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DO JUVENILE OFFENDERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE?
First-class upgrade

Its aesthetic enhancement is obvious, but the Muse Law Library’s second-floor renovation has also garnered praise for its functional improvement. “It went spectacularly well,” said Roger Skalbeck, associate dean for library and information services. “Students have more places for group study, a private area for phone calls, and a new way to connect to faculty and classrooms.”

Photograph by Jamie Betts
A welcoming home

Dear friends,

If you’ve visited the law school recently — or checked out the photograph on the previous pages — you’ll know that the Muse Law Library underwent some exciting renovations last year. Guided by student input, we updated the second-floor space with four conference rooms for group study and collaborative projects, plus a common area for students to gather and study together. An additional entrance on the second floor makes accessing the library even easier than before, and a suite of offices gives students better access to faculty.

Well-designed space, like a well-designed curriculum, helps to assure that our students get the most from their legal education. Quiet, well-lighted nooks foster thoughtful reflection. Small group rooms encourage collaboration. Sophisticated technology allows students to take advantage of resources beyond our building. Private soundproof phone pods give students a place to take a phone call from a prospective employer. And we know that for most law students, the law school building is a second home where they spend most of their waking hours. We are always looking for ways to assure that the building feels welcoming and encouraging and that it inspires all students to do their best.

For making these changes possible, we have alumni like you to thank. I’m particularly grateful to Edward D. Barnes, L’72; Joshua E. Bushman, L’07; Douglas D. Callaway, L’80; Michael A. Glasser, L’78, and Jacob L. Glasser, L’16; R. Kennon Poteat III, L’06; Judge Frederick P. Stamp Jr., L’59, and Joan Stamp; and Judge George D. Varoutsos, L’73, and Sandra Varoutsos for their gifts to the recent renovation project.

If you haven’t seen our space in a while, we’d love to have you visit. Spider alums are always welcome here!

Wendy C. Perdue
Dean and Professor of Law
Features

‘If not you, who?’
In the wake of a Supreme Court decision about juvenile sentencing, the crimes and notoriety of a client represented by Craig Cooley, L’77, put ideas about children’s culpability and capacity for reform to the test.

By Matthew Dewald

A common cause
The Carrico Center’s Immigration Assistance Project is a nexus for a Richmond Law-affiliated network of students, alumni, and faculty engaged in immigration law.

By Aggrey Sam

Mass appeal
Timothy Litzenburg, L’08, didn’t set out to practice mass torts, but his success in the field — including winning a groundbreaking verdict against Monsanto — has led him to embrace it.

By Aggrey Sam

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END OF AN ERA
Michelle Rahman, Richmond Law’s longtime associate dean of admissions, is perhaps best known for the personal touch she offered students — including calling almost every one of the 18,835 students she admitted in her 34 years. After hearing news of her December 2018 retirement, alumni flooded the Richmond Law Facebook page with messages of congratulations — and of thanks.

“I remember the day I got the call — I remember exactly where I was … and it set me on my path,” Margeaux Feore Roush, L’08, wrote.

“Michelle Rahman is the heart and soul of Richmond Law,” Jenna Lynn Ellis, L’11, wrote. “She is the reason every UR alum chose Richmond and loved [their] experience there.”

Rahman’s innovative approach to managing enrollment strategy kept Richmond Law ahead of the curve throughout her tenure. Whether mailing VHS admissions videos to interested applicants in 1988, becoming one of the first law schools to use the internet to receive inquiries in 1995, or establishing the Law Student Admissions Representatives — current students who assist in the recruiting process — in 1997, Rahman ensured Richmond Law competed to attract the most talented students.

“It was Dean Rahman’s personal touch that first awakened me to the idea that the relationships you form in the building — among classmates, faculty, and especially the staff — can be as rewarding as the education,” Thomas Queen, L’00, wrote.

And for Kimberly Brown-Gibbs, L’07, “you can’t think about the University of Richmond School of Law without also thinking about Dean Rahman. She is and has been the face of the law school for so very long.”

Rick Klau, L’96, described how Rahman was his introduction to the law school. “I am forever grateful that she encouraged me to attend Richmond,” Klau wrote.

That gratitude grew into a $50,000 matching challenge that Klau established in Rahman’s name. “I reached out to Dean Perdue and said that I’d like to find a way to honor Michelle’s remarkable career and outsized impact on the Richmond Law commu-
nity,” Klau said. “We decided to endow a scholarship in Michelle’s name so that we can make Richmond Law more affordable for deserving students.”

Within just a few weeks, donations exceeded Klau’s matching challenge. Inspired by the outpouring of support, Klau pledged an additional $25,000 in matching funds.

Gene Middleton is one of the donors to the Michelle Rahman Endowed Scholarship. “I flat out love Michelle for her talent, work ethic, determination, productivity, compassion, kindness, and great sense of humor,” Middleton wrote. “She’s been such a rock and high-achieving leader at Richmond Law.”

And Chris Peace, L’02, Virginia House of Delegates representative for the 97th District, chose to honor Rahman in an additional way: House Joint Resolution No. 634, which commends Rahman for her work as “a visionary leader in higher education admissions.”

For information about how to support the Michelle Rahman Endowed Scholarship, contact Allie Carter, director of leadership giving, at 804-287-6463 or acarter2@richmond.edu.

TIMELY APPEARANCE

Since its launch in January 2018, the TIME’S UP Legal Defense Fund of the National Women’s Law Center has recruited 700 volunteer attorneys and fielded over 3,500 requests for assistance for those who have experienced sexual harassment, assault, and abuse in the workplace. In the Richmond Law Moot Courtroom, director Sharyn Tejani shared updates on that work as the keynote speaker of the Public Interest Law Review’s October 2018 symposium.

“Our hope … was that we could begin a conversation in the legal community and further the conversation otherwise occurring throughout the country,” said MaryAnn Grover, L’19, editor-in-chief of PILR. “We firmly believe that the only way to create a better and safer future for each of us is to have this conversa-

POLICY

‘Instruments of change’

The University of Richmond Law Review’s October 2018 symposium lived up to the billing of its comprehensive title — The 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act: Past, Present, and Future.

Former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder, also a former mayor of Richmond, set the tone in his keynote remarks, expressing hope that “people can look to the University of Richmond and the University of Richmond School of Law for leadership.

“We can be instruments of change,” he added. “We shouldn’t wait for the government to act; the government must be prodded to act.”

The daylong affair also featured panel discussions on matters such as gentrification and its implications for racial economic integration; the contemporary face of housing discrimination; discrimination in housing and neighborhood education; and models for anti-discrimination and affordability. Law professors, attorneys, and other experts presented nuanced views about complex topics, engaging in robust conversations while offering perspective on hot-button issues and overlooked subjects in an effort to gauge what’s changed since 1968.

For example, in describing how legal decisions have impacted school integration, funding, and inequality — influencing where people of means choose to live and limiting the options of those in poverty — Richmond Law Professor Kimberly Robinson was concise in her explanation: “School policy is housing policy; housing policy is school policy.”
For the Record

PERSPECTIVE

Fresh eyes

“Until you look at systems and processes that are outside of your own,” Caitlin Yuhas, L’20, said, “it can be difficult to recognize the strengths in your own system.”

After participating in Richmond Law’s London Clinical Placement Program in the summer of 2018, she would know.

During the four-week program, which features a weekly course on comparative international law, Yuhas worked with the Hackney Community Law Center. There, she focused on welfare benefits and housing work — drafting appeals, interviewing clients, and accompanying them to tribunal hearings. Thanks to her experience abroad, Yuhas has already landed a position for her 2L summer with the Legal Aid Society in Queens, New York.

Professor Margaret Ivey, the program’s director, has observed how students often return from London with a clearer outlook about their future in the legal profession.

“Students develop insights about themselves, the profession, and the rule of law,” she said.

That was the case for Rohini Pandit, L’20, who worked with Ruth George, a member of British Parliament. Pandit responded to constituent inquiries, researched amendments, and even drafted a motion for review by members of Parliament. Her experience was so meaningful that it influenced her professional ambitions.

“I now feel that my interests have shifted,” she said. “I aspire to work in shaping public policy, to become involved in international law, and in some way represent those voices in the world that, too often, struggle to be heard.”

working with victims of sexual misconduct and discrimination.

“We hope that our symposium provided the participants an opportunity to learn about both the small steps that they can take in their daily lives and the big systematic changes that are necessary to see a future where the #MeToo Movement is firmly and appropriately in our past,” said Grover.

WHO’S A GOOD GIRL?

It was billed as “Doggos and Donuts,” but the former was definitely the star of the show at an October 2018 event hosted by the Animal Law Society and the Criminal Law Society. Richmond Law professors Paul Crane and Corinna Lain discussed the constitutionality of dog-skniff searches, focusing on four Supreme Court cases related to probable cause, reliable searches, and property rights.

But as Crane said, “Come for the donut, stay for the dog.”

The dog in question was Kaya, a German Shepherd in the Richmond City Police Department K-9 Unit. Her handlers conducted a demonstration with Kaya and fielded questions: Can dogs indicate what type of drug they’re detecting? How would marijuana legalization impact dog-skniff searches? What differentiates control dogs and drug dogs?

“We learn about drug dog alerts in criminal procedure class, but this was definitely one of those things you have to see in practice to understand how it works in the field,” said Brooke Throckmorton, president of the Criminal Law Society.

POSITION OF INFLUENCE

“I may be a little old-school,” said Brian Buniva, L’79, “but I strongly believe in service, and I strongly believe that getting a law degree carries with it a responsibility to do something useful with it … to provide service not only to your clients, but to the public at large.” That sense of responsibility should serve him well in his role as the 2020-2021 president of the Virginia State Bar (VSB).

