

VBA Executive Vice President to Retire

Charles Breckenridge “Breck” Arrington Jr., executive vice president of The Virginia Bar Association since 1991, will retire effective February 1, 2006.



The VBA, with 5,600 members, is the largest and oldest statewide voluntary bar organization in Virginia. It was founded in 1888.

Arrington, once chair of the VBA Young Lawyers Division, received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia. Before becoming the VBA’s executive, he was vice president of Newmyer Associates Inc., a Washington, D.C., public and governmental affairs management consulting firm. He also served in legal and management positions with Atlantic Richfield Company in Dallas, New York, Washington and Los Angeles.

He was counsel to the first state environmental protection agency—in New York—and was a partner in what is now the Vandeventer Black law firm in Norfolk.

He was an officer in the United States Navy and is a graduate of the U.S. School of Naval Justice.

VBA President James V. Meath said, “Breck’s announcement is a ‘passing of the guard’ kind of event which we are sorry to see come to pass. However, his announcement will allow for a timely search for his replacement and an orderly transition for the affairs of the association. We have a knowledgeable and dedicated staff at the VBA built during Breck’s tenure. We fully expect to maintain our high level of service to our members and continue our contributions to the public and the legal profession.”

continued from page 26

inees at the White House with President Lyndon B. Johnson, a Democrat. I once asked him how it was that he was such good personal friends with other federal judges, some of whom were appointed by other presidents of another party. His reply was a lesson for us to ponder and keep:

He said, “My loyalty is to the law, not to the person who appointed me. My colleagues have taken the same oath. So, we are a fraternity, a co-equal branch of government. We take the same oath as members of the executive and legislative branches of government: ‘to pre-

serve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.’” And then he added, with a twinkle in his eye: “Don’t you and your friends in both parties and the other two branches of government ever forget it!”

So, we gather today to salute—and say farewell to—a good man who lived life fully, who believed with every fiber of his being that “to do justice, one must ensure fairness.” Who among us could have said it better? ☺

J. Scott Kulp Joins VSB Disciplinary Staff

J. Scott Kulp has joined the Richmond office of the Virginia State Bar as an assistant bar counsel.



Kulp previously was an associate in the litigation section of Williams Mullen PC, where he handled general litigation matters. He also organized and participated in the firm’s involvement in the Legal Aid Justice Center Pro Bono Housing Project.

He received a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Virginia in 1992 and his law degree from Washington and Lee University in 1996. He served as a law clerk in the chief staff attorney’s office of the Supreme Court of Virginia before joining Williams Mullen in 1998.

Virginia State Bar Professionalism Course



Upcoming course dates:

MAY 5, 2005—CHESAPEAKE

JULY 21, 2005—MCLEAN

for additional dates and a registration form:

www.vsb.org/membership/professionalism.pdf

IN MEMORIAM

J. Lewis Ames

White Stone

July 1912–January 2005

Hunter Booker Andrews

Hampton

May 1921–January 2005

Stephen Geryld Christianson

Fairfax

January 1963–January 2005

Daniel Edward Fischer

Virginia Beach

April 1945–January 2004

The Honorable

Robert R. Mehri Jr.

Richmond

February 1919–February 2005

The Honorable

Thomas R. Monroe

Arlington

March 1924–January 2005

Harlin Perrine

Salem

September 1919–January 2005

Walter Wayne Tiffany

Virginia Beach

August 1940–January 2005

Address Change?

If you have moved or changed your address,

please see the VSB Membership Department's

page on the Web for an **address update form**

at www.vsb.org/membership/.



Virginia State Bar Executive Director Thomas A. Edmonds (center) presents an American Bar Association award to judges of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. The award recognizes the court's May 7, 2004, Law Day observance, which commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*. The event, named "Oliver Hill Day," was held on the birthday of Oliver W. Hill, for whom the Richmond courthouse is named. Hill was one of the lead attorneys who prevailed in the *Brown* case. The judges, left to right, are J. Stephen Buis, Anne B. Holton, Angela Edwards Roberts and C.N. Jenkins Jr. Not shown: Judge Kimberly B. O'Donnell.



Photo Credits: Jennifer L. McCallum

Virginia judges pose with American Bar Association President Robert J. Grey Jr. (center) during a Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference Bench-Bar Dinner on February 28. They are (l-r) Jacqueline R. Waymack of Hopewell Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court; Phillip L. Hairston of the Richmond General District Court (Criminal Division); Lucretia A. Carrico of Petersburg General District Court; and Aundria D. Foster of Newport News Circuit Court.

Richmond Attorney Recognized for Commitment to Professionalism

Overton P. “Opie” Pollard, executive director of the Virginia Public Defender Commission for thirty-one years, received the Virginia State Bar’s Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award during the Thirty-Fifth Annual Criminal Law Seminar on February 11 in Williamsburg.

The award was established in 1992 by the VSB’s Criminal Law Section to recognize unique contributions to the improvement of the criminal justice system. Carrico, who was chief justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia for twenty-two years before he assumed senior status in 2003, presented the award.

