & how we can help you!





## Lender-Ordered Auction

### Former 70-plus Room Motel

US 301, Petersburg, VA



**Chesapeake: C-Store in High-Traffic Location**

- SOLD at auction for \$1MM more than a contingent offer received prior to Tranzon’s hiring



**Deltaville: Operating Marina with 58 Slips**

- SOLD at auction within 45 days of marketing’s commencement



**Albemarle Co.: Estate Home & 2 Adjacent Properties**

- SOLD at auction after having been on & off the market conventionally for 3 years



**Culpeper: Historic State Theater**

- SOLD at auction with as-is contract after lengthy conventional marketing period

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Tranzon Fox  
[tranzon.com](http://tranzon.com)  
VAAAF 423 | NCAAF 4953

Bill Londrey  
Managing Partner | 804.355.2251

Linda Terry  
Managing Partner | 804.354.9090



# The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce our newest Neutral



**Cynthia E. Hudson, Esq.**

*Mediator, Arbitrator, Ombuds*

Cynthia E. Hudson has joined The McCammon Group after more than twenty years in state and local government, including service as Chief Deputy Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia and City Attorney for the City of Hampton. Prior to and following her government service, Cynthia enjoyed a successful private practice focusing on labor, employment, and governmental matters. She is a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation and a Past President of the Local Government Attorneys Association. A recipient of numerous community and law related awards, she is a Member of William & Mary's Board of Visitors and was the Chair of the Governor's Commission to examine Racial Inequity in Virginia Law. Cynthia now brings her distinguished record to The McCammon Group to serve the mediation, arbitration, and ombuds needs of lawyers and litigants throughout Virginia and beyond.

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## Lee Martin to receive Liberty Bell Award

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the growth of the Metropolitan Bench-Bar Conference, which has become one of the area's most important programs for fostering dialog between the bench and the bar.

President Brack Hill writes, "With Lee's decades of devoted service to the Richmond Bar as its Executive Director, she has worked tirelessly to support the administration of justice through her coordination of the Association's judicial plan as well as her work with the various clerk's offices to publicize and distribute news of importance to practitioners and the public, especially during the recent pandemic. Additionally, Lee has – sometimes singlehandedly – ensured that the numerous educational and social offerings of the Association are planned and presented, thereby creating those opportunities for the bonds of professionalism and civility to be strengthened among our members of the bench and bar. Finally, Lee's shepherding of the business of the Association has instilled a sense of commitment to the vitality of our legal community in generations of young lawyers."

Please join your colleagues at the Law Day luncheon as we bid Lee a fond farewell!

*Message from Lee Martin:*

Penning this is bittersweet. While I am excited for what the future holds for me and for the Bar, it feels like I'm leaving "home."

Many of you know that my father, Hunter Martin, served as Secretary-Treasurer of the RBA for 26 years so I developed a deep respect for the organization long before I came on-board in 1992. When I was growing up, dinner table conversation always centered around Bar events (Senator John Warner may have been the luncheon speaker in March 1977, but his then-wife, Elizabeth Taylor, definitely stole the show!) and titans of the bar like

Judge Merhige and Justice Powell were regular guests. The RBA has been a part of my life for all of my life!

By stepping aside, I hope to lead the RBA into a new chapter of change and growth that every organization needs in order to thrive. The Bar's Board of Directors has thoughtfully and carefully planned for this transition. I'm sure the next Executive

Director will energetically tackle the challenges of technology and membership and will take the Bar to new heights.

While legal communities across the country struggle with civility, the Richmond Bar continues to be a role model for collegiality and respect within the profession. Please don't ever lose that! I've loved my job and I cherish the many amazing lawyers and judges I've worked with over the past three decades. I especially appreciate the friendships I've developed with so many of you. Post-RBA, I'll be embarking on a European adventure so instead of saying good-bye, I'll just say ciao!

Looking for the most current judicial Orders and information on Court procedures? The RBA has added a special page on its website highlighting news released from the Supreme Court of Virginia, Court of Appeals of Virginia and local state courts in the Metro area. Use this link <https://www.richmondbar.org/local-court-orders/> or access the page from the bar's website ([www.richmondbar.org](http://www.richmondbar.org)) by hovering over the "News" tab at the top of the home page and click on Local Court Orders.

