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The views expressed in the *Roanoke Bar Review* do not represent the policy or carry the endorsement of the Association unless specifically noted.

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UVA LAW PROFESSOR BREAKS DOWN THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ERA, JUST PASSED IN VIRGINIA

BY JANE KELLY, WITH KIM FORDE-MAZRUI
REPUBLICATED BY PERMISSION FROM *UVA TODAY*

On Wednesday, [January 16, 2020,] the Virginia General Assembly ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, nearly 100 years after it was introduced to the United States Congress in 1923. Virginia became the 38th state to pass the measure, which states that "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." The measure was passed in Congress in 1972, but three-quarters of states must approve it before it can become a constitutional amendment. With Virginia's decision, the measure reached that three-quarters mark, but adding the amendment to the Constitution remains in question because of various legal hurdles.



Kim Forde-Mazrui, Mortimer M. Caplin Professor of Law at the University of Virginia and director of UVA's Center for the Study of Race and Law, has focused his scholarship on equal protection involving race and sexual orientation. On Wednesday, he spoke with *UVA Today* about his analysis that the ERA does not do enough for women, the possible unintended consequences of its passage, and other options on the table.



Q. What does the Equal Rights Amendment say?

A. The ERA's text reads:

"Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex.

"Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."

Q. Why has it taken Virginia so long to address this issue?

A. First, most people thought the ERA was dead after its 1982 [ratification] deadline expired. Also, conservatives have tended to oppose the ERA, which is why it did not pass muster in 2018, when the Republican-dominated Virginia legislature foiled the effort. Their concerns include the ERA's impact on privacy, such as requiring unisex locker rooms, restrooms and prisons; its (unlikely) potential to guarantee a right to abortion; and its likely effect that women would have to register for the draft

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY PATRICK J. KENNEY, ESQ.



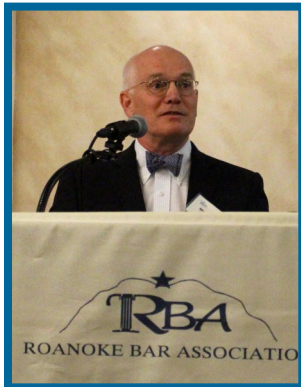
This is the second President's message I have written this month. The first message, now stale, encouraged our members to attend upcoming CLE's, to volunteer for worthy causes supported by the Association, and to attend our monthly meetings. Needless to say, because of the COVID-19 outbreak our professional and personal lives have been turned upside down. Within the last few days, Virginia schools have been canceled for the remainder of the

academic year, hearings in our Federal and State Courts have been reduced to emergencies, many businesses have closed, and many of our members are working from home if at all. Indeed, the Roanoke Valley and our Nation are in crisis. Accordingly, our events and activities for the month of April have been postponed or cancelled.

The Roanoke Bar Association Board of Directors will meet telephonically in April to continue to plan bar events and to discuss the schedule for the remainder of the Association's 2019-2020 calendar year. The Association will continue to follow the guidelines and directives of Federal and State authorities; however, we will plan for the months ahead when things return to normal.

Lawyers have traditionally been leaders in our society, and I know that our members will continue to aid businesses and individuals navigate the effects of COVID-19. I look forward to our next lunch meeting and a return to normalcy both professionally and personally. Ernest Hemingway wrote, "Now is no time to think of what you do not have. Think of what you can do with what there is." I wish all of our members and their families the best of health and hope everyone can enjoy the things that bring us light. May we all make the best of our situations. And wash those hands!

Patrick J. Kenney is a solo attorney.



Michael Maxey, speaker at January Luncheon.

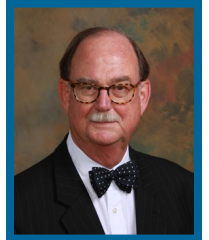


Heywood Fralin, speaker at February Luncheon.

UPDATE ON VIRGINIA STATE BAR ACTIONS AND PROGRAMMING

BY GENE ELLIOTT, ESQ. AND
BRETT MARSTON, ESQ.

As your 23rd Judicial Circuit representatives, we appreciate the chance to keep you updated on activities and programs of the Virginia State Bar. There has been quite a bit going on with the VSB, and there are opportunities for you to get involved. Here are some of the major items of current interest and importance.



