

Richmond Attorney Named President-Elect of Virginia State Bar

Karen A. Gould, an insurance defense lawyer who practices in Richmond and a longtime volunteer for the Virginia State Bar, has been chosen president-elect of the VSB.

She will serve in the position for a year, and then be installed as bar president for the 2006–2007 fiscal year.

Gould, born in Cleveland and raised in Richmond from the age of six, began her legal career as a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Glen Williams of Abingdon before joining the Virginia Attorney General's Office in 1980. She entered private practice in 1984. She is now with the firm Childress, Gould & Russell PC.

Her practice focuses on professional liability defense of health-care providers, workers' compensation defense, defense of employers in employment matters and other litigation, as well as defense of

health-care providers before health regulatory boards.

She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia in 1976 and a law degree from the University of South Carolina in 1979.

Gould has served on the VSB Council since 2000, and was put on the Executive Committee in 2002. She has been chair of the VSB's Budget and Finance Committee, Disciplinary Board and Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board. She also served on the disciplinary committee that hears matters in the Third District.

She is married to Malcolm Rudolph West, a lawyer and corporate secretary for the New Market Corporation. They have a daughter.

She is a member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and she serves on the President's



Advisory Committee for Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company.

Gould ran unopposed for the president-elect office. She succeeds Phillip V. Anderson, who was installed as the sixty-seventh president of the VSB on June 17 during the bar's annual meeting in Virginia Beach.