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## Twentieth-Century Virginia Legal Periodicals: A Bibliography and Commentary

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### Twentieth-Century Virginia Legal Periodicals: A Bibliography and Commentary\*

W. H. Bryson\*\*
J. N. Jorgensen\*\*\*

The authors provide a bibliography of current and discontinued Virginia legal periodicals printed after 1900, as well as commentary on trends in the development of state legal periodicals.

#### I. Introduction

Periodicals have played an important role in the Virginia legal community, serving as a medium for scholarly legal commentary and debate, for keeping practitioners abreast of developments in the law, and for providing information on current events and activities in the legal community. Although the fundamental purposes of the legal periodical have remained somewhat constant, the number and circulation of Virginia legal periodicals have expanded greatly and, as a result, so has their role in the Virginia legal community. A chronological examination of legal periodicals in twentieth-century Virginia reveals that the role of the legal periodical has significantly increased from the first publications of the Virginia State Bar Association annual reports and the Virginia Law Register at the turn of the century to the present, when dozens of legal periodicals are published monthly, many targeted to very specific audiences in the legal community.

Twentieth-century legal periodicals published in Virginia can be classified as commercial ventures, bar association publications, and academic journals. The broad outline of twentieth-century law periodical activity shows that the early commercial ventures lost ground to the law school journals in the first quarter of this century. In the last quarter of the century, even though academic publications increased significantly, there

<sup>\* ©</sup> W. H. Bryson & J. N. Jorgensen, 1994. The authors would like to thank Lucinda Harrison-Cox for her advice and assistance.

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has been a phenomenal surge of bar association periodical and newsletter publishing.

#### **II. Commercial Ventures**

The first law journals published in Virginia, as elsewhere in America, were commercial ventures.<sup>1</sup> The publishers hoped to make a profit from supplying the legal community with various types of legal information. In 1900, there was one such journal in Virginia, the *Virginia Law Register*. The only other legal periodicals of any description were the annual proceedings of the Virginia State Bar Association and the ephemeral and highly elusive newsletter, *Pro Querente*.

The Virginia Law Register catered to the bar and bench by providing a forum for legal scholarship and debate through essays that were both academic and practical in approach. It published the most important recent judicial opinions of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals; often, these "advance" reports were accompanied by editorial notes and comments. Also reported were selected cases from the federal courts and occasionally those from other states and England. There were also miscellaneous notes, notices of bar activities, legal news, book reviews, letters to the editor, and facetiae. Profitability was pursued by providing something for everyone.

The Virginia Law Register ceased publishing in 1928. Although it was a valuable source of information in the beginning, it succumbed to competition from more specialized publications. The Virginia Law Review was founded by the law students at the University of Virginia in 1913 to publish articles of legal scholarship. Other rivals were the West Publishing Company of St. Paul, Minnesota, which supplied the Virginia bar with advance reports of Virginia judicial opinions in its South Eastern Reporter, and Virginia Appeals, edited by Maury Baldwin Watts, which also furnished advance sheets for the Virginia appellate court opinions from 1907 to 1926.<sup>2</sup>

The next successful commercial legal publication was not begun until 1941. The *Virginia Bar Weekly*, a legal newspaper of general circulation, was forced to suspend publication in January 1944 because of the wartime shortage of newsprint. The *Virginia Researcher*, begun in 1970, was a monthly publication for sale by the Research Group of Charlottesville. In 1986, the *Virginia Lawyers Weekly* was founded by Lawyers Weekly

<sup>1.</sup> See generally E. Lee Shepard, The First Law Journals in Virginia, 79 LAW LIBR. J. 33 (1987).

<sup>2.</sup> W. Hamilton Bryson, Advance Sheets in Virginia, VIRGINIA LAW REPORTERS BEFORE 1880, at 129, 130 (W. Hamilton Bryson ed., 1977).

Publications in Richmond. This newspaper has become a valuable fixture in Virginia with its weekly news reporting and slip opinion services.

The financial success of this latter venture was made possible by the recent phenomenal growth in the size of the Virginia State Bar. This increase is due in part to the change of the Virginia economy following the Second World War, from being primarily agricultural to primarily commercial and industrial. Furthermore, the population of the state has grown significantly. Finally, both the state and the federal government have grown enormously; northern Virginia is now primarily a suburb of the nation's capital city. The number of lawyers that work for or against the government has skyrocketed in the last few decades.

#### III. Bar Publications

In 1888, the newly formed Virginia State Bar Association published its first volume of proceedings. This annual publication continued unaltered in form until 1975, when it was replaced by the *Virginia Bar Association Journal*, a quarterly publication of scholarly articles and official reports of the Association. The original publication was truly a scholarly journal in that it published the presidential address and the annual address, which were delivered at the annual meetings of the Association. These two papers were intended to be scholarly presentations on topical legal issues; indeed, the first pair of addresses were impressive discussions of the issue of law reform by codification.<sup>3</sup> Later papers were given by prominent judges, practitioners, and academics, including future U.S. Presidents.<sup>4</sup> Many of the committee reports were more academic than one might have anticipated.<sup>5</sup> The reports of the activities of the Virginia State Bar Association and the memorials to deceased members are important sources of information about the history of the Bar, its members, and its activities.

