

The Virginia Bar Association Recognizes Outstanding Leadership

David Craig Landin receives Walker Award of Merit; special resolution honors W. David Harless

Two Virginia attorneys have been recognized for their exceptional leadership by The Virginia Bar Association. The honors were given July 19 during the VBA's 123rd Summer Meeting at The Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs.

W. David Harless, immediate past president of the Virginia State Bar, received a special resolution of appreciation for his exemplary leadership of the bar and for his lasting contributions in fostering mutual respect and communication among bar associations. Former VBA President David Craig Landin accepted the Walker Award of Merit, which recognizes and appreciates exceptional leadership within the bar.

Harless, a VBA member since 1983 and a former council member of the VBA Labor Relations and Employment Law Section, recently completed his term as the 74th president of the VSB.

The VBA resolution reads in part: "(D)uring his tenure in numerous leadership positions in the Virginia State Bar, ... Mr. Harless has demonstrated by word and deed a commitment to excellence, integrity, professionalism, service and collegiality and his devotion to the mission, vision and goals of the Virginia State Bar." Also, "Mr. Harless devoted special attention to the importance of cooperation between and among all statewide and local bar associations, and through his extraordinary leadership, he indeed fostered meaningful and lasting improvements in the mutual respect and

communication among all bar associations in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

Harless is a partner in the litigation department at Christian & Barton LLP in Richmond. He also leads the firm's employment practice group. He is a former president of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond and has been a faculty member of the Virginia State Bar's mandatory course on professionalism and of the National Trial Advocacy College of the University of Virginia Law School. A Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation, he also serves on the Boyd-Graves Conference, an invitation-only group that studies and recommends ways to improve the law.

Landin has been a VBA member since 1972, and his service to the organization includes a term as VBA president in 1999 and longtime leadership of the VBA Committee on Special Issues of National & State Importance. The VBA views the committee, made up of lawyers and professionals in fields such as education, health care, publishing and in Fortune 500 companies, as its "think tank." This group looks for trends of emerging significance to society and presents them as they relate to lawyers in educational sessions at VBA meetings.

Landin, a partner at Hunton & Williams LLP in Richmond, helps lead its national business tort and product liability group. He also is a past president



Landin



Harless

of the Virginia Law Foundation and the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys.

Landin is the 14th recipient of the Walker Award of Merit, which was first given in 1990.