Buniva, who has a legal strategic consulting business in Richmond, has been involved in VSB leadership for almost all of his 40-year legal career. After starting out in the Virginia attorney general’s office, he worked at private firms and as in-house counsel with an international manufacturing company.

His work with the VSB has included serving as co-chair of the Bench-Bar Relations Special Committee and chairing the Administrative Law and Environmental Law sections.

“You only have a year as president,” said Buniva, who was elected in October 2018. “The only thing I think you can do [during that year] is put an emphasis on what you think is important.”
“This federal withholding actually applies to all gambling winnings over $5,000, so even if you’re playing craps in Las Vegas and win a $6,000 bet, the federal withholding affects you.”

Richmond Law associate professor Hayes Holderness’ explanation to Bloomberg Tax of the $211 million tax bill owed by the winner of October’s $1.5 billion Mega Millions jackpot.

For Buniva, service is that key priority. “To me, I think the bar is failing … in the area of pro bono work and what I like to call ‘low bono work’” — serving the legal needs of those who don’t live below the poverty line but cannot afford legal representation.

“This is something I really want to bring to the fore and try to encourage my colleagues to pay attention to.”

WIDENING THE POOL

Athletes work out to stay in shape; constitutional scholars draft amendments “to exercise self-government muscles that have atrophied from civic sloth” — at least in the eyes of Richmond Law professor Kevin Walsh.

The former clerk for late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia believes that Americans 35 and older should be eligible to be president as long as they have lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years, partly because of the patriotic zeal of many naturalized citizens. The U.S. Constitution currently requires the president to be a “natural-born citizen.”

“I think some of it goes to the issue of what it means to be an American,” Walsh told the Philadelphia Daily News in October 2018.

Walsh drafted his “overdue and obvious” amendment, writing, “That article two, section one, clause five, be amended so as to read: ‘No person except a Citizen of the United States shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a resident within the United States.’”

While a long shot, Walsh argues, “This amendment’s adoption would mark the first successful amendment in the form that Madison and many others originally desired rather than the tack-on kind we’ve used up until now.

“Now more than ever, we should work to bring our fundamental law into line with our more fundamental constitutional commitments.”

His article on the issue, “The ‘Irish Born’ One American Citizenship Amendment,” was published in the Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy in April 2018.

CORRECTION

In the Summer 2018 issue of Richmond Law, Cassie Powell, L’16, was identified as working for the Virginia Poverty Law Center. Powell is a staff attorney at the Virginia Legal Aid Society. We regret the error.

EXPERTISE

Rise of the machines

When Rick Klau, L’96, founded the Richmond Journal of Law and Technology in 1995, it was the first exclusively online legal journal in the country.

“In many ways, my entrepreneurial career started in this moot courtroom,” said Klau, a venture capitalist with Google Ventures.

Klau returned to Richmond Law in October to take part in “Observing the Legal Landscape: A.I., Social Media, and Beyond,” an event sponsored by the Muse Law Library.

“Historically, when we talked about artificial intelligence, it was about computers pretending to be as smart as people,” he said. “But increasingly … we’re talking about when the systems themselves have learned to do things potentially even better than the humans can do themselves.”

Klau was careful to note that such advances don’t equate to a decline in value of a J.D. But, he added, “When the systems are able to, in a heartbeat, identify the thing that is worth knowing from a pool of data, wouldn’t we want to use that in service of then providing counsel and advice and insight?”

Laura Lee Miller, an associate at Richmond-based Harman Claytor Corrigan Wellman, extended the discussion to include the use of social media in litigation, including ethical concerns for data usage and digital outreach.

 “[To lawyers] who would prefer not to dig into their client’s social media posts, [who] would prefer to trust what their clients are telling them, I would say, ‘Trust but verify,’” Miller said.
A COMMON
Harry L. Carrico Center for Pro Bono & Public Service. Tara Casey, the Carrico Center’s director, says that while she manages the project, she isn’t an expert in this area of practice. She acts as a facilitator, connecting engaged students with legal professionals for whom this is an area of both expertise and compassion.

“The area of immigration law is fascinating,” Casey said. “I think when students take immigration law, and they learn a little bit more about it, then it does spark this interest of, ‘Wait a minute, this is much more complicated, much more fluid, and there are pieces of it that are not fair. And I want to dive into this further.’”

Students in Richmond Law’s pro bono programs must be supervised by licensed attorneys, so the project works with local law firms and groups such as the CAIR Coalition, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Legal Aid Justice Center’s Immigrant Advocacy Program, and the Virginia Poverty Law Center. They also can explore the field through Richmond Law’s Children’s Defense Clinic and by taking courses such as Immigration Law, Crimmigration, and the Immigration Rights Practicum.

For many associated with Richmond Law — students, alumni, faculty, and staff — legal advocacy on behalf of the immigrant community in the Richmond area takes so many forms that it’s created a local ecosystem among the alumni practitioners who specialize in the field or do pro bono work, current students who volunteer their time to learn more about the practice, and the law school faculty who mentor the students. Here, they share their experiences.
EMILY LOPYNSKI, L’20
Lopynski, a 2L bilingual in English and Spanish, volunteers with a variety of local immigration law-related causes, including visiting the Farmville ICE Detention Center with the CAIR Coalition.

[Farmville is] a very intense environment. On top of that, the people that we’re meeting with are going through some pretty awful things. During intake [of the detainees], people will tell me the different stressors around them. We have to focus on the intake, but sometimes people will start telling you about their mental-health crises or what’s going on with them and how terrible it is to be detained there.

I’m in a Crimmigration class, which is a new class that Professor [Erin] Collins teaches. We look at the intersections between the criminal-justice system and the immigration system and how criminal charges affect people going through immigration proceedings. This class has definitely been helpful, and it’s a tool that I know I’ll have when I’m looking for summer jobs. The Crimmigration class helped me realize that there’s a position in some public defender offices, where there’s a person who’s specifically tasked with looking at people’s immigration status.

Because of that, I’ve been reaching out to local practitioners to see what kind of possibilities there are in that specific field — the immigration sector of criminal justice. That class helped me to see more possibilities of what kind of jobs I can have once I get out if I want to continue in the immigration field.

BILL BENOS, L’88, Adjunct professor
A native of Canada and the founder of Williams Mullen’s immigration law practice, Benos has mentored many of the region’s immigration lawyers through teaching Richmond Law’s Immigration Law course for more than 20 years.

It’s been good to see University of Richmond students take the step to actually become immigration lawyers. That’s important because immigration is a very specialized field. So there’s a certain amount of immigration law work in Richmond and Central Virginia. But for many, the success of their practice also depends on growing it beyond Virginia because it’s a federal practice. I’ve been really proud to see that there’s been a proliferation of immigration law practice.

We have a growing population that is local that needs immigration services. We have a very large and growing community that I’ve seen grow over the last 20 years from Latin America. So it’s wonderful to have a growing immigration bar to help that community because immigration law isn’t just about helping businesses. It’s about helping families and helping individuals, too.

I think if you’d ask anybody in the practice today, they would all tell you, “I practice immigration law because I want to help people.” Now it’s become a political football. Unfortunately, sometimes when something gets politicized like that, you end up having an unnecessarily complicated process, an unnecessarily delayed process.

Being an immigrant myself, I can tell you the emotions that people feel when they’re going through the process; there’s a lot of risk, uncertainty, delay, complexity. But once they get through it, there’s a tremendous amount of relief and satisfaction, and sort of happiness, ultimately.

GENOVEVA BORDER, Adjunct professor
Border, who has practiced law in the U.K. and her native Ecuador, is the director of Spanish services at Marks & Harrison in Richmond and teaches Spanish Legal Skills at Richmond Law.

We want to be able to communicate, not only in their own language, but an emphasis of the class is understanding the cultural differences with a Hispanic population. So it could be that your Hispanic client speaks English fluently, but I think it’s important for an attorney to be able to understand where they’re coming from.

When we go to the [Hispanic Chamber of Commerce] pro bono legal clinic, the students get a chance to practice the skills that they have learned in the classroom. The role of the student is to translate if they feel comfortable doing that, to shadow the attorney, and to see a real case. It’s a real client with a real attorney, talking about the particular issues. That’s a wonderful opportunity for the students — the human aspect as well as the legal aspect.

The students can do a bit of networking with the attorneys that are there, too. In the future, they may
be mentors, or they may even find jobs in those law firms. One of my students — Ben Williams, L’14 — took the class, and now he’s a partner at an immigration firm, Tingen & Williams.

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MORGAN BROWN, L’13

Brown is the pro bono fellow for Hunton Andrews Kurth.

Luckily, Hunton is really supportive of it, and they give hours for doing this pro bono-type work. My position is a little different because I’m doing only pro bono work, but as long as I’m getting in the Hunton pro bono hours, I’m able to do whatever I want as long as it doesn’t conflict with their clients.

I help staff the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce legal clinic through Hunton twice a year and recruit attorneys from Hunton to go to the clinic. I assist with intakes and I speak Spanish, so anyone who needs help translating, I’ll jump in. When we get back to the firm, I find people to actually take the cases. As they’re going through all of this, if there are transactional attorneys who don’t want to go to court, I might take on the court piece for them or help translate phone calls, just keep tabs on everything and make sure it’s all moving forward.

I’m really grateful to the law school because I think they helped me take my natural abilities and passions and my vision for the future, and they gave me the skills to [use them]. I applied to law school to help people get equal access to justice who wouldn’t necessarily get it otherwise, and through my experiences there, I’ve been able to do that.

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JULIE MCCONNELL, L’99, Clinical law professor and director, Children’s Defense Clinic

McConnell guides students in filing petitions that assert it’s in the best interests of unaccompanied minors to remain in the United States, an initial step in preventing the children from being deported.

