



# THE RICHMOND BAR

Volume 32, Number 03

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

## DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE BENCH BAR CONFERENCE

Scan the QR code below with your  
phone or visit our website at  
[richmondbar.org](http://richmondbar.org)



## Celebrating Pro Bono Work: Over 65 RBA Members Honored as 2023 Pro Bono Champions or on Pro Bono Honor Roll

As the leaves turn and the air becomes crisper, October arrives not only with the promise of autumnal beauty but also with a heartwarming celebration of a different kind. It's the time when we come together and celebrate the outstanding pro bono work of our members, as well as attorneys across the nation. Pro Bono work serves as a reminder of the profound impact that legal professionals can have on the lives of those in need.

This year, we are incredibly proud to share that over 65 dedicated RBA members have received well-deserved recognition on the Virginia Access to Justice Commission's "Pro Bono Champions" & "Pro Bono Honor Roll" lists. Each of these designations reflects a deep commitment to using legal expertise for the betterment of the community.

Pro bono work is not merely an obligation; it's a cornerstone of the legal community that underscores the very essence of justice and equality. As we applaud the achievements of our RBA members, we must also emphasize the essential role that pro bono work plays in fostering a just and equitable society. By offering their time, skills, and expertise, attorneys bridge gaps, mend disparities, and contribute to a more inclusive legal landscape.

*The full article on Pro Bono Champions can be found in Virginia Lawyer Magazine, June 2023 Issue.*

## A Truly Successful Summer

The Richmond Bar has had a summer filled with successful and engaging events! Whether you joined us in June for our Private Conversation Series event featuring Kevin Elliker and Casey Lucier as they spoke about their experience on the January 6th Select Committee, or in August when we spent a night with the Flying Squirrels at another sold-out RBA family night, or maybe you have attended one of the multiple RBA Section or Committee meetings throughout the summer, one thing is for sure - there's always something going on in the RBA.

The RBA is looking forward to ushering in the Fall weather and seeing our members at upcoming events such as The Bench-Bar Conference and the Awards Luncheon.



## Upcoming Ethics CLE

October 4, 2023 | via ZOOM  
**Top 2023 Malpractice Claims**

ft. Speaker Joyvan Malbon  
*Minnesota Lawyers Mutual*

2.0 Credits

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN: Remarks from RBA President

## Julie M. Cillo

Happy Fall and the season of pumpkin spice everything. Autumn traditionally is for the harvesting of crops and so it is at the RBA -- seeing the hard work that has been done in the previous months come to fruition.

Our Committees and Sections have been meeting over the summer to create some great programs and CLEs that we hope you will take advantage of. We already experienced a great evening of comradery at our Member Appreciation event which we hope you were able to attend.

We continue our outreach with our area law students to help build a relationship with the future of our profession. If you had summer associates, please encourage them to join at our law student rate and be able to participate in all of the great opportunities available to them. We already are making plans for an RBA summer associate event in 2024 (planting the seeds for next fall so to speak).



Also, please remember to follow the RBA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#). Like the colors of fall, we are a vibrant association and activities/events are posted there in between our newsletters. In addition, you can read interesting stories about our members as well as get practice tips and other professional development ideas through our social media.

Lastly, as always, please continue to spread the word about the many advantages of RBA membership. Our members are the fertilizer of this great organization to help us continue to grow and carry out the mission of the RBA. Thanks for all you do.

-Julie M. Cillo

The Richmond Metropolitan Area Local and Specialty Bar Associations Present the Thirty-First Annual

## BENCH-BAR CONFERENCE

*date* **October 19, 2023** *location* **Greater Richmond Convention Center**

*time* **8:00am\*-2:00pm**  
**\*Breakfast and registration with participating Judges from 8:00-8:55AM**

*cost* **\$130 - includes luncheon**  
**\*Special rate for lawyers practicing <6 years and all public sector attorneys - \$110**

Featuring remarks from keynote speaker:  
**HON. DAVID B. ALBO**

This program has been approved for 3.0 hours of MCLE credit.



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## RBA SPOTLIGHT



## BARRY D. GABAY

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### Favorite RVA Restaurant

Metzger Bar & Butchery

### Your Favorite Hobby

Introducing my two boys to the James River.

### Advice to Law Students

Our legal community is tight-knit. Those relationships that you foster, and the reputation that you develop, in law school will stick with you during your career. Keep that in mind.

### Favorite Vacation

Patagonia, with my wife (fellow RBA member Jen Wuebker Gabay) for our honeymoon.



## 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 **aholland@richmondbar.org** or mailed to Annie Holland, at P.O. Box 1213, Richmond, VA 23218

**Joanna Suyes** is pleased to announce the opening of *Suyes Law, PLLC*, in Carytown, where she concentrates on Social Security Disability and SSI claims. Due to the magic of Zoom, she can assist your clients anywhere in the US.

*Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman* welcomes **Leanna C. Minix, Haley D. Santos, Victoria D. Pretlow, and Julian P. Viscidi** to the firm's Richmond Office as Associates.

**Joseph L. Stiles** has joined *Christian & Barton, L.L.P.* where he will focus his legal practice on commercial real estate development and finance, and general corporate matters. He holds degrees from the University of Richmond School of Law and Hampden-Sydney College.



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## THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

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### Staff

Annie M. Holland, *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.

# The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce:



## **Michael E. Harman is now available full-time.**

Mike Harman has been a part-time Neutral with The McCammon Group for over a decade while simultaneously serving as one of Virginia's most trusted and respected trial lawyers. He recently retired from Harman, Claytor, Corrigan & Wellman and is now committing his energies to mediation full-time. During his part-time tenure with The McCammon Group, he successfully served as a Neutral in over 100 cases. That experience, combined with decades of litigation experience, gives Mike a rich background in a wide variety of civil disputes, including personal injury, professional malpractice, product liability, trucking, and employment matters. Mike is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation. Known for his warm demeanor and ethical conduct, he was the 2019 recipient of the VADA-VTLA Civility and Professionalism Award. Mike now makes these talents and experience available full-time to serve the mediation needs of lawyers and litigants throughout Virginia and beyond.

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Filesecure RVA, is owned and operated by Kevin Totoriello and Donnie Harper, two local entrepreneurs who have successfully run several businesses in this and other industries. We know you're heavily invested in your documents, every file, and every data byte. Your reputation and your future growth is on the line. We partner with Richmond based Law Firms ensuring the safety and proper destruction of documents. Our mobile Shred Trucks allow us to provide on-site destruction, so your documents never leave your address. Our goal is to take the worry out of records management.

### TESTIMONIAL

*The responsive and reliability of our firm's file management have improved markedly since we switched to the local pros at Filesecure RVA.*

ADMINISTRATOR, LOCAL LAW FIRM

### REFERENCES

- Harman Claytor, Corrigan & Wellman
- Whitt & Del Bueno P.C.
- Alexander Law Group, PLC
- Law Office of Maury & Krol

#### RECORDS MANAGEMENT

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#### DIGITAL SCANNING

Convert physical documents into digital format through scanning to save space and improve accessibility.

# 'TIS THE SEASON FOR FALL SOCIALS

BUSINESS LAW SECTION FALL SOCIAL  
 SEPTEMBER 21 | BAR WEST | 6-8PM

REAL ESTATE SECTION FALL SOCIAL  
 OCTOBER 4 | MAINLINE BREWERY | 5:30 - 7:30PM

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION FALL SOCIAL  
 OCTOBER 5 | JUAN'S ROOFTOP | 6-8PM

## Meet the RBA Business Law Section

Clay Bennett  
 Section Chair

“I was introduced to the Business Law Section when I began my practice in 2017, and shortly thereafter, I joined the Executive Committee. The Section has been an excellent professional development resource and has provided many opportunities to learn from other members of the Bar, from both within and outside of my practice area. Perhaps more importantly, the Section has allowed me to meet some wonderful people and experience the collegiality that makes Richmond such a special place to practice—something that is easy to forget in our daily routines.”

John Spilman Jr.  
 Section Chair-Elect

“Joining the Business Law Section of the RBA provides a wonderful opportunity for attorneys to deepen roots within their network and the Richmond Bar. Ultimately, having more rapport and deeper connections here in Richmond with a variety of practitioners within your area is extremely helpful in continuing to build your own personal brand and client base. Also, it pays off when you find yourself across the aisle from those attorneys. Come join the Business Law Section!”

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# SAVE THE DATES

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING RBA EVENTS!



### 31ST ANNUAL BENCH-BAR CONFERENCE

October 19, 2023  
9:00AM

Greater Richmond Convention Center  
Cost \$130/member

### 2023 RBA AWARDS LUNCHEON

November 15, 2023  
12:30PM  
Willow Oaks Country Club



### 2023 HOLIDAY COCKTAIL PARTY

December 13, 2023  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
Science Museum of Virginia

For more information or to RSVP  
visit [www.richmondbar.org](http://www.richmondbar.org)



## Want to Get Involved in an RBA Committee?

We're always looking for members to get and stay involved in our Committees! If you're interested, please email [aholland@richmondbar.org](mailto:aholland@richmondbar.org)

## RBA NIGHT W/ THE SQUIRRELS

Thank you to all who came out and braved the rain with us at The Diamond! It was a great night under the stadium lights!



# PRO BONO

## highlights

The Richmond Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee is determined to realize its mission to encourage and assist members of the Association and the public to make legal representation and services available to the underserved in the Richmond Metropolitan area.

