

## **Policy on Content of Publications of Virginia State Bar Committees, Boards, Sections, Conferences, and *Virginia Lawyer***

All VSB publications address matters germane to the VSB's mission, the practice of law, and the purpose of each specific committee, conference, or section. Contributors to such publications have been given access to these forums for the specific purpose of educating and informing members about matters falling within the scope of each publication, rather than as a forum for expressing their views or opinions on other topics or matters. If a contributor wishes to express their views on other topics or matters of general importance—including in the contributor's capacity as a lawyer-citizen—there are numerous other outlets for doing so.

This policy applies to any content produced by VSB committees, boards, conferences, and sections including but not limited to: articles, letters to the editor, newsletters, pamphlets, brochures, web pages, emails, and social media posts ("Content").

### ***Virginia Lawyer***

*Virginia Lawyer* does not publish articles that have been published elsewhere.

*Virginia Lawyer* seeks articles written by VSB members (or articles that provide information useful to the Bar) that:

- address specific issues in areas of law that are widely practiced
- cover new fields of law or subspecialties
- are of interest to a significant portion of our members

We will decline articles that:

- are political in tone or content
- denigrate the legal profession
- criticize sitting members of the judiciary
- address pending litigation
- are too minutely focused
- promote a specific business
- do not conform to these guidelines

We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length, clarity, organization, and style; substantive changes are subject to author approval.

The VSB Executive Director will review all articles written by VSB officers. The Deputy Executive Director will review all articles that pertain to Bar policy and rules.

We reserve the right to determine when an article is published. If your article is appropriate for a theme issue, your article may be sent to the theme issue editor for consideration; theme articles

## **Policy on Content of Publications of Virginia State Bar Committees, Sections, Conferences, and *Virginia Lawyer***

Page 2 of 2

are published according to the theme issue schedule which may be found at <http://www.vsb.org/site/publications/ad-info#editorial>.

### **Letters to the Editor**

*Virginia Lawyer* welcomes letters to the editor. An individual's opinion on an important legal topic, as well as a dialogue among bar members, as voiced in a civil exchange of public letters, are valuable to the membership of the Virginia State Bar. Letters should discuss issues related to the regulation of the legal profession, improving the quality of legal services to Virginians, the programs and activities of the VSB, and articles or other materials published in *Virginia Lawyer*. Letters must not contain language constituting an attack upon an individual, group, or organization, as opposed to an idea, and may not promote individual products, services, or political candidates. We reserve the right not to publish every letter we receive.

Generally, letters are about 250 words in length and are from members in good standing of the VSB. Writers should include their name and VSB ID number for verification. Email the editor at [norman@vsb.org](mailto:norman@vsb.org) or Editor, VSB, 1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700, Richmond, VA 23219-0026.

### **Licensing**

All authors grant the Virginia State Bar the right to reproduce, distribute, and publish their work in all forms and media throughout the world, to prepare translations and other works that derive from their work, and to license and authorize others to do all these things. The authors retain a royalty-free, perpetual right to use, reproduce, and distribute their work, and to create derivative works once the VSB publishes the work.

We reserve the right to refuse to publish any Content.

Style guidelines and manuscript requirements may be found at [http://www.vsb.org/docs/style\\_guide.pdf](http://www.vsb.org/docs/style_guide.pdf).

See also VSB Social Media Policy for additional information: <https://www.vsb.org/docs/ch-complete.pdf>

Effective October 2018

Rev. February 2021

Rev. November 2022