The annual reports of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond date back to 1886, the year after the Association's founding. This publication, however, was more a newsletter and presentation of reports of activities than a scholarly journal, even though at the beginning the

<sup>3.</sup> William J. Robertson, Address, 2 REP. VA. ST. B. ASS'N 85 (1889); James C. Carter, Provinces of the Written and the Unwritten Law, id. at 95.

<sup>4.</sup> See, e.g., Roger A. Pryor, Influence of Virginia in the Formation of the Federal Constitution, 8 id. at 175 (1895); Woodrow Wilson, Leaderless Government, 10 id. at 271 (1897); William H. Taft, The Administration of Justice--Its Speeding and Cheapening, 21 id. at 233 (1908); Roscoe Pound, The Judicial Office in America, 41 id. at 406 (1929).

<sup>5.</sup> E.g., John S. Bryan, Report of Committee on Library and Legal Literature, 11 id. at 55 (1898); John S. Bryan, Committee on Library and Legal Literature, 12 id. at 58 (1899). These were two parts of a bibliographical essay on the various editions of the Code of Virginia from 1612 to 1898.

president of the Association reported on recent legislation of interest to the Bar.

The Virginia State Bar, which was created by statute in 1938,<sup>6</sup> publishes annual reports, as do other organizations of the legal profession in Virginia. Since 1975, there also has been a phenomenal proliferation of legal periodical literature emanating from various well-established and newly organized legal groups, in the form of scholarly publications, newsletters, and reports of seminars and activities. This proliferation reflects two developments.

First, the size, sophistication, and specialization of the Bar has grown enormously. In 1940, there were 2,776 active and associate members of the Virginia State Bar; in 1950, 3,626 members; in 1960, 5,079; in 1970, 8,335; in 1980, 15,123; and in 1990, over 22,000.

Second, the Virginia academic community and its publications have virtually abandoned covering Virginia state law.8 Within the past twentyfive years, the Virginia State Bar has subdivided into numerous geographic, legal specialty, and social interest groups, and the old, established bar groups have set up specialty sections under their general umbrellas. This trend was possible because of the increase in the size of the bar; it was desirable because of the increase in the specialization of many lawyers' practices. The result has been an explosion of newsletters to keep members informed of news and recent legislative and judicial activity. For example, from 1980 through 1983, twelve newsletters and annual seminar proceedings were founded by the various sections, committees, and groups sponsored by the Virginia State Bar, which was then under the leadership of Samuel N. Clifton, the executive director, and presidents William M. Baskin, James C. Roberts, and William B. Poff. Some of these publications are somewhat superficial; others perform the functions of purveying the news, recording official actions, and presenting scholarly articles.

Among the more notable examples of the latter type are the Virginia Bar Association Journal, which is edited by Charles E. Friend, a well-known legal scholar, and the Journal of Civil Litigation, which evolved from a newsletter into a scholarly journal under the leadership of Professor W. Clark Williams. These efforts are the first steps to filling the academic void that was created when the law school journals abandoned the service of the Virginia legal community. These publications are sponsored by and

<sup>6. 1938</sup> Va. Acts. ch. 410.

<sup>7. 1940</sup> VA. ST. B. ANN. REP. at i; 1950 VA. ST. B. ANN. REP. 14; 1960 VA. ST. B. ANN. REP. 15; 1970 VA. ST. B. ANN. REP. 11; 1980 VA. ST. B. ANN. REP. 8; VA. LAW., Sept. 1990, at 8.

<sup>8.</sup> See discussion infra p. 546.

financially subsidized by the various bar groups. Most are distributed free to their members as one of the benefits of their membership.

#### IV. Academic Journals

The purposes of a law school journal are twofold. First, an academic law review provides a vehicle for the scholarly study and exposition of the law. It provides a forum for new ideas as well as the exposition of the present state of the law. Here is the opportunity for debate, calls for reform, historical explanation, and philosophical speculation. Second, such a publication provides an important educational experience for the students of the law school. Publications also enhance the visibility and prestige of their sponsoring institutions. Because of the opportunity for recognition and because of the educational value, all but one of the Virginia law schools established academic legal journals as soon as they were financially able to do so.

The first academic journal in Virginia was the Virginia Law Review, founded by the law students of the University of Virginia in 1913. It was modeled on the Harvard Law Review, the first of its kind, and was originally funded through subscriptions and payments from advertising.<sup>9</sup>

The Washington and Lee Law Review, founded in 1939, began with a board of student editors and a board of faculty editors. Faculty control ended in 1968, when the faculty editors were replaced by a single faculty advisor.