I think [the process of filing petitions] was really transformative for the students because they got to, first of all, practice their legal skills and advocacy, learn how to do custody petitions, and learn how to convince a judge that it was appropriate and right to consider the best interest factors in determining who should have custody and where they should have custody.

They had to subpoena records in Central America, reach out to family members that still live there, and find out whether they objected to this process because we had to let the court know. We had to get them to sign an affidavit, get it certified by a lawyer in El Salvador, and then get it sent here. We had to get birth certificates and other records and have them translated. Because the court is not appointing us to represent these folks, the court’s not going to give us an interpreter until the actual trial. So all of the work in advance of the trial — investigating the case, meeting with the client, gathering documents — we would provide translation, and students would volunteer to do that.

When we succeed in getting a custody order signed, we know that we have opened a door for them that would have been slammed in their face otherwise. They would never have been able to make this argument in immigration court if we hadn’t gotten the predicate findings in juvenile court. The students feel like they are actually lawyering because they are getting something accomplished that these families couldn’t do on their own.

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JESSE JURGENS, L’19

Jurgens, a 3L bilingual in English and Spanish, volunteered at the Children’s Defense Clinic as a translator.

Since there were other students handling the cases and I was just translating, I got to learn a lot from them as I got more familiar with it. And then during my time in the clinic, I was able to talk with the attorneys at the Legal Aid Justice Center that referred us the cases and got more involved with details like the serving process in Guatemala and the details of how to reach out and do some of the international law, which was really valuable, too.

It’s heavy because you’re talking to people about some of the worst experiences of their lives. The things that people experience in order to uproot their lives and their families and come here are a lot of violence, a lot of persecution. Many of these kids were separated from their parents, and I think it makes it especially hard for them to come and adapt and to feel stable here.
It’s really nice to see when they settle into a strong community, into a strong family. They start really learning English and just making friends. We get to talk about the negative things that have happened to them but also [about] how their lives have changed since they’ve been here. And that’s really rewarding.

JACOB TINGEN, L’12, Adjunct professor

An immigration attorney and founding partner of Richmond firm Tingen & Williams, Tingen also teaches Richmond Law’s Immigration Rights Practicum and is the branch president, or lay minister, of his church’s Spanish-speaking congregation.

Beforehand, I was going to do big corporate law. I’m like the poster child for what you’re supposed to go through in law school. Your eyes are supposed to be open to the world’s injustices as a law student. ... Now I’ve realized attorneys have this opportunity to fix things that are wrong.

I meet with people in this community during the week as an attorney. I know what this community is going through on a personal level, and I know what they’re going through on a spiritual level. I know their challenges.

I think there’s a big role for mental health services. A lot of these people come with trauma. One of the biggest issues I have with some of my clients is they can’t testify very well in court — not because they didn’t pass through bad things and don’t merit asylum. They can’t testify because they lack the mental and emotional tools to do so because they don’t have access to appropriate mental health care.

My first two years, I was a disaster because I was doing a lot of it pro bono. I didn’t know how to charge for my services, and it was a rough couple of years. But it was worth it to do 150 pro bono cases to start out. Just imagine how much stress is immediately removed from your life when you realize, “I have a right to exist here.”

CHUCK PETRAN, L’18

Petran is a postgraduate fellow at the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Virginia. As a 2L, he won an individual hearing for asylum at immigration court in Arlington, Virginia, under Tingen’s supervision.

I met with a mother and a daughter from El Salvador in the fall of 2016. The individual hearing wasn’t until March of 2018. They were both seeking asylum. The daughter was 14 at the time and being harassed by [the gang] MS-13. Basically: ‘You’re going to give us your daughter, or you’re dead.’

That was my first time taking a deposition, and as time went on, I filed my motion, as a law student, to appear. I filed a motion to allow for expert testimony, where we had a guy from American University who is an expert on Latin America, specifically El Salvador. Combined with everything that I had read — scholarly journals, Time, The Washington Post, academic studies — everything corroborated what she had said. Fourteen-year-old girls in El Salvador are in therapy. They’re certainly a class of individuals that should be given asylum status, just as any political party or religious group.

Richmond Law is ideally situated to give students, I think, a real boots-on-the-ground experience, and that’s what I was looking for. I just wanted to get out there and meet the clients and meet the attorneys and get my hands dirty. I wanted to see how it functions, what form, what paperwork needs to go where, what do I give to the clerk, does this need to be copied? There are so many different pro bono opportunities — from writing wills, to family law, to housing — and for me it was immigration.

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Aggrey Sam is the editor of Richmond Law magazine.
MASS APPEAL

Timothy Litzenburg, L’08, didn’t intend to specialize in his area of practice, mass torts, after graduating from Richmond Law. But after finding success in the field, including winning a groundbreaking verdict against Monsanto, he’s embraced it.

By Aggrey Sam

We’ve all seen the commercials. Usually airing on daytime or late-night television, the ads target personal-injury victims, people who have been wronged by major companies, and the like. And we’re familiar with the specific type of appeal in these commercials, which beseeches viewers to call now so they can seek justice and, perhaps, become wealthy in the process.

Timothy Litzenburg, L’08, is the lawyer who gets the justice the commercials promise.

Last summer, Litzenburg was part of a legal team that won a $289 million judgment against agrichemical giant Monsanto for failing to warn his client, Dewayne “Lee” Johnson, about the risks of one of its products, the popular herbicide Roundup. Johnson was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma after years of using the spray, which contains the
Mass Appeal

carcinogenic chemical glyphosate.

“I practice what we call mass torts, and a lot of people think it’s class actions,” Litzenburg told Richmond Law professor Jack Preis’ civil litigation class during an October 2018 guest lecture. “I always tell clients, ‘It looks like a class action, it smells like a class action.’

“Well, with things like cancer,” he continued, “everybody’s experience is completely different. There should be no standard settlement for somebody’s cancer experience.”

The laid-back Litzenburg, 37, gets impassioned about mass torts. It goes back to his days at Richmond Law, where he was inspired by the late professor Pete Swisher, who taught him foundational cases like Palsgraf v. Long Island Railroad Co. — the question of liability to an unforeseeable plaintiff — something he applies to his work today.

Initially a defense attorney after graduating from Richmond Law, Litzenburg started working in mass torts for the Miller Firm, based in rural Orange, Virginia, after answering an ad pitching “a unique opportunity to do high-level work.” Responding to it changed his career trajectory. “I might title my autobiography That Ad,” he joked.

Most law students, including Litzenburg, the son of an academic, don’t enroll in law school with the idea of practicing mass torts. But Preis believes that more Richmond Law students should consider following Litzenburg’s path.

“Not a lot of our students practice in that area of law, but it’s a pretty exciting and high-stakes area,” Preis said. “You need to think more broadly about what your career might look like because there’s a lot of ways to do interesting, exciting, lucrative things.”

For his part, Litzenburg, who applied to law school as “a default” after painting houses with his lacrosse coach for a year after receiving his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University, understands why mass torts might not strike a chord with recent bar admits.

“Most people don’t even know it exists,” he said. “I think so many students say, ‘Well, I’ll do anything.’ No, what you need to figure out is what you want to do first and then go after it.”

In his seven years with the Miller Firm, equipped with Swisher’s lessons as reinforcement, Litzenburg learned the ins and outs of mass torts, beginning with multidistrict litigation (MDL). When several federal lawsuits surrounding the same issue are successfully filed in different districts, a panel of federal judges — the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation — can be petitioned, and one judge is selected to preside over the consolidated cases in a trial.

Basically, it’s the least-thrilling part of a John Grisham novel. But in litigating against pharmaceutical companies such as the makers of Actos, a diabetes medication alleged to cause bladder cancer, on the behalf of the Miller Firm, Litzenburg developed a blueprint for MDL cases and a sense of fearlessness when facing off with behemoth companies and their armadas of lawyers.

“Mike Miller [the firm’s founding partner] used to always say, ‘We’re too stupid to be scared,’” Litzenburg said. “Because the lawyers on the other side, they all went to Harvard. There’s 20 of them. The company’s enormous. You just have to ignore them and focus on getting to the jury.”

But before the legal maneuvering, before an opening statement to the jury, Litzenburg needs clients. That’s where the late-night commercials come in.

Viewers call the firms that tell us we may be entitled to compensation, but the lawyers at those firms don’t take the cases to trial. Instead, they refer cases to a handful of attorneys nationwide, including Litzenburg.

“Some of that stuff comes off really sleazy,” said Preis, but he argues that regardless of how people become aware, the end result — the opportunity to be recompensed after being grievously harmed — justifies the tactics.

“Actually, it’s a pretty important part of legal practice generally, in holding people accountable,” he added. “Particularly when there is a medical incident, you don’t know exactly where you got cancer, you don’t understand how it works, and even if you tried, it would be so hard to prove it.

“You need tons of scientists and tons of capital to really make the cases. Attorneys, they get paid pretty well in cases — they lose a lot of times, too — but for the public at large, they do a service. They fill a role that’s useful.”

Johnson, Litzenburg’s client in the Monsanto trial, was a school groundskeeper who used Roundup on a regular basis to spray athletic fields and play-

“I couldn’t imagine anything more personally rewarding. … it sends a big message to the companies that otherwise could care less.”

Richmond Law, Litzenburg started working in mass torts for the Miller Firm, based in rural Orange, Virginia, after answering an ad pitching “a unique opportunity to do high-level work.” Responding to it changed his career trajectory. “I might title my autobiography That Ad,” he joked.

“Most people don’t even know it exists,” he said. “I think so many students say, ‘Well, I’ll do anything.’ No, what you need to figure out is what you want to do first and then go after it.”