We just concluded one of the three bar council meetings for the year. This one occurred in Richmond on Saturday, February 29. There were several issues of importance that were reported or decided upon:



- Council approved a proposed budget for the bar year beginning July 1, 2020. This budget of about \$14.7 million will now go to the Supreme Court of Virginia for consideration. The budget is decreased (from almost \$16 million) for the coming bar year based mainly upon a change in how the accounting for the Wellness Fund payments will be handled.

- Council also approved several modifications to several parts of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The most notable is that for Part 6, Section IV, paragraph 3. Council also approved revisions to clarify, among other things, requirements for membership statuses, address the need for separate membership statuses for retired and disabled members, add an email address of record requirement, and eliminate ambiguous terminology.

Keep in mind some recent changes to notable rules/LEOs that were previously approved by Bar Council and have now gone into effect.

- Amendments to Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15, Safekeeping Property. On January 9, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved amendments to Rule 1.15, Safekeeping Property, effective March 15, 2020. Council approved the amendments on October 2, 2019.

- LEO 1890 on communications with represented persons. On January 9, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved proposed LEO 1890, effective immediately. Council approved LEO 1890 by a vote of 41-22 at the October 2019 meeting.

- LEO 1891 on communication with represented government officials. On January 9, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved proposed LEO 1891, effective immediately. Council approved LEO 1891 by a vote of 53-8 with five abstentions at the October 2019 meeting.

- On July 1, 2020, the Virginia Lawyer Referral Service will implement the Rules adopted by Council on October 26, 2018, and begin to assess a 15% fee for referrals that result in representation over \$500.

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VIEWS FROM THE MEDIATOR: JUDGE MALFOURD W. “BO” TRUMBO

BY CHRISTOPHER S. DADAK, ESQ.



This is the third installment of a new series, inspired by the Views from the Bench series and the continued rise of alternative dispute resolution, focusing on the views of local mediators.

The Honorable Bo Trumbo is one of the most gregarious, friendly, and entertaining figures in our local legal landscape. Retired after over a decade on the bench, Judge Trumbo has a wealth of experience that he now puts to use for private mediations and was kind enough to share with us.

Judge Trumbo's background for mediation is a "culmination of a lot of experiences." Before law school, he taught high school, coached football, and worked towards a master's degree in counseling (leaving that field with only a few credits short of the degree). After finishing law school, he was in private practice for only about four years before entering politics. As our readers likely know, Judge Trumbo was in the legislature for 14–15 years, during which time he maintained a general practice.

Judge Trumbo "always thought that mediations were the preferable way to go with most cases." He noticed that parties often did "not feel like they owned" litigation, whereas mediation would give them control. He first started thinking about mediation "as a way to resolve issues" while on the bench. "In looking toward retirement [he] figured he would look toward" presiding over mediations and only then really thought of and pursued the opportunity. He "went with a group out of Richmond and went through a fairly extensive training process there." He "was very fortunate to get that type of training." He now runs his own mediation services firm.

Judge Trumbo shared some of his philosophy and approach to mediation. He always arrives quite early to the mediation location to "get a lay of the land." "That's the old football coach [in him]: know the field." As a coach, he would "walk the field" before each game to get a sense of the conditions and strategize. He does the same now as a mediator. He uses that time to talk to the people responsible for logistics and help him get a lay of the facilities and surroundings. When everyone meets for the mediation, he is "comfortable with the setting."

First, Judge Trumbo focuses on finding out what the parties "think is important." "Once you open up the discussion, [the parties] will prioritize it for you." Once he "gets a feel for that" he can see if there are values or options that the parties had not considered. He has found some common themes as to value or priorities. There is the "value of finality." There is "the value of upfront money." Judge Trumbo's listening skills that he developed in his pre-law experience help him find value for the parties according to their priorities; just listening "really help[s] in that aspect" of mediating. You "better know your audience going in."

Second, Judge Trumbo develops trust and rapport with the parties to help the process. He leans on his political experience in understanding and getting to know a large swath of constituents and the need to listen and enable them to express their needs. That experience also helped him understand that different areas or people will have different approaches and needs.