In May 1949, students at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary began publication of the William and Mary Review of Virginia Law. This intramural law review featured legal analysis focused on Virginia law. It was replaced by the William and Mary Law Review in 1956. The fundamental difference between the two is that the William and Mary Review of Virginia Law featured articles written by Marshall-Wythe law students, while the William and Mary Law Review features articles by members of every branch of the legal profession, including comments by Marshall-Wythe law students.

The two newest law schools in Virginia, those at George Mason University and at Regent University, published law journals from their inception. The most recent development is for a law school to sponsor several journals.

<sup>9.</sup> JOHN RITCHIE, THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL OF LAW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA FOR THE PERIOD 1826-1926, at 92-94 (1978); Randolph C. Coleman, *The Plan and History of the Virginia Law Review*, THE CENTENNIAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA 1819-1921, at 159, 160-61 (1922).

The only Virginia law school not to publish a law review from early on was the University of Richmond, where the dean of the law school was hostile to the idea of a student-run law review. Before the University of Richmond Law Review was founded in 1968, the T. C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond had a very modest occasional publication entitled University of Richmond Law Notes, which was started in 1958 as a journal for law faculty contributions edited by the faculty under the editorship of Professor J. Westwood Smithers. In 1968, the law students, with strong alumni support, forced Dean William T. Muse to allow a student-run law review to be developed, to bring their school's offerings into line with those of the other law schools in the state. This new law review had the support of the faculty.10 The reason for the dean's reluctance is unclear. It may have been the weak financial position of the law school and university at that time. 11 It may have been due to the dean's unwillingness to part with any power and with control of the publication of Law Notes.<sup>12</sup> It may have been due to the dean's illness. Unbeknownst to the student body and the general public, the dean was suffering from cancer at that time, 13 which may account for his pathological reluctance to relinquish any control or accept new ideas at this difficult period of his life. He died in 1971.

Until recent times, these academic journals served the bench and bar of Virginia with relevant scholarly commentary on state law. But now they have largely abandoned this function in their school's pursuit of reputations as "national" law schools, again, in imitation of the Harvard Law School. The result is the phenomenon, which is nationwide, of law professors who largely ignore state law. There is a plethora of information and commentary on federal and general American law, but little academic discussion of legal problems and issues of Virginia state law.<sup>14</sup>

To remedy the lack of legal commentary on Virginia law, Virginia bar organizations of all descriptions have begun publishing a wide assortment of periodicals, reports, and newsletters. A few of these are general, but most are limited to some specific branch of Virginia law. The vast

<sup>10.</sup> DAVID J. MAYS, THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE: A HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND LAW SCHOOL 73-74 (1970).

<sup>11.</sup> In 1968 the University of Richmond could field a Division I football team, but could not provide the law faculty with a secretary.

<sup>12.</sup> History: The University of Richmond Law Review: The First Twenty-Five Volumes, U. RICH. L. REV., Summer 1991, at [xiii, xiv-xv].

<sup>13.</sup> John A. V. Berry, William Taylor Muse, in LEGAL EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA, 1779-1979; A BIOGRAPHICAL APPROACH 477, 483 (W. Hamilton Bryson ed., 1982).

<sup>14.</sup> One issue of each annual volume of the *University of Richmond Law Review* is devoted to recent developments in Virginia law. This is by far the most popular part of that law review.

majority of them are being edited by practicing lawyers and are full of digests of recent judicial opinions, comments on recent legislation, and notes of legal happenings. Only a few have articles of legal scholarship that place recent developments within the broader framework.

#### V. Conclusion

Scholars and practitioners of the law need not only each other, but law librarians as well. And so we implore present and future librarians to preserve the items here described, especially the ephemeral ones, for the use of present and future generations of researchers. On numerous occasions, we have searched in vain for a periodical. Too often have we been told that a particular publication was "ephemeral" and neither cataloged nor preserved. One cannot expect the practicing lawyers to care for the materials sent to them, but surely this is the sacred duty of librarians. Who is to say what is ephemeral and what is eternal? Who can say what will be of value to a historian two hundred years from now?<sup>15</sup>

The difficult part of the creation of the following bibliography has been in the discovery and then in the location of the more ephemeral items. This present effort is part of ongoing research on the subject, and if any errors or omissions are detected, the authors will be grateful to receive the corrigenda.

<sup>15.</sup> For a sad example of such a loss, note that the records of the first 32 years of the Richmond Bar Association have been lost. JOHN O. PETERS, TALE OF THE CENTURY: A HISTORY OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND 1885-1985, at vii, vii (1985).