In his seven years with the Miller Firm, equipped with Swisher’s lessons as reinforcement, Litzenburg learned the ins and outs of mass torts, beginning with multidistrict litigation (MDL). When several federal lawsuits surrounding the same issue are successfully filed in different districts, a panel of federal judges — the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation — can be petitioned, and one judge is selected to preside over the consolidated cases in a trial.

Basically, it’s the least-thrilling part of a John Grisham novel. But in litigating against pharmaceutical companies such as the makers of Actos, a diabetes medication alleged to cause bladder cancer, on the behalf of the Miller Firm, Litzenburg developed a blueprint for MDL cases and a sense of fearlessness when facing off with behemoth companies and their armadas of lawyers.

“Mike Miller [the firm’s founding partner] used to always say, ‘We’re too stupid to be scared,’” Litzenburg said. “Because the lawyers on the other side, they all went to Harvard. There’s 20 of them. The company’s enormous. You just have to ignore them and focus on getting to the jury.”

But before the legal maneuvering, before an opening statement to the jury, Litzenburg needs clients. That’s where the late-night commercials come in.

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Most law students, including Litzenburg, the son of an academic, don’t enroll in law school with the idea of practicing mass torts. But Preis believes that more Richmond Law students should consider following Litzenburg’s path.

“Not a lot of our students practice in that area of law, but it’s a pretty exciting and high-stakes area,” Preis said. “You need to think more broadly about what your career might look like because there’s a lot of ways to do interesting, exciting, lucrative things.”

For his part, Litzenburg, who applied to law school as “a default” after painting houses with his lacrosse coach for a year after receiving his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University, understands why mass torts might not strike a chord with recent bar admits.
grounds. After being diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, Johnson called the poison control center hotline on Roundup’s label to ask about the product’s safety. Despite the World Health Organization’s International Agency for Research on Cancer’s 2015 warning that glyphosate, one of the chemicals in the herbicide, caused cancer, Johnson was told that his illness was unrelated to Monsanto’s product.

Getting the trial remanded to California state court was partially a result of Johnson’s unfortunate circumstances. According to Litzenburg, Johnson’s doctors say it’s unlikely he’ll live to see 2020, and California has a statute that mandates a speedy trial before a plaintiff dies.

Of the thousands of plaintiffs to sue Monsanto over Roundup, Johnson, who developed lesions all over his body, was the first to go to trial, and his legal team convinced a San Francisco jury that the product was a “substantial contributing factor” to his disease. Shrewd litigation throughout the case by Litzenburg and his colleagues, including mining Monsanto internal emails during the discovery phase for proof the company knew Roundup caused cancer, were also factors in the jaw-dropping verdict, which paves the way for future plaintiffs to be compensated for suffering caused by the product.

“They have to pay the price for not being honest and putting people’s health at risk for the sake of making a profit,” Johnson said in an interview with British newspaper The Guardian.

“What’s striking about this case, I think, is that the plaintiff and his lawyer were able to persuade the jury that Roundup had caused the plaintiff’s cancer,” Richmond Law professor Carl Tobias told The Collegian, the University of Richmond’s student newspaper. “This case is important because there are so many people that do feel like they’ve been injured by the product, and for them, hopefully it might be a path to some kind of relief.”

“[Johnson] is a real pioneer,” he added. “Johnson may provide a road map for the 4,000 other cases on liability and allow some plaintiffs to win.”

Since the verdict was announced, the judge reduced the judgment, and Johnson agreed to accept $78 million. Meanwhile, Bayer, the German pharmaceutical conglomerate that acquired Monsanto, is appealing for a new trial. But even considering Johnson’s terminal illness, winning the trial and being the first to prove Monsanto’s failure to warn is fulfilling for Litzenburg.

“I couldn’t imagine anything more personally rewarding,” Litzenburg said of Johnson. “His children won’t have to worry about anything, and it sends a big message to the companies that otherwise could care less.”

While litigating the Monsanto case, Litzenburg essentially made the Bay Area his second home. And while vigorous representation was his first priority, Litzenburg and Johnson also formed a personal bond.

“I got to know him over the last two years or so, and I continue to be his personal attorney at the moment, for free. I spent a lot of time in his little apartment in Vallejo, and we got to be pretty close,” said Litzenburg, who sometimes recorded music with Johnson over the computer (“terrible rap songs,” he acknowledged). “That helped a lot. You really believe in the story when you become friends with somebody.”

In the wake of the Monsanto verdict, Litzenburg has decided to hang his own shingle, opening Roundup Cancer Firm with new partner and longtime friend Dan Kincheloe. Their initial focus will be lawsuits related to people who got cancer from using Roundup — armed with a blueprint of how to win those cases, Litzenburg already has plenty of clients lined up — but they plan to pursue cases focused on other cancer-causing products in the future.

“I’ve been thinking about it for a little while, but it’s a good time to capitalize on my own name,” said Litzenburg, who encourages current Richmond Law students and his fellow alumni to reach out to him for advice about mass torts. “I’ve been in the news a lot.”

Litzenburg’s confidence is partially a product of his early-career success, but it also reflects his earnestness about his area of practice. And it goes back to a formative lesson from Swisher at Richmond Law.

“He said, ‘Some of you will go on to defend insurance companies from greedy widows and orphans, and some of you will work for people,’ and that really stuck with me,” Litzenburg said. “And I was like, ‘Yeah, I want to work for people,’ and I have mostly ever since.”

Aggrey Sam is the editor of Richmond Law magazine.
A high-profile client of Craig Cooley, L’77, is back in court because of a recent Supreme Court decision on juvenile sentencing. His crimes and notoriety test ideas about children’s diminished culpability and greater capacity for reform.

By Matthew Dewald
Illustrations by Robert Meganck

CRAIG COOLEY, L’77, HAS REPRESENTED DEFENDANTS in 70 capital cases over his career, but the name of one client will forever lead any description of his career: Lee Boyd Malvo.

Malvo was 17 when he and John Allen Muhammad terrorized the Washington, D.C., area during a three-week, sniper-style shooting spree in 2002. Their victims were random people going about their day-to-day lives. Ultimately, the pair killed 10 people and seriously wounded several others, including a man near I-95 in Ashland, Virginia, just north of Richmond, before their arrest. During the attacks, schools closed, athletic events were canceled, and people sheltered indoors. Fear was widespread.

Muhammad, 42 at the time of the killings, was sentenced to death in 2003 and executed at Greensville Correctional Center in Virginia in 2009. Malvo received the lesser of two sentences available to a jury that sentenced him in Chesapeake, Virginia — life in prison without the possibility of parole — and agreed to the same sentence after pleading guilty in Spotsylvania. He also received multiple life sentences for six murders in Maryland.

In June 2018, three judges on the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ordered Malvo’s resentencing in the Virginia cases. They did so, the judges wrote, “not with any satisfaction but to sustain the law.”

In 2012, the Supreme Court declared in Miller v. Alabama that sentencing minors to life without the possibility of parole is unconstitutional if its imposition is, by law, mandatory. A second decision, Montgomery v. Louisiana in 2016, clarified that the Miller ruling applies retroactively. As a result of
'If Not You, Who?’

these decisions, courts across the country have been engaged in proceedings to resentence inmates to whom the ruling applies. Some of the former juvenile defendants are now middle-aged and older, and some of their releases are inviting stories of redemption and second chances.

Bobby Hines was 15 when he received a mandatory sentence of life without the possibility of parole. He was an eighth-grader, “a small kid, just 5-foot-3,” according to The Associated Press, when he and two friends murdered 21-year-old James Warren in Detroit in 1989 in a drug dispute. His resentencing under Miller made him immediately eligible for parole, so in 2017, he walked out of prison older and, by all accounts, much wiser and deeply penitent at age 43.

Among his supporters were the father and the sister of his victim. At Hines’ parole hearing, Warren’s father spoke on Hines’ behalf, saying he had been punished enough. Warren’s sister met with Hines after his release for three hours. The AP published a photo of them hugging tearfully when it ended.

“To me,” she told the reporter, “forgiveness is up there with oxygen.”

Hines is perhaps the kind of offender that Supreme Court justice Elena Kagan had in mind when she wrote for the court’s majority in Miller that “children are constitutionally different from adults for purposes of sentencing [and] have diminished culpability and greater prospects for reform.” One reason for children’s diminished culpability, she noted, is their greater vulnerability “to negative influences and outside pressures,’ including from their family and peers.” For these and other reasons, Kagan and the justices who joined in her opinion concluded that sentencers may impose life sentences on juveniles but that the penalty may not be mandatory.

“Mandatory life without parole for a juvenile … prevents taking into account the family and home environment that surrounds him — and from which he cannot usually extricate himself — no matter how brutal or dysfunctional,” Kagan wrote.

Cooley, Malvo’s attorney, is a three-time University of Richmond graduate — undergrad in 1969, then a master’s in 1975 before earning his law degree in 1977. Not long before he got to Richmond Law, the school introduced a new policy that allowed students to work. Cooley put himself through law school stringing tennis rackets “at a couple dollars apiece,” he said. It was enough to support the family while his wife finished nursing school. He recalls some professors’ style as “call on you, question you, embarrass you if possible. … it scared me.” Looking back, he believes it helped prepare him for trial work. “I might not have thought it at the time, but it probably was a good experience.”

He did not adopt those tactics as part of his own professional demeanor. When Virginia Super Lawyers asked colleagues for descriptions of him for a 2006 profile, they used words like “gentle,” “mellow,” and “understated.” “He reminds me of Matlock, the lawyer played by Andy Griffith,” one of them said. “A low-key, persuasive attorney who makes his rural background an asset.” While the profile noted a joking line on Cooley’s résumé — “I have lost to every prosecutor known to exist in central Virginia” — it also quoted a prosecutor who called Cooley, “in my humble opinion … the best criminal defense attorney in the city of Richmond, and maybe the entire state.”