## Justice Russell to speak on Law Day

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of Richmond, namely the Honorable Robert W. Duling, the Honorable Donald W. Lemons, the Honorable Thomas N. Nance, and the Honorable Walter W. Stout, III. After his clerkship, Justice Russell began private practice as a litigator in Richmond. His practice initially focused on professional liability defense work, but over the years expanded to include constitutional litigation, appellate work, and workers' compensation.

In 2010, Justice Russell was appointed by then Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli as Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation. In that role, Justice Russell oversaw the representation of the Commonwealth and its employees (including the judiciary) in civil matters. In addition to providing advice to agencies of state government, he represented the Commonwealth in trial and appellate courts in tort cases, constitutional claims, electric utility rate cases, administrative appeals, workers' compensation claims, and civil proceedings seeking the civil commitment of sexually violent predators.

After his term of service ended in January 2014, Justice Russell returned to private practice with Bland & Sorkin, a Richmond-area law firm.

Justice Russell was elected by the General Assembly to the Court of Appeals of Virginia on January 20, 2015. He was sworn in on February 2, 2015, and served on that court until 2022. On June 17, 2022, the General Assembly elected Justice Russell to a term as a justice on the Supreme Court of Virginia. Justice Russell began serving on the Supreme Court on July 1, 2022.

New officers and Directors of the Association will be sworn in at the luncheon. In addition, the Liberty Bell Award will be presented to Lee Martin.

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.

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 before the luncheon.



# Judges talk with members of the Bar’s Administration of

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appear before the Chesterfield Circuit Court. Judge Johnson finds that the bar in Chesterfield provides exceptional work and encourages attorneys in Chesterfield to continue to strive for this level of performance. Judge Johnson appreciates this opportunity to provide feedback to the community, specifically on mentoring young attorneys, decorum in the courtroom, and general Court practices.

First, Judge Johnson would like to encourage more seasoned attorneys to continue to mentor younger attorneys, especially on courtroom decorum and procedure. Standard decorum such as when to stand, when to leave the courtroom, etc. is not being taught to young attorneys in law school. Judge Johnson encourages mentorship within law firms and the bar to ensure that these practices are known and followed within the new generation of attorneys. Judge Johnson also encourages all attorneys to be thoroughly prepared when appearing before the Court, including being knowledgeable about applicable authorities used to support all arguments made before the Court.

Judge Johnson is happy to report that COVID-19 has not disrupted the Chesterfield dockets, nor created any backlog of cases. The Court will have reasonable availability for any attorneys scheduling a trial or hearing. However, Judge Johnson reminds the bar to inform the Court immediately if the parties settle so that the Court may use any reserved time for other matters.

Judge Johnson also reports that Chesterfield is outfitted with a variety of AV technology that attorneys can utilize in their presentation of evidence to the Court and jury. However, Judge Johnson cautions attorneys to ensure that any video or audio presentations work prior to the scheduled trial or hearing. Chesterfield allows attorneys to come into any courtroom prior to the court date to ensure that attorneys are familiar with all equipment, and Judge Johnson encourages attorneys to schedule this time with the Court to do so. Judge Johnson also provides that Chesterfield will liberally grant any request for witnesses to appear remotely. However, attorneys must complete the required motions form in advance of calling any remote witness.

Lastly, Judge Johnson reminds all attorneys, but especially young attorneys, that in the practice of law, attorneys are dealing with the life, liberty and property interests of

their fellow citizens. The practice of law is a sacred obligation requiring thorough devotion to your work. Although Judge Johnson appreciates that the practice of law is highly competitive, Judge Johnson reminds the bar that civility of the bar is an essential function of the practice of law. Judge Johnson thus encourages all attorneys to continue to zealously advocate for their clients but in a professional manner with respect for their fellow attorneys.

## **The Honorable James J. O’Connell** *Chesterfield General District Court*

Judge O’Connell supplied a summary of the recent events at the Chesterfield County District Court. His term began in July 2022.

The first big change at the Chesterfield County District court was the transition from a Court appointed system to a public defender’s office. The public defender’s office opened in January 2022. The new public defender’s office is run by My’chael Jefferson-Reese and the office is manned by a team of attorneys and staff. Under Ms. Jefferson-Reese leadership there has been a smooth transition and their office is doing a good job of representing indigent clients. Ms. Jefferson-Reese has done a good job training her attorneys to manage the heavy work-load they are handling. The team is made up of attorneys, investigators, mitigation specialists, and other staff.

