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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The *University of Richmond Law Review* proudly presents its fifteenth *Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. Since the first publication in 1985, the *Annual Survey* has provided Virginia practitioners and others with a practical resource for recent judicial, legislative, and administrative developments in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

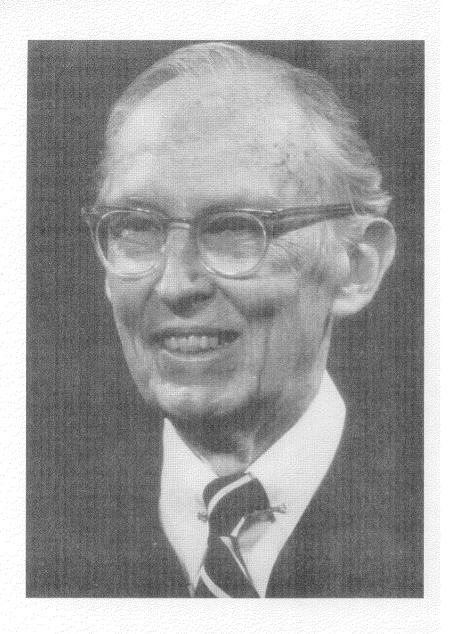
The Annual Survey is one of the largest issues published by the University of Richmond Law Review, and continues to be one of the more popular issues. Articles published in the Annual Survey are written by professors and Virginia practitioners with special knowledge in their fields. The fifteenth edition of the Annual Survey is fortunate to have three founding contributors to the Survey serve as authors, Professors J. Rodney Johnson, John Paul Jones and Robert E. Shepherd, Jr. The Law Review commends these authors for their continuing commitment to the Annual Survey. In addition, we extend a hearty congratulations to Professor Johnson on his recent retirement.

This year's Annual Survey covers not only traditional legal fields, but also extends into the more specialized areas of construction law, medical malpractice, and technology law. The Law Review welcomes your comments and suggestions as we strive to expand the scope of the Annual Survey to meet the needs of our readers.

The fifteenth edition of the Annual Survey of Virginia Law is the product of an extraordinary and concerted effort of many individuals. The Law Review extends our gratitude to all the authors who invested valuable time and energy in researching, writing, and editing their articles. The Annual Survey expresses its appreciation to Professor W. Hamilton Bryson for providing advance copies of Virginia circuit court opinions. I personally extend my gratitude to the Law Review Staff and Board Members for their hard work this summer and fall. I would also say a special thanks to Sarah Boehm and Damian Santomauro for going above and beyond. Finally, without the optimism of Molly Delea, the persistence of Thomas Queen, the practicality of Glenice Coombs and the unwavering support of Mark Holloway, the fulfillment of my duties as Annual Survey Editor would not have been possible.

It has been a pleasure and an honor serving as *Annual Survey Editor*. Thank you for your support and readership.

Melanie C. Holloway Annual Survey Editor



Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr. September 19, 1907 - August 25, 1998