Cooley became Malvo’s attorney after a phone call from Judge Jane Marum Rousch, who was overseeing the case and wanted to appoint an experienced defense attorney. When she called, she suggested he
“IF THIS CASE DIDN’T MERIT A DEATH PENALTY, THEN PERHAPS NO JUVENILE SHOULD BE EXECUTED. THE JURORS, IN MY MIND, ELEVATED US, ELEVATED OUR HUMANITY IN OUR SOCIETY WITH THAT VERDICT, AND THAT AFFECTED ME.”

talk it over with his family given the case’s public profile. The response from Cooley’s wife made it an easy decision. “This is what you do,” she told him. “If not you, who?”

The public announcement of Cooley’s appointment brought national reporters to his office and hordes of media trucks to the courthouse during his initial visit, but it did nothing to prepare him for his first meeting with his client waiting inside. His only awareness of the case was what he’d read in those media outlets.

“What I found was just a 17-year-old, in many ways considerably more respectful than most American 17-year-olds,” Cooley said. “In fact, that was something a lot of witnesses commented upon, that Lee was much more like a teenager from the 1950s in this country than he was a current teenager.”

Malvo’s arrest and trial coincided with his first meaningful separation from Muhammad in three years. The picture of him that emerged was of a highly impressionable and deeply obedient boy under the complete control of the profoundly disturbed and disgruntled Muhammad.

Muhammad had befriended Malvo and his mother on the Caribbean island of Antigua when Malvo was 14 years old. His mother then left him under Muhammad’s care when she emigrated to Florida. The pair moved from place to place together as Muhammad’s life disintegrated with a failed marriage, the loss of custody of his children, and other setbacks that embittered and emboldened him before culminating in the pair’s shooting spree.

“When we interviewed [Malvo], our belief was that he was under the spell of Muhammad and that would wear off as time went on,” Brad Garrett, an FBI agent who investigated the case, told The Washington Post in 2012.

This supposition, that Muhammad controlled Malvo, was part of the prosecution’s strategy when it tried Muhammad for one of the Virginia killings. Their problem was that much of the physical and eyewitness evidence linked Malvo, not Muhammad, to the crimes, according to an account of the trial by The New York Times. “The evidence against Mr. Malvo has made him virtually a shadow defendant in Mr. Muhammad’s trial,” the reporter wrote. “For the prosecution, it has meant trying to construct a story line for the jury that portrays Mr. Malvo as a puppet controlled by an often unseen master, Mr. Muhammad.”

Malvo made a similar impression of excessive deference on Cooley.

“He would never be a smart aleck,” Cooley said of their early conversations. “If you were saying things to him that he didn’t want to hear ... if you offered criticism of [Muhammad] or suggested that things that he had said to Lee were not accurate, Lee would never snap back at you. He would simply shut down.”

Cooley believes that the Virginia jury that unanimously chose life in prison without parole over the death penalty for Malvo might have offered an even lesser sentence had it been given the option. The Virginia jurors, Cooley told the Baltimore Sun for a story about the resentencing ruling, “opted to go as low as they could under the structure they were given on that date. ... They may have gone lower if they knew they could have.”

His client is now 34 but still small-statured. “He’s still a kid to me,” Cooley said. He estimates that,
when they first met, Malvo was 5-foot-3-inches “and probably 115 pounds. ... He’s probably 5-foot-6 now, might be 150.”

Malvo is kept isolated at Red Onion State Prison, a supermax site in southwestern Virginia, in part for his own protection. Cooley communicates with his client frequently, often by letter. During his visits to Red Onion, Malvo is heavily restrained.

“When they bring him, he’s in leg irons ... handcuffed with a belly chain around him, and on a leash,” Cooley said. “They sit right outside the door and they run this leash, and they put him in the chair there. And I’m directly across from him so that if he decides to attack me, they can pull him back with the leash. I’m 71, but I can whip Lee.”

Cooley is not an opponent of the death penalty generally, but he advocated against its application to people who committed their crimes while juveniles up until the Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional in 2005. Malvo’s 2003 trial, he believes, may have helped shape the court’s analysis of the nation’s evolving standards of decency in the ruling.

“If this case didn’t merit a death penalty, then perhaps no juvenile should be executed,” he said. “The jurors, in my mind, elevated us, elevated our humanity in our society with that verdict, and that affected me. It gave me even greater faith in our system.”

Malvo’s resentencing hearing will further test the justice system’s — and the public’s — appetite for the arguments about juvenile vulnerability and diminished culpability.

“A lot of people say, well, clearly they don’t mean that someone like Malvo shouldn’t spend the rest of his life in prison,” said Julie McConnell, director of Richmond Law’s Children’s Defense Clinic. “He’s one of the worst of the worst in many people’s minds.”

Through the clinic, she and her students offer pro bono representation to indigent youth throughout central Virginia. Based on her knowledge of Malvo’s case and Miller’s reasoning, she believes the courts have valid reason to reconsider Malvo’s fate.

She represented the first Virginia inmate resentenced under Miller, Azeem Majeed, who participated in a brutal murder in Norfolk in 1995 when he was 17. At his resentencing hearing, his two life sentences were reduced to approximately 29 years. With more than 20 years already served, he can now look forward to his release, is eligible to participate in re-entry programs, and has become “a voice for nonviolence, a voice for empathy for victims and restorative justice,” McConnell said, a point she underscored in local media interviews when he was resentenced.

“In his case, we have a very clear example of someone who committed very heinous crimes for which he feels incredible remorse, yet he has spent the entire time he has been in prison, for more than 20 years, without ever getting in trouble — not once,” she told reporters.

McConnell believes that the analysis that led to
Majeed's resentencing applies equally in Malvo's case, even given the horrifying nature of the sniper killings. “[Majeed] and his co-defendants allegedly beat a man to death with a concrete block,” she said. “This is in no way a minor or insignificant crime. But what the Supreme Court has said is that even if the crime itself is horrific, you still need to look at the fact that they are young people whose brains are not fully developed, who have the potential to mature into someone that is better than that.”

Cooley argues that the mitigating circumstances of Malvo's young life and subsequent remorse are too overwhelming to ignore. “The bottom line was that Muhammad trained Lee as if he was a child soldier,” Cooley said. He even invited an expert on child soldiers to testify on Malvo's behalf. In such circumstances, “concepts of right and wrong are completely reversed,” Cooley said. “If the alpha male says, ‘We’re going to go into that village, and we’re going to kill every child in that village,’ that’s the right thing to do. It may seem to those of us looking from the outside to be a horrible thing to do, but for the child soldier, that’s exactly the right thing to do.”

Muhammad, he said, used his deep understanding of human nature to condition Malvo to follow orders and trust him completely. Witnesses at trial affirmed Muhammad's charisma. His former wife called him “a pied piper,” and his oldest son testified that his father could persuade him “to do anything.” The son testified, “If my mother had not fought for me, it would have been me in that car instead of Lee Malvo.”

During Malvo's years in prison, he has matured, Cooley said. “He got his high school diploma. He's taken his college courses. He has done everything you would hope an inmate would do.”

Malvo expressed remorse in the last public interviews he gave, when media outlets ran stories coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the killings, in 2012. “I was a monster,” he told The Washington Post. “There is no rhyme or reason or sense.”

He said he has come to understand and regret the breadth of the devastation he caused. He was outwardly apologetic, the Post said, but also resigned to his inability to ever express sufficient remorse.

When a Today Show host asked him about his victims, he said they should just try to forget about him. “Please do not allow my actions and the actions of Muhammad to hold you hostage and continue to victimize you for the rest of your life. … Do not give me or him that much power.”

Today also reached out to a family member of one of Malvo's victims. “We recognize that he was tremendously under the control of John Muhammad and he was, probably a good word would be brainwashed … and has had some years to recognize what he did,” said Bob Meyers, whose brother was killed at a gas station. “Our understanding is that he, given the chance, would not have chosen to take the same course again, but he can’t alter that.”

Regardless of the outcome of Malvo’s resentencing hearings in Virginia, six other life sentences in Maryland will stand because in those cases, the judge had discretion; therefore, the sentences do not run afoul of Miller. Barring a new development there, Malvo’s lifetime incarceration is assured. Nonetheless, Cooley will soon make arguments to a Virginia judge based on mitigation, remorse, and redemption. Similar arguments proved sufficiently persuasive in the lower-profile cases of Majeed and Hines. Can Malvo merit similar reconsideration? Malvo's case “is important for basically all other juveniles serving life without parole,” Cooley said. “How much of a benefit it will be to Lee is something else.”

Matthew Dewald is editor of University of Richmond Magazine.
Hamilton Bryson’s *Reports of Cases in the Court of Chancery in the Time of Sir Francis North, Lord Guilford* was published by Dog Ear Publishing.

Jud Campbell was a panelist at the *First Amendment Law Review* Symposium at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Tara Casey was selected a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation, an organization that encourages civic-mindedness and recognizes excellence in the practice of law and public and professional service. Fellows are nominated by their peers and are recognized as being at the top of their profession. Casey was also named to *Virginia Business*’ Legal Elite in the field of legal services/pro bono.

Erin Collins’ “Punishing Risk” was published by the *Georgetown Law Journal*, and her op-ed on the perils of “off-label” sentencing was published in *The Crime Report*.

Washington Law School debated the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office’s role in patent validity.