Chesterfield General District Court has also been keeping up with technological needs. The second change at the Chesterfield General District court is technology upgrades in the courtroom. The courtrooms have been updated with new video systems for the presentation of evidence for trials. Plaintiffs and defendants can now play all kinds of media devices to include cell phones, computer files and USB drives. This allows litigants to play videos from various electronic devices when they are presenting their case. Additionally, the court has implemented audio enhancements. These new audio enhancements help people with auditory problems.

The court continues to be dedicated to ensuring participants who appear in the Chesterfield County District Court are able to be heard. Chesterfield courts are seeing an increase of Spanish speaking litigants and now have a Spanish speaking interpreter assigned to the court full time and are trying to get a second interpreter. Judge O’Connell

has seen a rise in the need for interpreters in other languages as well. The judge has had litigants requiring assistance with Bengali, Romanian, Chinese, Vietnamese and Sign language. The court hires the interpreters as needed.

Chesterfield General District Court currently has an opening due to the retirement of Judge Vaughan in October 2022. Chesterfield is hoping that Judge Vaughan’s successor will be appointed during this current general assembly session. Since Judge Vaughan’s retirement, Chesterfield General District Court has been utilizing substitute judges.

Judge O’Connell does not anticipate any new procedures or processes occurring during the next term. Currently the Chesterfield District Court is working well and the judges are trying to keep everything on track. He notes that COVID put a lot of stress on the judicial system. The Chesterfield Court is transitioning back to the regular pre-pandemic court dockets. For example, the court still allows participants to attend hearings virtually. However, now that COVID requirements placed on the court have been lifted it is now expected that the court will grant fewer remote hearings approvals.

## **The Honorable Travis R. Williams** *Chesterfield Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court*

Since his appointment to the Chesterfield J&DR Court in August of 2021, Judge Williams has developed his own style. He’s always emphasized visibility and maintained a presence in the community to nurture the relationship between the judicial system and the public. After being out of practice for about a year and a half, Judge Williams has had the pleasure of seeing many new attorneys come before the court and underscored the professionalism and courtesy he’s observed in them.

Now as Chief Judge, he’s had a crash course in the clerk hiring process. The state of the economy has made more jobs available than ever before, with employers offering high salaries and other incentives, such as remote work, in the private sector. Conversely, the state has little flexibility when it comes to hiring or matching salaries. The allure of the private sector has contributed to high turnover among clerk positions.

Although retaining staff is difficult, Judge Williams stressed that there is no separation

# Justice Committee RBA members honored with 50-Year Awards at February luncheon

between the clerk’s office and the judges in the Chesterfield JD&R Court. Judges strive to be approachable, and all employees are encouraged to intermingle. Judge Williams reported that he promotes at least one intra-court function each month, typically based around a fun theme, to foster camaraderie, recognize the staff’s hard work, and show appreciation for their efforts.

When COVID precautions were in place, the practice of law changed for everyone. Judge Williams focuses on the positive differences, citing the court’s becoming more receptive to accepting e-signatures rather than live signatures and allowing individuals to appear by Zoom rather than in person. He notes that the court has stressed keeping up with technology to help move the judicial system forward. For example, with the ability to participate in proceedings virtually, experts from out of state who are ordinarily unavailable are now able to offer their opinions on matters here in the Commonwealth. This increase in flexibility in utilizing the court process has been beneficial for all involved.

Finally, Judge Williams urges practitioners to exercise civility. Remember that a given case is likely not the last one that you’ll have together and that not every interaction needs to be a battle. The practice of law can be a tough job, but we are all in it together.



Ten RBA members were recognized at the Bar’s luncheon meeting on February 16th for practicing law for 50 years. Pictured are: Jack W. Burtch, Jr., Augustus C. Epps, Jr., Brian Knox Miller and Rodney M. Poole. Other 50-Year Award recipients include: B. Randolph Boyd, Robert L. Freed, Hon. Jerry Hendrick, Jr., Stephen A. Isaacs, Kenneth B.E. Montero and Hon. James S. Yoffy.

