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## Preface

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# PREFACE

The *University of Richmond Law Review* is pleased to present the thirtieth issue of the *Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. In 1985, the *Law Review* published the first edition of the *Annual Survey*, seeking to provide practitioners with a resource on Virginia law. To this day, the *Annual Survey* continues that mission. The *Annual Survey* is the only legal publication dedicated solely to recent developments in Virginia law. With this distinction, the *Law Review* is proud to continue the tradition of providing a comprehensive legal guide for Virginia lawyers.

The 2015 *Annual Survey* includes six articles or “updates” on substantive areas of the law including Bankruptcy Law, Civil Procedure, Criminal Law, Election Law, Taxation, and Wills, Trusts and Estates. Additionally, this book contains five essays discussing a variety of legal topics including, water resource rights, temporary injunctive relief, and animal welfare rights. Two essays specifically address topics important to the Virginia legal community in 2015: the thirtieth anniversary of the Virginia Court of Appeals and former Governor McDonnell’s conviction on federal corruption charges. Finally, the *Annual Survey* is proud to include two student-written comments addressing socioeconomic integration in Richmond area public schools and the need for providing body cameras to police throughout the Commonwealth.

The *Annual Survey* would not be possible without the practitioners, academics, and judges who contributed significant time to produce the articles found in this book. Each author has many responsibilities that extend beyond their profession. Nonetheless, they found time to contribute to legal scholarship. This scholarship not only makes the *Annual Survey* successful, but it also serves as a resource for the entire legal community. I am personally grateful to the authors for their contribution, and I have enjoyed working with each of them in building the 2015 *Annual Survey*.

This publication would also not be possible without the many dedicated *Law Review* staff members who worked countless hours during the editing process. These students balanced hectic schedules including the rigors of law school, the responsibilities of *Law Review*, and the obligations of family life. I would like to thank all *Law Review* staff members for their hard work in completing this book. I am particularly indebted to Tara Badawy and Paul Holdsworth for their significant guidance throughout the initial stages of publication. I deeply appreciated their counsel, and my success would not have been possible without their support. I would also like to thank the members of the *Law Review* Executive Board including Thomas DiStanislao, Jennifer Wong, Joseph Szesko, Steven Lippman, Ann Reid, and Jason Hodge. As board members, we may operate under the “umbrella policy,” but each of you played a critical role in the success of this book. I am extremely thankful for your hard work and support.

Of course, the glue that keeps this ship together is Glenice Coombs, the *Law Review*'s legal publication coordinator. Without her unfailing efforts, the *Law Review* would not survive. But Glenice holds another title, of greater importance, for which we owe much thanks. She is our friend. Glenice, the members of *Law Review*, past and present, are deeply grateful for your friendship and your presence in our lives.

Finally, I would like to thank my family. They may be small in number, but they are monumental figures in my life. Without their support, I could not have completed all the work required for this publication. Mom and Grandma, thank you for always providing me the tools to be successful—most importantly, your selfless love and compassion. Both of you inspire me everyday to be a better person. Rachel, thank you for your support and encouragement throughout these past three years of law school. You may not realize it, but you play an integral role in balancing my life. I am looking forward to all that the future has to offer!

I hope you enjoy this year's *Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. It has been an honor to serve as Editor for this distinguished publication. The challenges we face today may be daunting, but I am confident that the law, and those who seek to improve it, will provide the appropriate solutions. Hopefully this publication guides you in that endeavor.

John J. Hogan  
*Annual Survey Editor*