In nominating Pollard for the award, Richmond lawyer Richard Cocke characterized him as a hard worker with good judgment. “In his quiet way he not only produces results on his own, but motivates others to raise their level of effort to accomplish significant results toward the general welfare and objectives of the organized bar,” Cocke wrote.

Pollard, a native of Ashland, received his undergraduate and law degrees from Washington and Lee University. A United States Navy veteran, he practiced law privately before being hired at age thirty-nine as the Public Defender Commission’s first executive director—a part-time job at the time. Under his watch, the state’s first public defender office opened in 1972 to serve Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County. By his retirement in 2003, Virginia’s public defender system had grown to twenty-one offices serving forty-eight jurisdictions and employing 234 attorneys.

In retirement, Pollard has been an active volunteer with the Virginia State Bar’s Senior Lawyers Conference. He served a term as president, and edited the latest edition of the VSB’s popular *Senior Citizens Handbook*.

Pollard and his wife, Anne, live in Henrico County.



The Virginia State Bar’s Thirty-Fifth Annual Criminal Law Seminar drew about 640 attorneys to daylong sessions in Charlottesville and Williamsburg in February. Upper left: Overton P. Pollard received the Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award in Williamsburg. In Charlottesville, law Professor Roger D. Groot (upper right) of Washington and Lee University talked about the state of Virginia’s system for defending indigent people accused of crimes. In Williamsburg, Deputy United States Attorney General James B. Comey Jr. (bottom) discussed the effect of post-9/11 laws.

Attorneys Receive Professional and Management Guidance in Richmond, Abingdon

Clockwise, from top: Justice Cynthia D. Kinser (left) with Chief Justice Leroy R. Hassell Sr. and Nancy Byerly Jones, a North Carolina lawyer with a management consulting and mediation firm. Jones taught a continuing legal education course on law-office management during the first Solo and Small-Firm Practitioner Forum, sponsored by the Supreme Court on March 18 in Abingdon. The forum took place at the end of the Twentieth Annual Bar Leaders Institute, which featured Thomas A. Morris, president of Emory and Henry College and a political commentator, as the luncheon speaker. The Richmond Bar Leaders Institute, held March 7 at the University of Richmond School of Law, featured speaker Dadie Perlov, who talked about the structure and governance of bar associations. About two-hundred attorneys from Southwest Virginia attended the Abingdon event, and many shared their concerns and ideas with the Chief Justice during a Town Hall Forum that ended the day.



Richmond Bar Recognizes Wood, Smith

The Richmond Bar Association has recognized attorneys Julious P. Smith Jr. and Andrew W. Wood with two of its top awards.

Smith, chair and chief executive officer of Williams Mullen since 1983, received the Hill-Tucker Public Service Award, which recognizes service to society beyond the practice of law. The award is named for civil rights attorneys Oliver W. Hill and Samuel Tucker.

Wood was presented with the John C. Kenny Pro Bono Publico Award for his career-long commitment to providing pro bono service. Kenny was a leader of pro bono efforts in Richmond.

Smith's community involvement includes leadership positions with many nonprofit efforts: The CCA American Cancer Society Golf Tournament, the Greater Richmond United Way Campaign, the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Richmond Renaissance, the Multiple Sclerosis Society, the United States Olympic Committee and TheatreVirginia.

He is a member of the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame, a recip-

ient of the Richmond Touchdown Club's Micheli Award and the 2003 winner of the Patrick Henry Public Service Award from the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest at Hamden-Sydney College.

Smith serves on several corporate boards, including LandAmerica Financial Group Inc.; Hilb, Rogal and Hobbs Company; The Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia; Quarles Petroleum Inc.; and ServiceMaster Associates of Virginia Inc.

Wood is a commissioner in chancery for Richmond Circuit Court. For several years, he answered legal questions on the Richmond radio program "Law Line." He works The Virginia Bar Association's pro bono hotline on Saturdays, and he represented the Richmond Tenants Organization pro bono when legal aid lawyers were conflicted out of a complex matter.



Left: Andrew W. Wood received the Richmond Bar's John C. Kenny Pro Bono Publico Award for pro bono service. Right: Richmond Bar Association President Stephen E. Baril (L) presents the Hill-Tucker Public Service Award to Julious P. Smith Jr.

A letter nominating him for the award described him as a "silent soldier who is always willing to provide pro bono assistance when requested, with little fanfare and nothing asked for in return."

Wood is a native of Richmond. He received bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Richmond. He clerked for Judge John D. Bitzner Jr. of the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and worked for several law firms until 1981, when he and his wife Cheryl formed Wood & Wood.

66th VSB Annual Meeting Virginia Legal Aid Award Luncheon

Friday, June 17, 12:30 P.M. • Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel

The Access to Legal Services Committee and Attorneys Liability Protection Society (ALPS) will sponsor a luncheon which will feature informative discussions, the annual Legal Aid Award and much more. **Please note that the seated, plated luncheon will be held in Orion's Roof, at the Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel. Fee: \$10 per ticket. Space limited.**

Annual Meeting brochures will be mailed to all Virginia State Bar members and available online at www.vsb.org by mid-April.