#### **Appendix**

#### Twentieth-Century Virginia Legal Periodicals

- Administrative Law News. Richmond: Administrative Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1981-. Provides useful information to administrative law practitioners. Features updates on the legislative activity of the Virginia General Assembly, articles of interest to the members of the Administrative Law Section, a message from the editor, and synopses of recent case law affecting administrative law. Published irregularly.
- Administrative, Franchise and Trade Regulation Newsletter. Richmond: Antitrust Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1981-. Features updates on recent case law, state and national legislative activity, and attorney general's opinions affecting antitrust, franchise, and trade regulation in Virginia.
- Advanced Business Law Seminar. Richmond: Virginia State Bar and the Joint Committee on Continuing Legal Education of the Virginia State Bar Association, 1970-. Contains the substance of each presentation offered at the annual advanced business law seminar. Treats different topics of particular interest to the Virginia practitioner involved in business law, including commercial real estate development, commercial law, reorganization and bankruptcy, and environmental law for the business practitioner. Published annually.
- Advanced Estate Planning and Administration Seminar. Richmond: Section on Wills, Trusts and Estates, Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association, 1980-. Informs the practitioner of recent trends and developments in this particular area of law. Contains in outline form the presentations offered at the seminar. Published annually.
- Annual Report of the Attorney General. Richmond: Attorney General's Office, 1836-. Contains the full texts of all official opinions of the Attorney General of Virginia.
- [Annual Report]. Richmond: Bar Association of the City of Richmond, 1885-?. Reports include the Bar Association's constitution, bylaws, code of ethics, minimum fee schedules, lists of members and officers, committee reports, reports of recent legislation, and lists of the books in the Bar library. The Virginia State Library has five reports, dating from 1886 to 1909.
- Annual Report of the Virginia State Bar. Richmond: Virginia State Bar, 1939-1987. Reports the minutes of the annual Virginia State Bar meeting. Includes reports of the president, executive director, treasurer, and each section and committee. Has opinions on the unauthorized practice of law.
- Annual Tax Conference. Williamsburg: College of William and Mary, 1955. The papers of the second to the seventh conferences were not published.
- Annual Trusts and Estates Seminar: Recent Developments and Current Issues in Estate Planning and Administration. Richmond: Virginia Law Foundation and Trusts and Estate Section of Virginia State Bar, 1982-. Benefits Virginia practitioners with an interest in trusts and estates. Provides

- practitioners with recent developments and changes in trusts and estates law. Contains in outline form the substance of presentations offered at the seminar. Published annually.
- The Bar Bulletin. Norfolk: Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association, ?-. This monthly newsletter for the membership of the Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association has been published for the last ten to fifteen years.
- Basic Business Law Seminar. Richmond: Virginia Law Foundation, 1983-. Cosponsored by the Committee on Continuing Legal Education of the Virginia Law Foundation and the Business Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, this annual publication includes different topics of particular interest to the Virginia practitioner involved in business law. Presented in outline form, this seminar report includes topics such as corporate representation, servicing business clients, and current issues in business law.
- Bill of Particulars. Charlottesville: Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, 1975-. Gives short news items and digests of judicial opinions and attorney general opinions of interest to city and county attorneys. Published monthly.
- The Colonial Lawyer. Williamsburg: Marshall-Wythe School of Law, 1967-1991. 20 vols. Originally a student in-house publication about the law school. Suspended for several years, and then reissued as a substantive legal periodical. Published biannually.
- Corporate Counsel News. Richmond: Corporate Counsel Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1990. Features articles, case synopses, and legislative updates affecting the practice of corporate law in Virginia. Published irregularly.
- Construction Law News. Richmond: Construction Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1981-. Targets Virginia practitioners of construction law. Features Virginia legislation and case law that affects construction contracts. Published biannually.
- Developments in Mental Health Law. Charlottesville: Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy, 1980-. Published biannually with support from the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. Features contributions from University of Virginia law and graduate students as well as Virginia law practitioners. Updates case. law in federal and Virginia courts as well as legislative activity.
- Dicta: A Compilation of the Virginia Law Weekly Dicta. Charlottesville: University of Virginia School of Law, 1949-1976. 27 vols. University of Virginia law students' collection of brief essays on a particular topic that appeared weekly during the previous academic year. Reprinted a regular editorial feature from the Virginia Law Weekly entitled "Dicta." Published annually, but volume 25 was not published.