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ROANOKE LAW LIBRARY NEWS AND INFORMATION

BY JOSEPH KLEIN, LAW LIBRARIAN

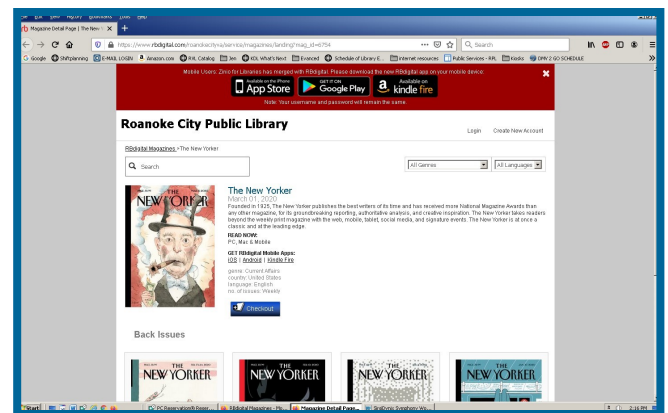
A few years ago, I began running, and it is now one of my favorite activities. I especially love early morning runs on the many mountain trails with which we are blessed locally. The trails around Mill Mountain, the Appalachian Trail, and the Glenwood Horse Trail are just a few of the trails within minutes of Roanoke that transport me to another world. Often I am on trails for several hours and rarely do I cross paths with another person. When I run, walk between libraries, or commute to work, I like to listen to podcasts or audio books. I love the fact that I can download audiobooks for free using one of the wonderful databases provided by the Roanoke Public Libraries.



Library Electronic Resources

Most people know that we have books and movies, but people are often surprised when I tell them about the variety of wonderful electronic databases you can access using your Roanoke Valley library card. In addition to ebooks and audiobooks, we also have databases with current popular magazines, resources that offer hundreds of classes on a variety of topics, and general reference databases.

The two electronic resources that the Roanoke Public Libraries provide that I use the most, except for Lexis, of course, are Overdrive and RB Digital. Overdrive provides access to thousands of ebooks and audiobooks. RB Digital provides electronic access to over one hundred current magazines and back issues. You can access both on the Roanoke Public Libraries web page, www.roanokeva.gov/library.



If you have a RVL library card, you can access all our Overdrive materials at <https://rvl.overdrive.com/>. You can download the Libby app to be able to access Overdrive right on your phone or tablet. In the Libby app, you can read ebooks and listen to audiobooks anywhere.

To use RB Digital to access electronic versions of popular magazines, you can go to <https://www.rbdigital.com/roanokecityva> and browse through all the magazines we provide. When you first use the system, it is necessary to set up an account using your RVL library card number. Then, you are able to

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IMPLICATIONS OF THE ERA

(Continued from page 1)

and serve more extensively in combat roles. Virginia was controlled by Republicans until January 2020.

Q. What is your assessment of the ERA?

A. First, the ERA would only prohibit sex discrimination by the government and that is already prohibited under the Constitution. Second, the ERA would not apply at all to the inequalities that concern its supporters. Because it would not apply to the private sector, it would have no effect on such issues as violence against women, unequal pay or sexual harassment in the workplace.

Even worse, the ERA would harm women because it would not only bar government discrimination against women, like current law does, it would also ban all distinctions on the basis of sex, including policies designed to benefit girls and women. State and federal programs to increase female participation in STEM fields, corporate management and business ownership, for example, would likely violate the ERA. It would also jeopardize single-sex settings, such as schools, dormitories, prisons and locker rooms. This is because the ERA would require the government and courts to treat sex like they are required to treat race. The U.S. Supreme Court increasingly prohibits all race distinctions including when used to promote integration or to reduce inequality. And, of course, the Constitution prohibits separating people by race, whether in schools, prisons or other settings.

Q. Why are lawmakers so keen to pass the ERA?

A. People are confused about what the effect of the ERA would be. Statements by lawmakers routinely assume the ERA would apply to the private sector and completely fail to recognize how it would prohibit government policies designed to benefit women.