### The Richmond Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee

Brooke P. Taylor, *Chair*  
Brendan M. Staley, *Chair-Elect*  
Rachel W. Adams  
Craig J. Curwood  
Amy M. Pocklington  
Sarah Bennett Bures  
Mary M. Cleary  
Max A. So  
Taylor R. Fisher

### Advisory Board

Ami Kim, *Greater Richmond Bar Foundation*  
Tara L. Casey, *UR School of Law*  
Christina E. Marra, *VA Poverty Law Center*  
Miriam Torian, *Legal Aid Justice Center*  
Lisa Bennett, *Central VA Legal Aid Society*

### At-Large Committee Members

Amanda DeBerry Koehn  
Robert S. Westermann

## FALL PRO BONO DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### MORE INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THE NEXT PAGE

CVLAS 9th Annual Fresh Start Breakfast:  
October 4, 2023 | 7:30am-9:15am

GRBF x CVLAS | Pro Bono Celebration |  
October 26, 2023 | 3:00pm-6:00pm

CVLAS Wills Clinic | October 31st  
*Petersburg Library* | 1:00pm-4:30pm

CVLAS Unlawful Detainer Expungement  
Clinic | November 15 & December 13th |  
12:00pm-2:00pm

Legal Aid Justice Center - Pro Bono  
Housing Unit Volunteers needed.  
Time commitment: at least four, 1.5 hour  
appointment slots over the course of one  
year.

The Virginia State Bar Professional Guidelines and Rules of Conduct - Rule 6:1: "A lawyer should render at least two percent per year of the lawyer's professional time to pro bono publico legal services."

The Pro Bono Committee of the Richmond Bar identifies pro bono opportunities within the community to its members to realize Rule 6:1's goal.

## PRO BONO PARTNERS

Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, Inc.	<a href="http://cvlas.org">cvlas.org</a>
Greater Richmond Bar Foundation	<a href="http://grbf.org">grbf.org</a>
Legal Aid Justice Center	<a href="http://justice4all.org">justice4all.org</a>
University of Richmond School of Law	<a href="http://law.richmond.edu">law.richmond.edu</a>
Virginia Poverty Law Center	<a href="http://vplc.org">vplc.org</a>



## From The Carrico Center

The University of Richmond School of Law created the Harry L. Carrico Center for Pro Bono & Public Service in recognition of an attorney's professional obligation to serve the community, as well as a law school's responsibility to educate its students on the need for pro bono legal services. The center connects the skills and talents of its student body with the greater Richmond community and a network of regional, national, and international programs.

The School of Law offers a variety of pro bono opportunities that employ the diverse skills and interests of our student body. Whether it is helping a tenant avoid eviction or a low-income senior obtain critical estate planning documents, our students have the opportunity to experience a service-based legal education. By cultivating such service, the Center for Pro Bono & Public Service not only provides a valuable resource for the community, it also prepares students for a life of purposeful citizenship.

## From CVLAS: October Pro Bono Opportunities

October 31st from 1-4:30 p.m. at the Petersburg Library; join a Wills Clinic cohosted with the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. We still need 4 additional lawyers and 3 paralegals. Register at [www.justiceserver.org](http://www.justiceserver.org). No prior wills or estate training is needed as all training and support will be provided on site.

November 15th and December 13th from 12 p.m.-2p.m. Unlawful Detainer Expungement Clinics need attorneys to serve as hosts. Training provided during the clinic will educate attorneys to file petitions for individuals who have had unlawful detainers dismissed or non-suited removed from their court records. No court appearance is required, and this opportunity can be done remotely.

Interested attorneys should register at [www.justiceserver.org](http://www.justiceserver.org) (select CVLAS as a service provider).

For more information on these opportunities, please contact *Lisa Bennett* at [Lisa@cvlas.org](mailto:Lisa@cvlas.org) or 804-200-6038.

## From The Legal Aid Justice Center

*Legal Aid Justice Center's Pro Bono Housing Unit* commitment consists of volunteering for at least four 1.5-hour appointment slots over the course of one year, in which you will advise approximately 3-5 clients each session and decide whether to offer further representation on a case-by-case basis. Currently the housing unit is operating by telephone, but occasionally pro bono attorneys may appear in court if they choose to offer full representation. A staff attorney will onboard you and offer to sit in on your initial call so that you know what to expect. There is a two and a half hour recorded training video that goes over Virginia Landlord Tenant Laws that will be provided and required before advising clients. A staff attorney will be provided as a resource to you for any of your consultation needs.

To sign up, please email *Louisa Rich*, director of the Pro Bono Housing Unit at: [LRich@justice4all.org](mailto:LRich@justice4all.org).

The Central Virginia Legal Aid Society is celebrating our 9th annual Fresh Start Breakfast on October 4, 2023 from 7:30-9:15 a.m. This is a fundraising breakfast which will allow CVLAS to continue its free civil legal work in our service area. Tickets to the event are free and registration can be done via the CLVAS website.