Paul Crane’s scholarship was a winner of the Federalist Society’s Young Legal Scholars Paper Competition, and he presented the paper in New Orleans in January. He joined the National Constitution Center for a podcast on “What Is Treason?” over the summer, and his article “Incorporating Collateral Consequences Into Criminal Procedure” is forthcoming in *Wake Forest Law Review*.

Joel Eisen was quoted in numerous media outlets, including *Energy Wire* and *Law360*, on subjects ranging from Brett Kavanaugh to the coal bailout. He presented about clean energy justice at the Searle Center Research Roundtable at Northwestern University. Eisen told Bloomberg that Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Neil Chatterjee’s October 2018 appointment could be a sign “that the agency would be more receptive to policies to support coal and nuclear power plants.”

West Academic published the fifth edition of David Epstein’s co-authored contracts casebook, and he has completed work on two other forthcoming co-authored casebooks in 2019: *Sales Finance and Secured Transactions*. His contract law expertise is featured in West Academic’s “Law School Legends” audio series, and he prepared a video on federal agency Other Transaction Authority contracts for the Department of Defense’s Defense Acquisition University. An article that he and Roxanne Eastes, L’18, co-authored is forthcoming in *Saint Louis University Law Journal*. He also taught an online course on business associations to students from five law schools over the summer and was a national contracts lecturer for a bar review course.

In her comfort zone

Erin Collins

Richmond Law professor Erin Collins’ previous position was challenging, to put it mildly. In one year, she and a team of seven recent graduates started a pop-up law office, researched and filed high-quality federal clemency petitions for review under President Obama’s administration in his last year in office, and then prepared to close up shop at the end of the year. “It was kind of a crazy effort,” Collins said, “an extreme version of a law school clinic.” But the role of executive director of New York University School of Law’s Clemency Resource Center was a natural fit for the former criminal law attorney who had also worked as an assistant professor for NYU’s lawyering program. Her team filed almost 200 petitions for clemency — and had 83 granted.

One of the greatest rewards of her experience was coaching the new lawyers and recent graduates: “I taught them how to write the petitions,” she said. “I taught them the kind of sentencing law they needed to know. I was proud of the work we did.”

It was a love for teaching — and research — that drew Collins back to academia, and to her role at Richmond Law, starting in 2016. As an academic, her focus is on what she calls “grounded scholarship”: examining current criminal justice reforms, such as sentencing algorithms or specialized criminal courts, and their results. And as a professor, she brings that expertise through courses in evidence, sentencing law, and adjudication.

Collins’ fulfillment comes from “watching the students and helping [them] come to their own conclusions about the law, watching them work through the messiness of what law is.” In her new Crimmigration course, for example, students explore the intersection of immigration law, criminal law, and criminal procedure. “We throw them in there, and we work through the messiness together,” she said.

In the end, it’s the students who “push me to think differently about the law,” she added. “Together, we all learn something from each other.”

—Emily Cherry
John Pagan’s essay “Loyalty and Insecurity in Charles II’s Virginia” will be published as a chapter in Loyalty to the British Monarchs, 1400–1688.

Wendy Perdue was a panelist on innovation in legal education to support diversity and inclusion at the Society of American Law Teachers teaching conference and on access to justice at Relativity Fest, a conference on e-discovery. She was a moderator for a panel at the Promoting Diversity in Law School Leadership workshop in Seattle and participated in events for the Legal Communicators Media Conference and the American Bar Association’s New Deans Seminar. Perdue also hosted a conversation with Edwin Cameron, a justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, at the Association of American Law Schools annual meeting. She concluded her one-year term as AALS president at that meeting under the theme “Building Bridges.”

Kimberly Robinson spoke at Arkansas Law School’s symposium on the fight for educational equality.

Noah Sachs was a guest on the Wharton Business Radio show and discussed the August 2018 Monsanto ruling.

Doron Samuel-Siegel participated in a panel at the Virginia State Bar’s inaugural Diversity Forum.

Liz Schiller’s blog post on legal teaching consultants was published by RIPS Law Librarian blog and featured in the American Association of Law Libraries newsletter. She was a panelist on technology competence at the AALL annual meeting in Baltimore.

Tamar Schwartz was elected to the executive committee of the AALS section on balance in legal education at the AALS annual meeting in New Orleans.

Roger Skalbeck was named chair-elect of the AALS section on law libraries and legal information.

Andy Spalding’s most recent Foreign Corrupt Practices Act blog post explored Brazil’s anti-corruption law. He is the chair of the Olympics Compliance Task Force, a collaboration of international anti-corruption and human rights academics and practitioners.

Allison Tait’s recent article “Keeping Promises and Meeting Needs: Public Charities at a Crossroads” was published by Minnesota Law Review. Her article “Trusting Marriage” is forthcoming with U.C. Irvine Law Review.

Mary Tate spoke at the Regent Law Review symposium on mental health.

Carl Tobias was quoted extensively on topics including President Trump’s judicial nominees, the Monsanto verdict, and the CVS-Aetna merger in outlets such as Bloomberg and the Los Angeles Times. His scholarship on appointing LGBTQ judges in the Trump administration was cited by The Daily Beast. In a CNN article about the reduced award given to Dewayne Johnson, who sued agrochemical giant Monsanto, alleging its Roundup product gave him cancer, Tobias said, “Johnson may also provide a road map for the 4,000 other cases on liability and allow some plaintiffs to win.”

Kevin Walsh’s op-ed on the Supreme Court was published by The New York Times. He was quoted by the Philadelphia Daily News as an advocate for a constitutional amendment to the “natural-born citizen” clause. His proposed amendment would allow naturalized citizens to run for president, citing the patriotism of “‘converts’ to U.S. citizenship.”

Kevin Woodson moderated a panel on sexual harassment in the workplace for Public Interest Law Review’s “Lawyering in the Era of #MeToo” symposium.
EFFICIENCY EXPERT

“Efficiency was always in the background” for Kate Bauer, L’19. From extracurricular activities in middle school, to starting a business during college, to working 20 hours a week and being a full-time mom to four young children while in law school, multitasking is the name of the game for this law student.

After joining the Washington, D.C., firm Steptoe & Johnson as a paralegal in 2005, Bauer meshed her productivity with her creativity to carve out a niche for herself in e-discovery strategy. She climbed the ranks to become a litigation support project manager, helping launch Relativity, a database software that improves document review efficiencies.

“It’s just a huge savings of everyone’s time,” said Bauer, and it “frees up the attorneys to do actual legal work instead of doc review.”

Bauer enjoyed her role as the firm’s technology-assisted review (TAR) expert but began looking for another outlet to flex her creativity. Even as she worked up to 100-hour weeks remotely — she had moved to Richmond with her husband, a local prosecutor — and raised two young children with a third on the way, she enrolled in Richmond Law in 2016.

Bauer didn’t slow down in law school, personally or professionally. She maintains a full course load while working as a senior staff member for the Journal of Law and Technology, putting in 20-hour weeks for Steptoe as a practice solutions architect, and working full time during winter and summer breaks. As a 2L, she also welcomed her fourth child.

So how does Bauer do it all? Besides applying her professional efficiency to her academic career and personal life to maximize time at home with her family, she has a simple answer: “I plan ahead — a lot.”

Efficiency, it turns out, is in the foreground of her life, too.

SUNDAY STROLL

Richmond Law’s Veterans Day 5K Fun Run wouldn’t be confused with an Olympic-qualifying event. But the purpose of the Sunday-morning race, a partnership between the Veterans and Military Law Association and the Student Bar Association, was meaningful. The second annual event benefited the Lead the Way Fund, which supports U.S. Army Rangers.

DECOMPRESSION SESSION

If faculty asking obscure questions outside of a classroom setting doesn’t sound like much fun, you’ve clearly never attended the Richmond Women’s Law trivia night. Professor Hayes Holderness developed the questions for the most recent edition, which raised nearly $800 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure breast-cancer awareness organization. Culled from the “Professors Just Want to Have Fun” section, the following sample queries illustrate why the annual event is so popular.

Q: Professor Chris Cotropia is a level 15 necromancer in video game World of Warcraft. What other massively multiplayer online game has been blamed for contributing to real-life bad dancing, distracted students, divorce, and a star athlete landing on the disabled list with carpal tunnel syndrome?
A: Fortnite

Q: Professor Tara Casey is a passionate protester. Within 25, out of the estimated combined total of 2 million people marching, how many people were arrested in connection with the Women’s March crowds in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, and Seattle?
A: Zero
Imagine reaching the top of your profession in post-apartheid South Africa — advancing from a pathologist specializing in hematology to taking a lead role in integrating previously segregated hospitals and staff.

Now imagine, in your 50s, starting over and relocating to the United States and enrolling as a 1L at Richmond Law.

None of this was hypothetical for Shireen Kerr, L’11.

“I used to look at some of the papers she was writing, the articles she was working on, or the questions that she was looking at, and for me with a medical mind, a scientific mind, I couldn’t do it,” said her husband Gordon Kerr, an anesthesiologist. “I couldn’t have switched my brain like she switched her brain. But she did it very easily.

“And she didn’t bat an eyelid. She was absolutely unfazed by it.”

Kerr passed away in May, but her legacy lives on at Richmond Law through the Dr. Shireen Richards Kerr Law Scholarship. It is earmarked specifically for students who have significant work experience in another field before enrolling in law school.

“Shireen Kerr was a very special person that the recipient, I hope, will aspire to be like and will reach those same heights,” said Michelle Rahman, who retired in December as assistant dean for admissions. “We always have plenty of non-traditional students, but she was an example for everybody as to what one can do, what a woman can do, even in her middle life.”

Kerr, who moved to Richmond when her husband took a job at VCU, arrived at Richmond Law after realizing that differences in the medical profession in South Africa and the U.S. prevented her from picking up where she left off. The unassuming Kerr — she didn’t make a point of telling others about her distinguished medical career — used her even-keeled personality and experience dealing with literal life-and-death issues to counsel her often-younger peers stressed by assignments and exams.