- Education and Practice. Richmond: Section on Education of Lawyers of the Virginia State Bar, 1993-. Newsletter for members of the Section on Education.
- Environmental Law News. Richmond: Environmental Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1988-. Informs the Virginia environmental law practitioner of recent developments in environmental law in Virginia and the nation. Features articles of general interest, Virginia legislative committee reports, and recent case reports from the district courts, courts of appeals, and the Fourth Circuit. Edited by Washington and Lee University law students. Published quarterly.
- Environmental Practice News. Williamsburg: Environmental Law Society of Marshall-Wythe School of Law, 1975-. Prepared by law students of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary. Distributed to law schools, Virginia practitioners, city and commonwealth attorneys, and conservation organizations. Focuses on case law and legislative activity affecting the environment and its protection. Published irregularly.
- Fairfax Bar Journal. Fairfax: Fairfax Bar Association, 1979-. Monthly newsletter. Family Law Section Newsletter. Richmond: Family Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, Winter 1980-. Intended for lawyers who have an interest in family law practice and want to keep informed of recent trends and new developments. Features the editor's message, legislative update, case notes, and family law articles penned by members of the Virginia Bar. Peter N. Swisher, Professor of Law at the University of Richmond, edited the newsletter from the Winter 1982 through the Summer 1990 issue. Richard E. Crouch, a family law practitioner in Arlington, has edited the newsletter since Spring 1991. Published quarterly.
- Family Law Seminar. Richmond: Family Law Section of the Virginia State Bar and Virginia Law Foundation, 1982-. Contains in outline form the presentations offered at the seminar. Features recent developments and tough issues in family law. Published annually.
- The Fee Simple. Richmond: Real Property Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1980-. For practitioners with an interest in real property issues. Serves the second largest section of the Virginia State Bar (after the Litigation Section). Highlights include feature articles, recent case opinions and synopses, and legislative updates. Published quarterly.
- General Practice Plus. Richmond: General Practice Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1987-. Focuses on matters of interest to general practitioners of the Commonwealth. Includes such articles as management of a firm, effective billing, and legal ethics and opinion summaries. Published irregularly.
- George Mason Independent Law Journal. Arlington: George Mason Independent Law Journal Association, Winter 1992-. Founded by the students of George Mason School of Law when their law school ceased to support the student-edited George Mason University Law Review. Published biannually.

- George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal. Arlington: George Mason University School of Law, 1990-. Published biannually.
- George Mason University Law Review. Arlington: George Mason Law Review Association, Winter 1978-1992. 14 vols. Originally the ISL Law Review, this publication became the GMU Law Review in 1978 when the International School of Law merged with George Mason University. Journal's name was changed to the George Mason University Law Review in 1982. Has lead articles, case notes, and comments. Published quarterly.
- Health Law News. Richmond: Virginia State Bar Section on Health Law, November 1984-. Originally published as the Health Law Section Newsletter, this publication changed its name to Health Law News in February 1988. Includes feature articles, legislative updates of Congress and the Virginia General Assembly, and synopses of recent case law opinions concerning health law.
- Intellectual Property News. Richmond: Intellectual Property Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1989-. Provides practical information to attorneys who practice intellectual property law in Virginia. Features lead articles, the section's administrative news, such as notices of upcoming events and social functions, and recent case synopses affecting intellectual property law practitioners. Published irregularly.
- International Practice News. Richmond: International Practice Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1981-. Provides current, important developments relating to international law and practice, section news, and other information believed to be of interest to Virginia's legal and business community. Includes judicial and administrative decisions affecting international law and practice, letters to the editor, and legislative activity updates.
- The Journal. Richmond: Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, March 1989.

  Educates and promotes professionalism among trial attorneys. Focuses on recent trends in Virginia trial practice and features articles written by members of the Virginia bar. Its board of editors are members of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association who primarily practice in the fields of personal injury representing plaintiffs and criminal law representing defendants. Published quarterly.
- Journal of Christian Jurisprudence. Virginia Beach: Regent University, 1980-. Intended to prepare its students for the practice of law. Contains articles concerning the Biblical perspective on various areas of jurisprudence and targets both the legal and nonlegal communities of the Commonwealth. Originally published by the former O. W. Coburn School of Law at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, under the same name. When the law school moved to CBN University in Virginia Beach in 1986, this journal moved also. CBN University changed its name to Regent University in 1992. Published annually.
- The Journal of Civil Litigation. Richmond: Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, Summer 1988-. Features a different format from its predeces-

sor, VADA Quarterly. Consists of three sections: "Articles," which includes scholarly articles on topics of interest to members of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys (VADA); "Opinions," which reports judicial opinions and memoranda affecting civil litigators in Virginia; and "Miscellany," which includes VADA administrative news, such as a listing of new membership, VADA convention news, and any special updates concerning the VADA membership. Published quarterly.

- Journal of the John Bassett Moore Society of International Law. Charlottesville: John Bassett Moore Society of International Law Association, 1960-1961. Although not an official publication of the University of Virginia, this biannual journal was edited by University of Virginia law students. Dealt with comparative law, public international law, and private international law. Continued as the Virginia Journal of International Law.
- The Journal of Law and Politics. Charlottesville: University of Virginia, Fall 1983-. Although not an official publication of the University of Virginia, it is edited by the university's law and graduate students. The Journal of Law and Politics, Inc., receives funding for the journal in part from the Law School Foundation and the Student Activities Fund. Devoted to analyzing the interaction of law and politics. Published quarterly.
- Journal of Local Government Law. Richmond: Municipal and Local Government Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1986-. Intended for the legal, political, and business communities of Virginia. Focuses on issues affecting local government law. Features legislative updates, synopses of recent case decisions, and the section's administrative affairs. Published irregularly.
- Lex Claudia. Richmond: Virginia Women Attorneys Association, 1984. Named for the Roman law that abolished the ancient guardianship of adult women by their male relatives. Centers on legal matters of interest to women in general and women attorneys practicing in the Commonwealth of Virginia in particular. Published sporadically and edited by volunteers.
- Litigation News. Richmond: Litigation Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1983.