## *RBA Trail Walk offers fun and fitness*

*Join your colleagues for a fun, relaxing trail walk on April 6th at 5:30 p.m. Participants will have the option of either a 2 mile walk around Belle Isle with an option to extend the hike to 3 miles total by looping back on the T. Tyler Potterfield Memorial Bridge. The meeting point will be the base of the Belle Isle Pedestrian Bridge underneath the Lee Bridge at 5:30 p.m.*

### *Free limited parking:*

*On-street parking on S. 2nd Street between Brown’s Island Way and E. Byrd Street  
On-street parking on S. 5th Street on the east side of the street from Tredegar to E. Byrd Street  
The Belle Isle parking lot is located at the corner of Tredegar Street and Brown’s Island Way*

### *Paid Public Parking:*

*American Civil War Museum parking lot, 480 Tredegar Street (limited hours during special events)  
4th & Canal Streets and 5th & Canal Streets – Public parking after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, pay through “ParkMobile” by app or QR code, see signage on-site*



*Nominations are being accepted for 2023 RBA Awards! Deadlines extended to May 12th*

**Hill-Tucker Public Service Award**

The Hill-Tucker Public Service Award is named after Oliver W. Hill and Samuel W. Tucker who received the first award in 1989. This award was created to be presented to Richmond Bar members who render conspicuous public service and otherwise distinguish themselves in service to society beyond law practice.

Recent recipients: George K. Martin (2020), Doris H. Causey (2019), Michael N. Herring (2018), Hon. Mary E. Langer (2017), Jennifer L. McClellan (2016), Clarence M. Dunnaville, Jr. (2015), Hon. Tim Kaine (2013), Henry W. McLaughlin III (2010), O. Randolph Rollins (2009), Hon. Elizabeth B. Lacy (2008), John V. Cogbill III (2007), Chief Justice Leroy R. Hassell, Sr. (2006)

**Hunter W. Martin Professionalism Award**

Established in 1993, the Hunter W. Martin Professionalism Award is named after the first recipient, Hunter W. Martin. This award was created to be presented to Richmond Bar members who, throughout their lives and careers in the law, have best exemplified the conduct and high ideals embodied in the Bar's Principles of Professionalism. Nominees should possess an understanding of, and adherence to high ethical standards of conduct and tolerance, respect and civility toward clients, opposing parties, colleagues and the judiciary.

Recent recipients: Edward D. Barnes (2022), John W. Anderson\* (2021), Barbara A. Williams (2020), James C. Shannon (2019), Hon. Douglas O. Tice, Jr. (2018), Everette G. Allen, Jr.\* (2017), Michael W. Smith (2016), Claire G. Cardwell (2015), Thomas G. Slater, Jr. (2014), Hon. Dennis W. Dohnal (2013), Philip B. Morris (2012), Russell V. Palmore (2011)

**John C. Kenny Pro Bono Award**

In 1989, the Bar Association of the City of Richmond established its Pro Bono Publico Award, which is presented annually to a Richmond Bar member who has excelled in one or more of the following ways:

- (1) Demonstrated dedication to the development and implementation of pro bono projects to improve delivery of legal services to the poor;
- (2) Contributed significantly toward the development of innovative approaches to delivery of volunteer services;
- (3) Participated in an activity which resulted in addressing previously unmet legal needs or extending pro bono legal services to underserved segments of the legal community;
- (4) Successfully handled pro bono cases that favorably affected the provision of other services to the poor in the Richmond metropolitan area;
- (5) Participated in activities which resulted in the enactment of legislation that contributed substantially to the delivery of services (legal or otherwise) to the poor; and/or
- (6) Devoted significant time to furthering the delivery of legal services to the poor by handling one or more pro bono matters or providing training for or recruiting volunteer pro bono attorneys in the Richmond metropolitan area

Recent recipients: Sarah B. Warner (2022), Carolyn A. White and Lindsay M. Pickral (2021), Lonnie D. Nunley III (2020), Tennille J. Checkovich (2019), Ann T. Burks (2018), W. Benjamin Pace (2017), Christopher M. Malone (2016), The Pro Bono Clearinghouse (2015), John M. Robb III (2015), Benjamin R. Lacy IV\* (2014), Harry M. Johnson III and Scott C. Oostdyk (2013)

**Young Lawyer of the Year**

Established in 2011, the Young Lawyer of the Year Award is presented by the Bar Association of the City of Richmond to a member of its Young Lawyers Section. The Award is given to a young lawyer who has excelled in the practice of law to date and who has shown the potential to become a leader in the legal profession in one or more of the following ways:

- (1) By exceeding the expectations of clients and employers;
- (2) By providing service to the community outside the practice of law;
- (3) By changing and improving perceptions of the legal profession in the Greater Richmond community; and
- (4) By taking a non-traditional path to success in the practice of law.