As a fellow non-traditional student in Kerr’s cohort, Tricia Dunlap, L’11, immediately gravi-
tated to Kerr and even now, as a business lawyer at her own firm in Richmond, keeps her classmate’s values front and center.

“She always has kind of been my North Star as far as keeping my priorities right and not letting the pressures of life or ambition push us to a point where we forget what matters,” said Dunlap, who has a photo of Kerr on the wall of her office. “I’m still inspired by Shireen.”

Kerr needed more of her strength than she expected just to finish law school. During her final semester, she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. But she never questioned whether she would graduate and pass the bar. She juggled the demands of her final courses with chemotherapy, her husband said.

“Nope, she was not going to put this on hold,” Gordon Kerr said. “She was not going to stop, and she was going to write that damned bar exam.”

After passing the bar, Kerr did some arbitration work for Richmond-based Commonwealth Mediation Group, but her declining health prevented her from being able to practice consistently. She poured the energy she had left into making the most of the time she had left.

Always an active person — she took the phrase “within walking distance” quite literally and refused to take elevators — Kerr recruited her husband to join her on 40-mile bike rides, hiking the Appalachian Trail, and for dance lessons. Kerr even joined their daughter Laura and her college friends on a trip to South Africa, where she climbed her favorite mountain.

“She had a phrase: ‘Just pull up your socks and get on with it,’” said Dunlap, her classmate. “And that’s what she did.”

UPWARD TRAJECTORY

“Trying to be that eye in the sky over the whole process, from a legal perspective at least, can be challenging,” said Rita Davis, L’00.

Davis is speaking of her position as counsel to the governor of Virginia, in which she does everything from providing legal advice to the governor and cabinet secretaries to reviewing every bill passed by the general assembly, among many other responsibilities. It can be a daunting role, but meeting challenges head-on is something she’s well-prepared to do.

A native of Bedford, Virginia, Davis aspired to being a lawyer when she was a little girl. She became the first person in her family to earn a college degree, from Washington and Lee University, and enrolled in Richmond Law after a stint working in law enforcement.

Davis can rattle off the names of professors and administrators who positively influenced her. The lessons she learned and opportunities she received from professors such as Hamilton Bryson, Joel Eisen, Clark Williams, and in particular, John Pagan, then the law school’s dean, still resonate with her.

“I, like most law students, came to law school with the misconceptions about how competitive it was going to be and how cutthroat and hard and unnecessarily cruel the professors might be,” she said. “And it was completely unlike that, thank goodness.

“The faculty and administration were extremely helpful in both pre-

paring you for your legal career and also just helping you make connections in the professional world,” Davis added. “The University of Richmond was a wonderful educational experience for me.”

After a clerkship on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit in Arkansas, Davis returned to Richmond and began a 15-year tenure with Hunton Andrews Kurth in complex commercial litigation, becoming the first African-American woman to make counsel in the Richmond office. Eager for the responsibility of a management role and the opportunity for more litigation, Davis moved on to the office of the attorney general, where she served as senior assistant attorney general and was the first African-American woman to be section chief of the trial section.

As much as she enjoyed her work in the attorney general’s office, Davis couldn’t pass up the chance to work in the governor’s office, once again becoming the first African-American woman in her position when she started in January 2018.

“It’s amazing to be the first person of color to do a thing in 2018. I think ‘Why would I be the first after all of these years?’ But there’s still lots of obstacles to cross and lots of firsts to be made,” Davis said. “I think, at least in my experience, the way is open to go do those things. I’m very optimistic about that, both in the legal profession and in the commonwealth in general.”
We want to hear from you. Send us your note via the “Submit a Class Note” link at lawmagazine.richmond.edu; email us at lawalumni@richmond.edu; contact us by mail at Law Alumni, University of Richmond School of Law, University of Richmond, VA 23173; or call 804-289-8028.

1960s

Aubrey Daniel, L’66, was honored by the Army Judge Advocate General Lt. Gen. Charles Pede for his prosecution work after the My Lai Massacre — and for a subsequent letter he wrote reprimanding President Richard Nixon for allowing defendant William Calley to stay under house arrest in lieu of his sentence of life in prison. He was named a Distinguished Member of the Regiment for the Army JAG corps 50 years after the mass murder in Vietnam.

1970s

Edward Barnes, L’72, was ranked the No. 1 attorney in Virginia by Super Lawyers for 2018. He is a partner with Barnes & Diehl in Richmond.

Michael Mitrovic, L’78, joined Cooper Levenson’s Atlantic City, New Jersey, office as of counsel to the insurance defense litigation practice group.

1980s

Mark S. Williams, L’81, retired after 15 years as a public defender for Cattaraugus County, New York. He built the public defender’s office from two employees — himself and a secretary — to an office of seven attorneys, two full-time investigators, a full-time social worker, and support staff. “We’ve created an office that is respected statewide,” he told the Olean Times Herald. Mark and his wife, Patti, who retired as a clinics supervisor for the county’s health department, plan to relax and visit grandchildren.

Michael HuYoung, L’82, was named to Virginia’s Criminal Justice Services Board. He practices with Barnes & Diehl in Richmond.

James McCauley, L’82, was named 2018 Leader of the Year as part of Virginia Lawyers Weekly’s Leaders in the Law Program. He is the ethics counsel for the Virginia State Bar.

Maria Graff Decker, L’83, was elected chief judge of the Virginia Court of Appeals.

Ann Burks, L’84, is the 2018 recipient of the John C. Kenny Pro Bono Award from the Richmond Bar Association for her work with the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society.

Domenic (Dom) Pacitti, L’87, is the new co-chair of Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg’s bankruptcy/corporate restructuring department in Philadelphia.

Kirk T. Schroder, R’84 and L’87, is a co-editor of The Essential Guide to Entertainment Law, published in June 2018 by Juris Publishing of New York. Kirk, along with co-editor Jay Shanker, worked for more than two years along with several leading entertainment law specialists to create this comprehensive treatise. He is a former chair of the American Bar Association Entertainment & Sports Law Section and has an entertainment law practice that draws clients from around the United States.
John L. Lumpkins Jr., L’88, is chair of the Goochland County, Virginia, school board. He also is an interim member of the county’s board of supervisors.

Greg McCracken, L’89, is an attorney at Fine, Fine, Legum & McCracken in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He has a passion for honoring and preserving the service of “the greatest generation,” those who served in World War II. For the past 20 years, he has collected more than 400 signed military prints, books, and other memorabilia, searching the Internet for veterans connected to the items, and meeting with them to hear firsthand accounts of their service.

John W. Paradee, GB’89 and L’89, was named a 2018 Top Lawyer in Delaware.

1990s

Brian Curtis, L’91, was named corporate general counsel for Maser Consulting in Red Bank, New Jersey.

Monica Kowalski-Lodato, L’91, has spent the last 12 years as a solo practitioner in Neptune, New Jersey. She also is an elected member of her local board of education, an appointed member of the township recreation committee, a township zoning board attorney, and snack shack coordinator for her son’s high school football team. Monica lovingly remembers her time at UR and the great friends she made and kept, and she continually cheers the education that allowed her to establish her lifestyle. She wonders whether Professor W. Wade Berryhill ever found out the answer to the burn-

ALUMNI PROFILE

Road less traveled

Pam Sauber, L’85

It’s easy to understand why Pam Sauber, L’85, obtained a law degree. Her father was passionate about the profession, and her aunt was one of the first women to graduate from the University of South Carolina School of Law and a democratic representative of her county in the state legislature. Law is, in a way, in her blood.

Since 2012, Sauber has been providing pro bono legal assistance to victims of domestic violence and at-risk children through her work with the D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project. She has served as the co-president of the board of directors for the past four years and leads a task force charged with taking the organization national. It’s a profession — and an organization — she’s proud to be part of.

But the road that led her to D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project wasn’t without its detours — “nonlinear,” as she describes it.

Following a two-year clerkship for the Hon. Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr., L’42 and H’76, right out of law school, Sauber began pursuing a career in criminal law. She landed a job in the Washington, D.C., office of international firm Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver, and Jacobson, working in criminal fraud before joining AT&T’s legal department. But it wasn’t long before Sauber realized in-house corporate practice wasn’t where she wanted to be.

“I wasn’t sure that it was really capitalizing on my talents,” Sauber said. “There’s a lot of stress and pressure to be a litigator in a big corporate firm, and I wasn’t sure that was really what I wanted to be doing.”

So, after 10 years as a working lawyer, Sauber took a break to spend time with her growing family and pursue what she called another “true love” — art. She took classes in fine art and interior design, all the while deliberating the next steps in her legal career with friends and colleagues.

Through those networking conversations, Sauber first heard about the D.C. Volunteer Lawyers Project. The organization allows Sauber to make a difference in the lives of youth and families in the midst of crisis and appeals to the value she places on community-based work.

“If I look back, I felt a little misplaced having chosen to be a lawyer and had to really work at my success because I didn’t feel like it came as naturally as other things might have,” Sauber said.

“I was just glad that I could find a space that fit me more, rather than me trying to fit a certain kind of mold of lawyer that I thought I had to be.”

—Cheryl Spain
Third act
Bishop Ravenel, L’04

Through the twists and turns of Bishop Ravenel’s career, he’s developed a talent for processes, logistics, and people management. These skills came in handy as a prosecutor and were critical during his service as a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps. Now Ravenel, L’04, is putting them to use in a third career — helping multinational corporations become more efficient.

Ravenel came to Richmond Law via Charleston, South Carolina, after graduating from Wofford College, where he played basketball.