  Focuses on litigation issues confronted by Virginia litigators. Included in each issue are short articles and updates on different types of actions in court (e.g., personal injury, contracts, and workers' compensation), section news, and letters to the editor.
- Michie Mouth. Charlottesville: The Michie Co., 1979-. In-house newsletter (with its truly inspired title) published six times a year by and for the employees of the Michie Company, an important Virginia law publisher.
- News and Views. Richmond: The Virginia Bar Association, 1988-. Focuses on keeping members of the Virginia Bar Association informed on upcoming social events, conventions, and seminars. Also includes articles, legislative updates, and recent case synopses. Published quarterly.
- Pro Querente "P.Q.": A Journal Devoted to the Lawyer, Merchant, Manufacturer, and Jobber. Richmond: Pro Querente Co., 1899-? Ephemeral publication containing a few notes of recent court decisions and a few legal notices. Mostly a list of lawyers recommended for collections work. Also included

- paid notices of Richmond attorneys and merchants. The Virginia State Library has three issues from January, May, and July 1901.
- Proceedings of the . . . Annual Seminar. Richmond: Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, 1960-1977. 18 vols. Publication of the proceedings, including reports and papers, of the annual meetings of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association.
- Real Estate Practice Seminar. Richmond: Committee on Continuing Legal Education of the Virginia Law Foundation and the Real Property Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1983-. Contains in outline form all of the presentations offered at the real estate practice seminar. Topics of particular interest to attorneys who practice real estate law are selected for this seminar. Published annually.
- Recent Developments in the Law Seminar. Richmond: Joint Committee on Continuing Legal Education of Virginia State Bar Association and Virginia State Bar, 1975-. As its name suggests, this publication focuses on recent developments in the law. Features issues involving civil litigation, real estate, legal ethics, criminal litigation, taxation, and family law. Published annually.
- Regent University Law Review. Virginia Beach: Regent University, 1991-. Edited by the law students of Regent University. Includes lead articles and student-written notes and comments. Published biannually.
- Report of the Virginia State Bar Association. Richmond: The Virginia Bar Association, 1888-1975. 85 vols.; vol. 1 was reprinted by Richmond Press, 1937. Annual report informing Bar Association members of the annual Bar meeting events and Bar membership news. Volumes 33 to 85 issued under the title Proceedings of the Virginia State Bar Association. Supplanted by the Virginia Bar Association Journal. Offered the annual address delivered by a distinguished legal scholar, the presidential address, and other scholarly papers, as well as committee reports and obituaries of deceased members.
- Resolutions. Richmond: Department of Dispute Resolution Services, 1992-. Quarterly newsletter published by a department of the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Succeeds the Virginia Dispute Resolution Center Newsletter.
- The Richmond Bar. Richmond: The Bar Association of the City of Richmond, 1988-. Features announcements, notices, membership surveys, and a calendar of upcoming events for members of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond. Includes short articles and the column, "From Your President."
- Richmond Law. Richmond: The T. C. Williams School of Law, University of Richmond, Winter 1988-. Targeted at alumni, faculty, and other friends of the T. C. Williams School of Law. Features short articles, "class notes" (including changes in employment, professional recognition, births, marriages, and deaths), "Notes from the Dean's Office," and the "Faculty Forum." Published biannually.

- Senior Lawyer News. Richmond: Senior Lawyers Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1988-. Published for Virginia attorneys age 55 or older. Features issues unique to senior attorneys, such as retirement, pension plans, and Medicaid.
- State of the Judiciary Report. Richmond: Supreme Court of Virginia, 1975..

  Annual report of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Contains lists of all of the judges in Virginia and much statistical information about the state courts.
- The Supreme Court Economic Review. George Mason University Press, 1993.