ERA supporters also desire to have sex equality expressed explicitly in the Constitution. I respect that interest tremendously. But symbolic equality is not worth the cost of undermining actual equality. Also, it could harm equality for other groups to take the position that only groups that are explicitly protected in the Constitution are protected. The Constitution does not mention any group in its equality clause (not even race), which has allowed the courts to expand the groups protected as their discrimination has become recognized, including different racial and national-origin groups, women, and gays and lesbians. If women are equal to men only if the Constitution expressly says so, then the message to other groups, such as gay, transgender, mentally or physically disabled and poor people is that they are not equal until they can amend the Constitution in their favor, a practical impossibility.

Q. Are there other ideas on the table?

A. Yes. People have proposed alternative amendments that would better promote women's equality, many of them women.

U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney of New York has proposed an amendment slightly more promising than the ERA. Her proposal reads:

"Section 1. Women shall have equal rights in the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

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UPDATE ON VIRGINIA STATE BAR ACTIONS AND PROGRAMMING

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In terms of items that are coming up or opportunities for you to provide input on potential programmatic changes, there are several.

- The VSB's Standing Committee on Legal Ethics is seeking public comment on proposed amendments to Rules 1.8, 1.10, 1.15, and 3.3 of the Rules of Professional Conduct. Information and links to comment are available at www.vsb.org/site/news/item/ethics_committee_seeks_comments1.

- There is an opportunity to provide input on how to improve Virginia's Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) system. The MCLE Board is seeking comments from MCLE providers and lawyers. There is an on-line survey available at www.vsb.org/site/news/item/mcle_feedback.

- The VSB also is seeking comment on proposed changes to the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee's procedures and policies. An on-line description and opportunity to comment is available at www.vsb.org/site/news/item/JCEC_comments_sought.

There are a number of upcoming events and programs across the spectrum of VSB groups for your consideration and involvement.

- The Diversity Conference will hold its 3rd Annual Forum on Diversity at the University of Virginia on October 2, 2020. Last year the program was approved for 5.0 hours of CLE. This program filled up quickly last year, so be sure to get on the list for 2020. Information is available at www.vsb.org/site/conferences/diversity/.

- The VSB is offering a free 2-hour CLE to lawyers interested in serving as receivers of the practices of deceased, disabled, or suspended/revoked attorneys. The Bar seeks lawyers willing to serve the profession and assist in protecting both public and client interests where an attorney has not designated a successor, and there is no one available to assist in the winding down of the attorney's law practice. The session is April 13, 2020 at the VSB offices in Richmond. Information and registration at <https://vsbevent.virginiainteractive.org/Home/Detail/431>.

- Solo and Small-firm Practitioner Forums. The VSB's CLSBA conducts three forums a year in rural and small town/city locations in geographically dispersed areas of the Commonwealth. The next one nearby is in Danville on May 19, 2020. Information on the program and registration is available at <https://vsbevent.virginiainteractive.org/Home/Detail/428>.

- The ever-popular VSB Techshow occurs in Richmond on April 27, 2020. Information and registration is available at: <https://vsbevent.virginiainteractive.org/Home/Detail/354>.

- The Leroy R. Hassell Sr. Indigent Criminal Defense Seminar occurs in Richmond and other remote locations on May 1, 2020. Information and registration is available at: <https://vsb.org/special-events/indigent-defense/index.php/>.

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The McCammon Group

is pleased to announce our newest Neutral



Hon. William D. Broadhurst (Ret.)

Retired Chief Judge, 23rd Judicial Circuit Court of Virginia, Roanoke

The Honorable Bill Broadhurst recently retired as Chief Judge of the 23rd Judicial Circuit Court after over twenty-five years of distinguished judicial service in Roanoke. He began his judicial tenure as a Judge of the General District Court and then served for eighteen years as a Judge on the Circuit Court. As a lawyer, Judge Broadhurst had a successful career in private practice and in the office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for Roanoke County. He also enjoyed many years officiating college football games at the FCS level. Judge Broadhurst now brings this record of dedication and accomplishment to The McCammon Group to serve the mediation and arbitration needs of lawyers and litigants throughout the Commonwealth.



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Having previously served twenty-one years as both a full time and a retired, recalled circuit court judge, Jonathan M. Apgar has successfully mediated scores of cases. He is also certified in civil mediation by the National Judicial College. He offers skilled mediation and arbitration at a modest cost.

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UPDATE ON VIRGINIA STATE BAR ACTIONS AND PROGRAMMING

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- And do not forget about the VSB Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach June 17-20, 2020. Be sure to join us for great CLE, networking, and beach time. Keep an eye out for upcoming registration.