“I really came to like the fact that Richmond had a lot of adjunct professors who were accomplished trial attorneys,” Ravenel said. And he liked that in Virginia, “you can get a ton of experience as a young lawyer.”

That proved true for Ravenel, who started his legal career in Portsmouth, Virginia, as an assistant commonwealth’s attorney. His first jury trial was a rape-burglary, and in his 18 months on the job, he also prosecuted an attempted capital murder case.

His federal clerkship with Judge Henry Morgan of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia — upon the recommendation of now-U.S. District Judge Mark Davis, for whom he clerked in Portsmouth — marked a turning point in his career. That federal experience gave him the competitive edge for the next step in his career, as assistant U.S. attorney in Orlando, Florida.

During his time as a federal prosecutor, another kind of service tugged at Ravenel: the armed forces. The third-generation veteran was commissioned as an officer in the Marines and deployed to African and European countries, protecting military personnel, equipment, and information.

That experience, in turn, sparked an entrepreneurial spirit that also runs in the family. His father was a developer and his grandfather was a contractor. With support from the G.I. Bill, he completed a management degree at Stanford and began a one-year transportation program at Massachusetts Institute of Technology “to bridge the gap from law to business,” he said.

His goal is to start a company specializing in third-party logistics — basically a one-stop shop for multinational companies and their transportation needs. It’s work that leverages the skills he’s honed at every step of his career.

—Emily Cherry
P.K. Shere, L’01, an attorney with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog in Raleigh, North Carolina, was included on the Best Lawyers in America 2018 list.

Lt. Col. Megan (Shaw) Wakefield, L’02, works in the Office of the Judge Advocate General (JAG) at the Pentagon. She is the chief of strategic communications for the U.S. Army’s JAG Corps.

Kelleigh Murphy, L’04, is an attorney and entrepreneur in Bedford, New Hampshire, where she spent the past two years as the first female chair of the Bedford Town Council. She practices at Tober Law Offices, which was recognized in 2018 as a top law firm by U.S. News & World Report. She represents individuals and businesses on divorce and complex asset division, small business law and corporate advisement, civil litigation, private mediation, employment law, and professional conduct. She is also the owner of My Social Sports, which runs adult recreational sports leagues throughout the United States.

Melissa VanZile, L’04, was ranked in the Top 50 Women Attorneys in Virginia by Super Lawyers. She practices family law as a shareholder with Barnes & Diehl in Richmond.

Jay Khosla, L’05, is chief economic policy counsel for U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

Brandy M. Rapp, L’05, of Whiteford, Taylor, & Preston in Roanoke, Virginia, was named a Best Lawyers “Lawyer of the Year.”


Corey Simpson Booker, L’06, joined the firm of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston in Richmond, where she’ll practice commercial and bankruptcy litigation.

Ben Cline, L’07, was elected to serve as U.S. representative for Virginia’s 6th District after eight terms as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates.

After more than 10 years in the U.S. Army as a judge advocate, Patrick Crocker, L’07, left active duty to begin an MBA/Master of Public Health program at the University of California, Berkeley with the goal of moving into health care delivery strategy. He will continue to practice law in the Army Reserves as an appellate defense counsel with the U.S. Army Legal Services Agency for the next three years.

Thomas M. Cusick, L’08, has been elected as a principal of Blankingship & Keith, in Fairfax, Virginia.

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts named Katie Wallmeyer Payne, L’09, director of government relations. She represents the museum to local, state, and federal legislators and officials on issues that affect resources and support for the museum’s mission.

Andi Daly, L’10, and Matt Daly, L’08, welcomed a daughter, Brooklyn Eloise Daly, in June. They live in Richmond, where Andi is an associate with McGuireWoods, and Matt is a partner with KPM Law.

Nancy Rossner, L’10, was inducted to ConnectVA’s Help Somebody Hall of Fame for her work as staff attorney with the Community Tax Law Project.

Scenes from Fall Gathering 2018

Trevor Reid, L’08, is a voting shareholder at Richmond law firm Parker, Pollard, Wilton & Peaden. He concentrates his practice on civil litigation, creditor rights, business law, and commercial real estate.

Christine Walchuk, L’08, has joined DLA Piper’s corporate practice as a partner in northern Virginia. Previously at Goodwin Proctor, Christine focuses her practice on the representation of public and private life sciences companies in a broad range of commercial and intellectual property transactions.

Michael J. Braggs, L’09, has joined Freeborn & Peters as an associate in Richmond. He focuses his practice on personal injury defense.

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2010s

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Nancy Rossner, L’10, was inducted to ConnectVA’s Help Somebody Hall of Fame for her work as staff attorney with the Community Tax Law Project.
Stephen Rancourt, '06 and L'11, was appointed a federal prosecutor for the Lubbock, Texas, criminal division. He spent six years as an assistant district attorney in Wichita County, Texas.

Alexa Strachan, L'11, is claims counsel with Kinsale Insurance in Richmond.

Valerie Slater, L'12, RISE for Youth campaign coordinator and staff attorney, was recognized as an emerging leader in youth justice reform at the National Juvenile Justice Network's Annual Forum. The Youth Justice Emerging Leader Award was created to honor passionate and bold youth justice advocates committed to raising up the voices and experiences of those most negatively impacted by our justice system.

Kathryn “Kate” Dachille, L'13, joined PayPal as senior counsel. Previously, she was in the content and production risk group for NBC Universal in New York City.

Allison Rienecker, L'14, joined the litigation division of Eckert Seamans in Richmond.

Brianne Mullen, L'13, joined the city of Richmond’s Office of Sustainability as coordinator in July 2018.

Mayme Beth Donohue, L'15, was named to Style Weekly’s Top 40 Under 40 list for her work in blockchain technologies as an associate at Hunton Andrews Kurth in Richmond.

Paul Holdsworth, L'15, joined the Richmond office of IslerDare practicing labor and employment law.

David Berry, L'16, joined the Roanoke, Virginia, office of Gentry Locke as an associate on the commercial litigation team.

Kelsey M. Martin, L'16, joined Gentry Locke in Roanoke, Virginia, as an associate. She practices with the firm’s employment and labor team.

Corinne R. Moini, L'17, joined Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell in Wilmington, Delaware, as an associate in the corporate and business litigation group. Prior to joining the firm, she was a judicial law clerk to the Hon. William C. Carpenter Jr. of the Delaware Superior Court.

William Stroud, L'17, heads the new commercial real estate division of Butler & College, called B&C Commercial, in Charleston, South Carolina.

Clay Clifton, L'18, joined Swift Currie in Atlanta as an associate.

## In Memoriam

**Truman L. Sayre, L'53,** of Beckley, West Virginia  
May 6, 2018

**The Hon. Oliver A. Pollard Jr., L'59,** of Petersburg, Virginia  
June 10, 2018

**R. Peatross Turner, L'61,** of Doswell, Virginia  
April 2, 2018

**Jerome M. “Jerry” Adams, G'59 and L'62,** of Clairton, Pennsylvania  
Oct. 20, 2017

**Furman B. Whitescarver Jr., L'62,** of Roanoke, Virginia  
Oct. 22, 2018

**Ronald Wayne Williams Sr., L'62,** of Danville, Virginia  
July 14, 2018

**James W. “Bill” Gilliam, L'63,** of Orlean, Virginia  
Sept. 28, 2016

**T. Rodman Layman, L'63,** of Pulaski, Virginia  
Oct. 27, 2018

**Thomas S. Winston III, L'63,** of Midlothian, Virginia  
Nov. 29, 2015

**John B. Gilmer, L'65,** of Louisa, Virginia  
March 22, 2018

**Watson “Bubba” Melton Marshall, L'65,** of Richmond  
Aug. 8, 2018

**Frederick Quayle, L'66,** of Suffolk, Virginia  
Nov. 24, 2018

**George McKinley Rogers III, L'66,** of Hampton, Virginia  
July 19, 2018

**The Hon. John Maston Davis, L'67,** of Warsaw, Virginia  
July 10, 2018

**Michael F. Gibson, L'73,** of Bluefield, West Virginia  
Feb. 27, 2018

**Stephen L. Bryant, L'74,** of Midlothian, Virginia  
Jan. 23, 2018

**David W. Seitz, L'75,** of Glen Allen, Virginia  
April 15, 2018

**Brooke Spotswood II, L'76,** of Gloucester, Virginia  
Jan. 30, 2018

**Gerald Wilson Nelligar, L'79,** of Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Oct. 24, 2018

**Marlene Woodall, L'79,** of Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Sept. 9, 2018

**David Leon Carlson, L’80,** of Glen Allen, Virginia  
Sept. 2, 2018

**Robert D. Murphy Jr., L’81,** of Richmond  
Dec. 12, 2017

**Julian W. “Buff” Harman Jr., B’79 and L’82,** of Richmond  
April 12, 2018

**Carol Lockridge Wingo Dickinson,** of Richmond  
Nov. 1, 2018

**Renay Melitta Fariss-Richardson, L’88,** of Richmond  
Nov. 4, 2018

**Virginia Hall Woodruff, L’89,** of Louisville, Kentucky  
Jan. 28, 2018

**Eric A. Tinnell, L’00,** of Farmville, Virginia  
Feb. 12, 2018

**James L. Cupp, L’03,** of Richmond  
May 17, 2018

**Shireen Kerr, L’11,** of Richmond  
May 17, 2018

**Bradford Ryan Huffman, L’12,** of Indianapolis  
Jan. 27, 2018

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TOP MARKS
Richmond Law has the highest representation on the 2019 Virginia Super Lawyers list — 21 percent, more than any other law school. In other words, more than one out of five of the best attorneys in the Commonwealth are Spiders.