  Annual publication sponsored by the Law and Economics Center and the School of Law of George Mason University.
- Trusts and Estates Newsletter. Richmond: Trusts and Estates Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1982-. Focuses on the planning of estates and trusts in Virginia. Contains section news, feature articles, and legislative updates. Published irregularly.
- University of Richmond Law Notes. Richmond: The T. C. Williams School of Law, University of Richmond, Spring 1958-Spring 1967. 2 vols. (5 annual nos. in each vol.). Forerunner to the University of Richmond Law Review. Featured articles discussing practical problems of current interest to the Virginia practitioner. J. Westwood Smithers, a member of the University of Richmond law faculty, edited the Law Notes from its inception until 1963, when it became a student-edited publication. Published annually.
- University of Richmond Law Review. Richmond: University of Richmond Law Review Association, Spring 1968-. Student-edited law review intended as a practical resource for the Virginia practitioner. The most popular issue is the Summer Survey of Virginia Law (published annually since 1985), which features articles that discuss and analyze recent decisions of Virginia and federal courts in addition to developments in the Virginia General Assembly. Published quarterly.
- UVA Lawyer. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Law School Alumni Association, 1987-. Newsletter published by and for the University of Virginia law alumni. Contains articles and news of the law school. First published three times a year, now biannually.
- Vabwa News. Richmond: Virginia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Fall 1990-. Quarterly newsletter with short articles and news items of interest to the members of the Virginia Association of Black Women Attorneys.
- VADA Newsletter. Richmond: Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, May 1976-June 1982. 7 vols. Featured articles of interest to Virginia defense attorneys and VADA administrative news, such as the "Treasurer's Report," the "President's Page," and "Minutes from VADA Meetings." Reports of civil cases and opinions and letters to the editor were staples of this quarterly newsletter. Continued by the VADA Quarterly, which in turn was succeeded by the Journal of Civil Litigation.

- VADA Quarterly. Richmond: Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, June 1982-Summer 1988. 5 vols. (vols. 8-12). The change in title from VADA Newsletter reflected the expanded functions of the periodical. Reported recent opinions from various courts and included articles on topics of interest to VADA members. Still included the "Treasurer's Report," the "President's Page," and "Minutes from VADA Meetings." Continued as the Journal of Civil Litigation in the Summer 1988 issue.
- Virginia Bar Association Journal. Richmond: Virginia Bar Association, January 1975-. Edited by Charles E. Friend since its inception. Features articles on Virginia law, a young lawyers section, a report on Virginia Bar Association proceedings, and the "President's Page." Supplanted the Virginia Bar Association Proceedings. Published quarterly.
- Virginia Bar News. Richmond: Virginia State Bar, 1953-1988. 36 vols. Informed Virginia practitioners on local bar activities. Included articles on judges and lawyers in the news, law-related advertisements and classifieds, professional notices, disciplinary orders, and ethics opinions. Published monthly.
- Virginia Bar Weekly. Richmond: Daily Record Co., 1941-1944. 3 vols. Legal newspaper "for Virginia's busy practicing attorneys," edited by Esther Sutro Weinberg, a member of the Virginia bar. Its primary function was to digest recent opinions of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, Virginia circuit courts, and federal courts sitting in Virginia. Also contained legal news items. Suspended publication because of the shortage of newsprint during the war.
- Virginia Business Law. Richmond: Business Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1987-. Includes a "Chairman's Report" (a message from the Chairman of the Business Section of the Virginia State Bar) and "Editor's Notes." Also has feature articles penned by members of the Virginia bar, and reports recent U.C.C., bankruptcy, and Virginia cases.
- Virginia Dispute Resolution Center Newsletter. Richmond: Virginia Dispute Resolution Center, 1988-1992. Funded by the Virginia Law Foundation, this newsletter was a joint project of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association. Included feature articles on dispute resolution, book and video reviews, and legislative updates. Superseded in 1992 by Resolutions.
- Virginia Environmental Law Journal. Charlottesville: Virginia Environmental Law Journal Association, Spring 1989-. Although not an official university publication, this quarterly is edited by University of Virginia law students. Originally the Virginia Journal of Natural Resources Law, the name was changed to convey to readers and potential contributing authors the journal's comprehensive scope. Has lead articles, case notes, and comments treating local, regional, national, and international environmental issues.
- Virginia Journal of International Law. Charlottesville: Virginia Journal of International Law Association, 1963-. Originally published as the Journal