There are also chances to get involved with the groups associated with the VSB.

- If you, or someone you know, would like to be on the Diversity Conference Board of Governors, please submit and application by April 15. Contact daniel@vsb.org for application information.

- There are openings on several of the VSB special and standing committees, such as budget & finance, legal ethics, access to legal services, Lawyers Referral and more. If you are interested in joining one of these, let one of us know.

There are many opportunities to nominate worthy candidates for awards presented by the various sections and conferences of the VSB.

- The Board of Governors of the Diversity Conference seeks nominations for the Clarence M. Dunnville Jr. Achievement Award that promotes diversity and inclusion in the Bar. Information is available at www.vsb.org/site/conferences/diversity/dunnville_award_form.

- Local Bar Leader of the Year and Specialty Bar Leader of the Year. These two awards honor outstanding dedication and achievement by a deserving bar leader from each category of association with an emphasis on service during the past ten years. Entry instructions for Local Bar Leader of the Year can be found at www.vsb.org/docs/conferences/clba/barleader.pdf and for Specialty Bar Leader of the Year at www.vsb.org/docs/conferences/clba/specleader.pdf.

- Please nominate a general practice lawyer for the Tradition of Excellence Award, sponsored by the General Practice Section and given at the Annual Meeting. Information is available at www.vsb.org/site/sections/generalpractice/tradition-of-excellence-award.

Updated VSB information.

- The Senior Lawyers Conference has updated the Senior Citizens Handbook. We are delighted to report that there has been a comprehensive revision of this valuable resource – its first revision since 2013. The updated handbook will be available online by the end of March or early April, with printed copies coming in May. It will be available for no cost at the Bar Office for distribution at Senior Citizens Law Programs, as a PDF download on the SLC's page on the VSB website, and for a modest cost to individual lawyers requesting books for their office.

As always, if we can be of assistance with any issues with the VSB, or if you have ideas or want to get involved, please let us know.

Gene Elliot is a solo attorney, and Brett Marston is a partner at Gentry Locke.

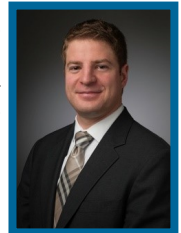
VIEWS FROM THE MEDIATOR: JUDGE MALFOURD W. "BO" TRUMBO

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Part of that process is patience. "Because if [he] steps into it too quickly, the [parties] will think that he is taking control" where it is the parties who need to feel empowered. His job is not to have the control, but only to "point out certain aspects of the case which they may not have thought of."

Finally, Judge Trumbo shared some specific advice for local practitioners. He finds that opening statements can be useful, but are not required. Particularly in technical cases, they can be a useful tool to "educate the client" on the opposite side. Mediation "is an educational process." He also reminds lawyers that "they are not litigating the case, they are mediating it at this point." He needs a "commitment that [each side] is going to try to make it work." Similar to his thoughts on lobbying, he stresses that you must "know your case" and "know your pitfalls." "[Y]ou are not worth your salt if you cannot tell me the other side's case." Because if you do not know the opposing side's case, then "you do not know your own case well enough." Practitioners and clients alike would be wise to follow this advice before mediating their cases.

Christopher S. Dadak is an Associate at Guynn, Waddell, Carroll & Lockaby, P.C.



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IMPLICATIONS OF THE ERA

(Continued from page 4)

"Section 2. Congress and the several States shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

"Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."

The main difference between her proposal and the ERA is that she inserts a sentence at the beginning of the amendment that explicitly says "Women," which the ERA does not. By doing so, her amendment might be interpreted by courts to allow some sex distinctions if they benefit women. That is unlikely, however, because the rest of the amendment still guarantees equality of rights on account of sex to everyone and thus should still entitle men to complain if a policy favors women. Her proposal also appears not to apply to the private sector.

Feminist scholars have also proposed amendments with more explicit language to authorize policies that would affirmatively promote women's equality.

Other countries, such as France and Germany, also have constitutional protections for women that expressly make exceptions for policies that seek to advance sex equality. City University of New York Professor Julie Suk has analyzed the sex equality provisions of several countries with sex equality ratings higher than the United States and found that their Constitutions make explicit authorizations for policies designed to increase women's representation in professional careers, corporate boards and political institutions. Many also have express provisions to support mothers, fathers and children.