Please contact *Pam Kelleher* at [pam@cvlas.org](mailto:pam@cvlas.org) for more information to host or attend.

## From The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation

Join the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation for the Pro Bono Celebration, October 26th from 3-6pm at the offices of Troutman Pepper.

Let's celebrate pro bono service! Please join GRBF on October 26th to recognize the top pro bono volunteers, earn CLE credits, and hear from our keynote speaker. This year, you'll have an opportunity to connect with representatives from several organizations about pro bono opportunities, and potentially win fun prizes. Register at [grbf.org](http://grbf.org) or email [info@grbf.org](mailto:info@grbf.org) for more information.



# THE RICHMOND BAR: BY THE NUMBERS\*

**Total Members**  
**1,489**

**Law Students**  
**66**

**Young Lawyers**  
**438**

**Real Estate**  
**104**

**Corporate**  
**55**

**Business Law**  
**147**

**Environmental & Energy Law**  
**62**

**Bankruptcy**  
**114**

**Litigation**  
**323**

\*as of 9/1/2023



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## NEW MEMBERS

Please help us welcome the newest  
members of the RBA!



Jesse Baez  
Thomas Brooks  
Randolph Critzer  
Stefanie Felitto  
Jennifer Fox  
Elizabeth Fralin  
Heath Gates  
Rachel Glines  
Jonathan Halperin  
James Haynes  
Melissa Kouri

Andrew Lucchetti  
Audrey McElrath  
Brooke Norton  
Maisie Osteen  
Charles Schmidt  
Meghan Seal  
Benjamin Shute  
Huyen Vu  
John Weiland  
Benjamin Williams





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## Upcoming CLE Seminars

September 19	- Taking & Defending Depositions	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
September 19	- Bankruptcy Section Kickoff CLE 12:30PM	- Live	- 1.0 credit
September 26	- Effective Cross Examination	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 4	- Top 2023 Malpractice Claims (ETHICS)	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 10	- Microsoft Office Tips & Tricks	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 11	- Virginia Employment Law Update 2023	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 12	- Cocktail Party Law: Crimes, Divorce, and Real Estate	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 17	- Bankruptcy Section CLE 12:30PM Hilton Downtown	- Live	- 1.0 Credit
October 17	- The Wild West: Surviving & Thriving in General District Court	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 19	- Bench Bar Conference 8AM-2PM	- Live	- 3.0 Credits
October 19,	- Business Law & Corporate Counsel: The Corporate Transparency Act*-	- Live	- 1.0 Credit
October 24	- Jury Selection in Criminal & Civil Cases	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
October 26	- How to Use Embedded Appellate Counsel at Trial	- Zoom	- 2.0 Credits
November 14	- Bankruptcy Section CLE 12:30 Hilton Downtown	- Live	- 1.0 Credit

**\*Business Law & Corporate Counsel CLE held from 5:00-7:00pm.**

**All CLEs (unless noted otherwise) are held beginning at 4:00pm.**

**To register for CLEs or for more information, please visit [www.richmondbar.org/cle/registration/](http://www.richmondbar.org/cle/registration/)**

## OCTOBER

2nd - Executive Committee Meeting | 12:30 | Zoom  
4th - Real Estate Fall Social | Mainline | 5:30-7:30  
5th - Board Meeting | 12:30 | Hunton Andrews Kurth  
5th - YLS Fall Social | Juan's Rooftop | 6:00-8:00  
6th - November Newsletter Deadline  
9th - Bar Office Closed  
17th - Bankruptcy Luncheon | 12:30 | Hilton Dwn tn  
19th - Bench Bar Conference | 9:00am | GRCC  
30th - Executive Committee Meeting | 12:30 | Zoom  
30th - Private Conv. Event | 4-6pm | Williams Mullen

## NOVEMBER

2nd - Board Meeting | 12:30 | Hunton Andrews Kurth  
7th - Bar Office Closed  
10th - Bar Office Closed  
14th - Bankruptcy Luncheon | 12:30 | Hilton Dwn tn  
15th - Awards Luncheon | 12:30 | Willow Oaks CC  
20th - December Newsletter Deadline  
22nd - Bar Office Closed | Half Day  
23-24 - Bar Office Closed

## DECEMBER

4th - Executive Committee Meeting | 12:30 | Zoom  
7th - Board Meeting | 12:30 | Hunton Andrews Kurth  
13th - Holiday Cocktail Party | 6pm | Science Museum  
22nd - Bar Office Closed  
25th - Bar Office Closed

For a complete list and detailed information regarding RBA events, please visit our website at [richmondbar.org](http://richmondbar.org)

# Thanks to our 2023-2024 Select Sponsors