- of the John Bassett Moore Society of International Law, this quarterly is edited by University of Virginia law students. The title was changed to demonstrate the periodical's changed emphasis from public international law to private, or commercial, problems of international law. Unlike its predecessor, the Virginia Journal of International Law often publishes student-written material.
- Virginia Journal of Natural Resources Law. Charlottesville: Virginia Journal of Natural Resources Law Association, Summer 1980-Fall 1988. 8 vols. Forerunner of the Virginia Environmental Law Journal, this publication was issued twice annually by law students of the University of Virginia.
- Virginia Land Use Digest. Lynchburg: Cenva Publishing Co., October 1990-. Attempts to provide a single forum to address land use and zoning issues. Feature articles deal with legal issues affecting land use planners and developers. Covers general assembly activity, recent case law, and attorney general opinions. Published irregularly, this periodical has been edited by William W. Hibbert, former Executive Director of the Central Virginia Planning District Commission, from its inception.
- Virginia Law Register. Lynchburg: J. P. Bell, May 1895-April 1915. 20 vols., o.s.; Charlottesville: The Michie Company, May 1915-April 1928. 13 vols., n.s. The old series, edited by E. C. Burks, was published to aid the Virginia practitioner through the use of four feature sections: full reports of leading cases, table of cases reported in full, table of cases digested, and the general index. In contrast, the new series, edited by R. T. W. Duke, featured editorials, book reviews, leading articles, and notes of cases. Burks and Duke were prominent and distinguished practicing lawyers.
- Virginia Law Review. Charlottesville: Virginia Law Review Association, October 1913-. Official publication of the University of Virginia. Edited by university law students and features lead articles and case notes. From 1920 to 1955, published a "Virginia Section" in each issue to inform the practitioner of recent case law, legislative activity, and developments in Virginia law. From 1955 to 1985, published an annual survey of Virginia law. Published monthly during the school year (eight issues annually).
- Virginia Law School Report. Charlottesville: University of Virginia School of Law, 1977-. Publication for the law alumni of the University of Virginia. First published three times a year, now biannually.
- Virginia Law Weekly. Charlottesville: University of Virginia School of Law, May 27, 1948-. Weekly newspaper by and for the law students of the University of Virginia. Not issued during holidays and examinations periods.
- Virginia Lawyer. Richmond: Virginia State Bar, 1988-. Beginning with volume 37, no. 1 (July 1988), this periodical shares volume numbering and alternates issues with Virginia Lawyer Register, which replaced the Virginia Bar News. Virginia Lawyer, with Virginia Lawyer Register, is the official publication of the Virginia State Bar. Lead articles are written

- by members of the bar. Also features professional notices, placement services, legal ethics opinions, monthly classified advertisements, and news concerning Virginia judges and lawyers.
- Virginia Lawyer Register. Richmond: Virginia State Bar, 1988-. Published alternately with the Virginia Lawyer. Reports recent disciplinary actions, a calendar of events for Bar members, classified advertisements, placement services, local bar elections, and news. Releases an annual Professional Guidelines for the Virginia Lawyer, which includes recent disciplinary opinions and professional ethical guidelines for the Virginia practitioner.
- Virginia Lawyers Weekly. Richmond: Virginia Lawyers Weekly, June 9, 1989-. Commercial weekly newspaper reporting developments in the Virginia legal community. Features include "This Week's Opinions" (digests opinions of courts affecting the practice of law in Virginia), "Local Bar News," "Professional Announcements," and "Lawyers in the News."
- Virginia Poverty Law Review. Richmond: Virginia Poverty Law Center, July 1980-. Written for the legal services community of Virginia. Reports recent case law on housing, family, employment, and consumer issues. Also has announcements and a calendar of events of interest to Virginia practitioners. Published monthly.
- The Virginia Researcher. Charlottesville: The Research Group, 1970-1988. 7 vols.

  Provided synopses of recent Virginia and federal case law. Earlier volumes had short articles. Issued monthly.
- Virginia Tax Newsletter. Richmond: Taxation Section of the Virginia State Bar, 1989. Focuses on issues of taxation. Features reports on section meetings, announcements, lead articles, legislative updates, and synopses of recent case law.
- Virginia Tax Review. Charlottesville: Virginia Tax Review Association, Spring 1981-. Exclusively devoted to taxation issues, this student-edited law review is the first of its kind in the United States. Not an official publication of the University of Virginia. Published quarterly.
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Law Letter. Richmond: Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, 1962-. Published seven times a year and accompanied by a packet of recent case synopses from the following courts: Federal District Court, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Virginia Supreme Court, Virginia Circuit Courts, the Virginia Court of Appeals, and the Workers' Compensation Commission. Includes a report from the Workers' Compensation Commission as well as a bulletin outlining the activities of the Virginia General Assembly entitled "Lawflash."
- Washington and Lee Law Review. Lexington: Washington and Lee Law Review Association, Fall 1939-. Student-edited law review. Summer issue features an annual review of securities and commodities law. Spring issue contains a comprehensive review of the decisions of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit for the past year. Published quarterly.

- The William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal. Williamsburg: Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary, 1992-. Law student publication published biannually.
- William and Mary Journal of Environmental Law. Williamsburg: Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary, c. 1975-. Law student publication founded as a newsletter. Published scholarly articles beginning with volume 15 in 1990. Published biannually.
- William and Mary Law Review. Williamsburg: Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary, 1957-. Student-edited quarterly offering opportunity for publication by members of every branch of the legal profession as well as for student legal composition and expression.
- The William and Mary Lawyer: The Annual Report of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law. Williamsburg: Marshall-Wythe School of Law, 1987-. Annual report of the law alumni association of the College of William and Mary.
- William and Mary Review of Virginia Law. Williamsburg: Department of Jurisprudence, College of William and Mary, May 1949-July 1956. 2 vols. Annual student-edited publication that provides an opportunity for student legal commentary. Forerunner of the William and Mary Law Review, this intramural law review featured case comments and notes. In 1956, the law review conducted a survey of Virginia case law.