Q. Legally, what comes next now that Virginia has passed the ERA?

A. The ERA's validity still faces several difficulties before it can become law. First, Congress initially set a 1979 deadline, which it purported to extend to 1982. It is not clear that the 1982 extension was lawful because it was passed by a simple majority of Congress, not the two-thirds required for Congress to propose constitutional amendments to the states.

Another problem is that a handful of states passed laws purporting to rescind their ratifications and did so prior to the expiration of Congress's deadline, arguably reducing the ratifying states below the required 38.

My colleague, UVA law professor Saikrishna Prakash, has analyzed many of these difficulties and concludes that Congress cannot change the deadline to validate the three ratifications that have occurred in recent years, including Virginia's. I have not studied these issues as closely as he has, but it seems to me that, at a minimum, Congress would have to eliminate the 1982 deadline and do so by two-thirds of each chamber. This conclusion is contrary to the hopes of some ERA supporters that Virginia's ratification made the ERA law without any further action by Congress. In short, the next steps will be in the hands of Congress and the courts.

The inadequacy of the ERA is not the fault of author Alice Paul or others who helped to draft or support it. In 1923, no one could have predicted that putting a right against sex discrimination in the Constitution would be interpreted by courts to be against women's interests. It is disappointing to come this far only to regroup, but we should not let what should be blind us from what would be, under the ERA. We need a fresh start, a new ERA that fits the sex inequalities that exist today and one that prevents the courts from blocking such reforms. The matter is now in the hands of Congress and the courts.

ROANOKE LAW LIBRARY NEWS AND INFORMATION

(Continued from page 3)

access as many publications as you would like. You can also get the RB Digital app on your phone or tablet and download and view magazines anywhere.

Lexis Advance

Hopefully you are all aware, but from time to time, I like to remind you all that the Roanoke Law Library provides free access to Lexis Advance. Whenever we are open, anyone can access Lexis on our public computers. Our Lexis account provides statutes and case law of all 50 states and the United States, as well as an extensive collection of Virginia resources, including *Michie's Jurisprudence*, the *Virginia Forms* set, and other useful secondary legal resources. You can print out materials from these resources or email them to yourself or others. If you are unfamiliar with Lexis Advance, I am always glad to assist you or set up a one-on-one training session. Please give me a call at 540-853-2268 for questions regarding Lexis or any other service provided by the Roanoke Law Library.

Roanoke Bar Association 2020-2021 Board Nominations

If you are interested in serving on the

2020-2021 RBA Board

please email rba@roanokebar.com

no later than April 10th.

**Due to the current
COVID-19 restrictions**

**the April RBA Luncheon has
been cancelled.**

**The Memorial for Walt Peake
will be rescheduled.**

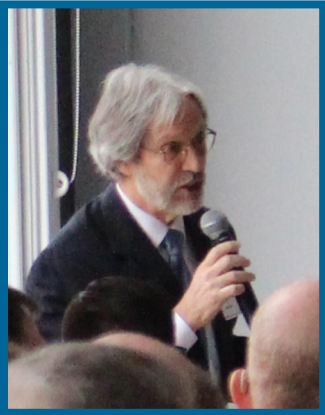
THE 2020 BENCH-BAR CONFERENCE REPORT



Macel Janoschka moderating.



VSB pres-elect, Brian Buniva.



John Whitfield, speaker.



The Roanoke Bar Association hosted its annual Bench-Bar Conference on Friday, February 28, 2020. A crowd of over 80 judges and attorneys attended and took part in the event, which was held in the White Room at Blue 5 Restaurant. The RBA is grateful to the VSB's Lawyers Malpractice Insurance Committee and Alps for supporting this program.

The conference began with an hour-long ethics CLE presentation focused on the pro bono initiative in the 23rd Judicial Circuit and the "justice gap" in Virginia. The program was presented by John E. Whitfield, who has served as the executive director of Blue Ridge Legal Services, the legal aid society serving the Shenandoah and Roanoke Valleys of Virginia, since 1989. He also currently serves as co-chair of the Supreme Court of Virginia's Access to Justice Commission.