Recent recipients: Kyle R. Elliott (2022), Lindsey A. Strachan (2021), Sean D. Hicks (2020), Alexandria E. Cuff (2019), Devika E. Davis (2018) Amanda E. DeBerry (2017), Lisa J. Hedrick (2016), Joley L. Eason (2015), John A. Merrick (2014), Melanie A. Friend (2013), Kimberly A. Skiba (2012)

\* - awarded posthumously

Members are encouraged to nominate any candidates who they believe are qualified for an award. To nominate an individual, contact any member of the Association's Committee on Awards and Honors listed below.

Deanna H. Hathaway ([deanna@kinsaleins.com](mailto:deanna@kinsaleins.com))

Julie M. Cillo ([jcillo@owenowens.com](mailto:jcillo@owenowens.com))

T. O'Connor Johnson ([toj@thejohnbsoninjuryfirm.com](mailto:toj@thejohnbsoninjuryfirm.com))

R. Braxton Hill IV ([bhill@cblaw.com](mailto:bhill@cblaw.com))

Jennifer J. West ([jwest@spottsfain.com](mailto:jwest@spottsfain.com))

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**Save the date - Justice for Ale!**

Celebrate the great work done by the Legal Aid Justice Center! Justice for Ale will be held at Legend Brewing Company (321 W. 7th Street) on June 28th starting at 5:30. When finalized, registration details be posted on their website: <https://www.justice4all.org/>



The Richmond Bar appreciates the patronage of its 2022-2023 Select Sponsors:

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# RBA SPOTLIGHT



**Baker McClanahan**  
Randolph, Boyd, Cherry and  
Vaughan

Member since 2000

**Advice you'd give a law student:** First year, study hard; read the cases; do the work; and pay attention (don't drift off during Evidence). Then, take a deep breath and enjoy and embrace the next two years of exploring the law.

**Favorite Richmond area restaurant:** My neighbors operate Pad Thai, on Meadowbridge Road in Mechanicsville, which has long been a favorite. For delicious "comfort food," I turn to another neighbor, who grew up in London and operates a food truck called Curry in a Hurry. If you see his truck (which is hard to miss with its big Union Jack) downtown or at a local brew pub or festival, say hi to Barry, say something kind about West Ham, and order the chicken tikka masala. You'll thank me.

**Favorite place to vacation:** Traverse City, Michigan – Some dear friends invited us to Traverse City a couple of summers ago. We loved visiting the little towns along Lake Michigan and had a blast searching for Petoskey stones in the cool, clear waters.

**Your main hobby:** Rotisserie baseball – What are now regarded as "fantasy" sports leagues have their roots in "rotisserie" (or "roto") baseball—a game of statistics developed by a handful of journalists in the 1980s, who discussed the idea over meals at a New York City restaurant called Le Rotisserie Francais. My law mentor, Peter Dingman, joined a league that formed around 1985, shortly after the first Rotisserie baseball book was published. Pete became my mentor when I joined his law firm out of law school in 1992, and he knew my love of baseball (particularly, the St. Louis Cardinals). When a franchise became available in his league in 1995, he invited me to join. I took over a team called the Holy Cows, which became my Huckleberries. Our league includes lawyers, accountants, business administrators, a property developer, a master woodworker, a property manager, and even a member of the International Boxing Hall of Fame! Our league is one of the oldest continuously operated roto leagues in the country.

## RBA's website is a useful resource

Did you know that you can renew your dues and register for events online using your Visa or MasterCard? The Bar's website, [www.richmondbar.org](http://www.richmondbar.org), is also an easy way to locate information on awards, events, Sections, Committees and local court procedures and news.

Manage your own 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 have been provided.

From the webpage, access the Directory by hovering over the Membership tab and clicking on Member Directory. 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 Sharon Potter at the Bar office at 804-780-0700 or [spotter@richmondbar.org](mailto:spotter@richmondbar.org).

## VJLAP offers support groups for legal professionals

The Virginia Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (VJLAP) provides confidential, non-disciplinary assistance to lawyers, judges, law students, legal professionals, and their family members who are experiencing impairment as a result of substance abuse and/or mental health conditions.

Assistance is designed to:

- Promote recovery
- Protect the working professional
- Prevent disciplinary problems
- Strengthen the profession
- Support their families and professional associates

VJLAP educates on individuals on the impacts of chemical dependency and mental health disorders. Early treatment is key for successful recovery.