Chief Justice Donald Lemons has asked the chief judges of the 23rd Judicial Circuit to spearhead a pro bono initiative in this circuit. Helping kick off this pro bono initiative, Mr. Whitfield presented on the justice gap that exists in our civil justice system, how it impacts our courts, how the bar can help the courts by undertaking more pro bono legal work, and how legal aid offices can help coordinate that effort.

In furtherance of this pro bono initiative, Brian Buniva, the president-elect of the Virginia State Bar, also briefly addressed the attendees to encourage pro bono work and access to justice, which will be a particular focus during his term as president, which will start in June 2020. Mr. Buniva is interested in the circuit-based, judiciary-led pro bono initiatives being undertaken in various circuits across the state, including Roanoke.

Following the CLE program, judges from various federal and states courts in Roanoke presented the "State of the Judiciary" addresses.

Chief Judge Michael F. Urbanski of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, addressed the current efforts to upgrade courthouse security and safety throughout the Western District. Judge Paul M. Black of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia reported on the preparations being made locally to address the expected uptick in filings in light of the recent amendments to the Bankruptcy Code for small businesses. Chief Judge William Broadhurst of the Circuit Court of the 23rd Judicial Circuit addressed the attendees and identified the appropriate contacts for questions that may arise in the coming months. Chief Judge Jaqueline F. Ward Talevi presented on behalf of the General District Court and reported that most criminal arraignments are now being conducted via videoconference from the jails, which has resulted in greater efficiency and security. Lastly, Judge Frank W. Rogers III reported that all has been blissfully quiet and calm in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, with increased filings and dispositions. Judge Rogers further reported on the upcoming renovations for the first floor of the Oliver Hill Justice Center, which will include security enhancements, major improvements to the Clerk's office, and upgrades to the public areas.

The conference closed with a question-and-answer session with judges from all the local courts.

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THE 2020 BENCH-BAR CONFERENCE REPORT

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The Roanoke Bar Association thanks Executive Director Diane Higgs, who did the heavy lifting needed to make the conference possible. The Young Lawyers Committee, chaired by Sarah Jessee of Lewis Brisbois, organized the conference this year. The Association thanks Dawn Resende and Nancy Stewart of the RVLSA for their help with the event. Thank you to Alps, the endorsed malpractice insurance provider of the Virginia State Bar, for partial funding of this event. Finally, the Association thanks all the presenters, judges, and attorneys who attended this year's conference and helped make it a success.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

The Roanoke Bar Association welcomes the following new members:

Effective March 10, 2020

Active Members

Kimberly Beamer, 23rd Judicial Circuit

Abby McGowen Broughton, Gentry Locke

Charles R. Bullen, Office of the Public Defender

W. Watts Burks, IV, Glenn Feldmann Darby & Goodlatte

Raymond E. Escobar, Woods Rogers PLC

Becky Schanz, Glenn Robinson Cathey Memmer & Skaff

Halley Taylor, 23rd Judicial Circuit

Jeremy A. Theisen, Roanoke City Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Glenn Williams, Frith Anderson & Peake PC

Mia Yugo, Gentry Locke

Members Reinstated

Yvgeni Sientje Henderson, Henderson Law

UPCOMING EVENTS

Roanoke Bar Association Meetings 2019 - 2020

September 10, 2019

October 8, 2019

November 12, 2019

December 10, 2019

January 14, 2020

February 11, 2020

March 10, 2020

April 14, 2020—CANCELLED

May 1, 2020 (Law Day)

June 9, 2020 (Annual Meeting)

Go to www.roanokebar.com for more information on all upcoming events.

OFFICERS

Patrick J. Kenney 982-7721
President

Daniel P. Frankl 527-3515
President-Elect

Macel H. Janoschka 725-3372
Secretary-Treasurer

J. Lee E. Osborne 983-7516
Past President

Diane Higgs 342-4905
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sarah C. Jessee 510-3019

D. Adam McKelvey 342-2000

Jonathan D. Puvak 983.9399

Devon R. Slovensky 492-5297

Justin E. Simmons 983-7795

Robert Ziogas 224-8005



DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS!

Name: _____ Firm: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Complete and Forward to: Roanoke Bar Association, P.O. Box 18183, Roanoke, VA 24014

Email: rba@roanokebar.com