For assistance call the VJLAP 24-Hour Confidential Help Line at 1-877-545-4682.

## Announcements

### Bankruptcy Section's Annual Meeting set for May 23rd; nominations sought

The Bankruptcy Section will host a luncheon/CLE seminar in conjunction with its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel, 501 E. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. It is anticipated that the program presented by the Honorable Keith L. Phillips will be approved for 1.0 hour of MCLE credit.

The Section member and government rate to attend is \$30; the non-Section member rate is \$45. Register using a credit card by visiting <https://www.richmondbar.org/bankruptcy/>. Checks can be mailed to the Richmond Bar Association at P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218. Reservations must be received by May 19, 2022; no refunds will be given after this date.

The Bankruptcy Section of the Richmond Bar is soliciting nominations for persons interested in serving on the section's Executive Committee to be elected during the May meeting. Nominations for the Executive Committee (one Executive Committee member position), along with a brief summary of the candidates interest and qualifications, should be forwarded to Johnie Muncy via email ([jmuncy@siwpc.com](mailto:jmuncy@siwpc.com)) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 7, 2023. Questions may also be directed to Johnie Muncy or Amanda Koehn ([adkoehn@bolemanlaw.com](mailto:adkoehn@bolemanlaw.com)). This year's Nominating Committee consists of Johnie Muncy, Ellen Ray, and Steve Relyea.

### Business Law Section to host Annual Meeting on May 16th at Shagbark

Save the date! The Business Law Section will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Shagbark (4901 Libbie Mill East Blvd, Richmond, VA 23230). Additional details and information on the Section's proposed slate of officers for 2023-2024 will be e-mailed to Section members.

### YLS Report of Nominating Committee

Pursuant to Section 4.07 of the By-Laws of the Section, a Nominating Committee was appointed to nominate officers and Executive Committee members for election at the Section's Annual Meeting and nominated the following individuals for their respective positions:

#### Officers:

William J. Egen, Chair	Shannan M. Fitzgerald, Chair-Elect
Reilly C. Moore, Secretary	Joel R. McClellan, Immed. Past Chair

#### Executive Committee Members:

Timothy C. Benjamin	Dylan D. Bishop	Emily J. Heltzel
Andrew T. Landrum	Shevarma T. Pemberton	Katherine M. Rockwell

At the Section's Annual Meeting, the officers and Executive Committee members named above will be presented for election. When finalized, details on the Annual Meeting will be sent to members.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Save the date!

The thirty-first annual Bench-Bar Conference will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. Breakout sessions in civil, criminal and domestic relations law will be featured.

## Welcome new members

The Richmond Bar Association welcomes the following new members:

Jeromy Henning  
Susan Hovey-Murray  
Nia White

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.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Principle of Professionalism #5

*To guard jealously the privilege and the obligation to accept representations involving controversial and unpopular causes and to make the public aware that legal services should be accessible to all persons.*

### We want to see what the RBA means to you!

*Whether you're networking on your own or at an 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

## April

- 3 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 4 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, 4th floor conference room
- 6 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton Andrews Kurth
- 6 Trail Walk, 5:30 p.m., Belle Isle Pedestrian Bridge
- 7 Programs Committee meeting, 11:00 a.m., via Zoom
- 19 Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Willow Oaks Country Club
- 19 Spring Cocktail Party, 6:00 p.m., Willow Oaks Country Club
- 20 Finance Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 24 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom

## June

- 8 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton Andrews Kurth
- 6 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, 5:00 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 19 Bar office closed for the holiday
- 26 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom

## May

- 1 RBA Law Day Luncheon, Omni Hotel, 12:30 p.m.  
Speaker: Hon. Wesley Russell, Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia
- 2 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, via Zoom
- 4 Board of Directors meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hunton Andrews Kurth
- 8 Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 9 CLE Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom
- 10 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Bar office
- 16 Business Law Section Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Shagbark
- 23 Bankruptcy Section Luncheon/Annual Meeting, 12:30 p.m., Hilton Hotel
- 29 Bar office closed for the holiday

## July

- 4 Bar office closed for the holiday
- 5 Bench-Bar Conference Committee meeting, 5:00 p.m., 2nd floor conference room
- 10 Pro Bono Committee meeting, 12:30 p.m., Zoom

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