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## Acknowledgments

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Over the past year serving as Editor-in-Chief of the *University of Richmond Law Review*, I have read over 1,400 pages of legal scholarship. I have reviewed over 8,500 footnotes and even more sources. I have opened the Bluebook to consult the Table 6 abbreviations more times than I can count—or would ever want to admit. Nothing, however, has posed a more daunting challenge in my tenure than finding the right words to leave in these few pages here. After all Volume 56 and I have been through, after all we have accomplished, where does one even begin to completely yet briefly acknowledge the moments, memories, and people who brought this journal to where it is today?

I suppose the best place to start would be the beginning, but I will go back even further. When I was three years old, my mother, Sallyanne Sullivan, passed away from breast cancer. Being so young at the time, I have retained no personal memories of my mom. I never knew her. I had never heard her voice; I grew up never knowing how my own mom sounded. I would ask the occasional question or someone would tell the occasional story about her, but in my family, I got the sense that bringing up Mom was always a sensitive, painful topic. After all, whereas I effectively lost a stranger, my siblings (ages five, seven, nine, and eleven at the time) lost a mother whom they had years to know and love; my relatives lost a sister and a daughter; my father lost a wife. I carry my own pain, but I have never envied the pain brought upon the rest of my kin. Accordingly, I rarely asked, and rarely learned about, Sallyanne Sullivan.

It was not until my teenage years, when I was first considering a career in law, that I learned for the very first time that my mother—who I had always assumed stayed at home to raise her five children—was actually a lawyer herself. Not only that, but she graduated valedictorian from the University of Dayton School of Law, Class of 1989—with a one-year-old daughter. Not only that,

but she served as Editor-in-Chief of the *University of Dayton Law Review*, Volume 14. And not only that, but she was published in that journal—twice.<sup>1</sup> As I sat by a computer, a seventeen-year-old boy reading a quarter-century-old Comment dug up from the internet, for the very first time: I heard my mother's voice. It was at this moment when I learned of the importance and value of law journals—creating a platform where various, often previously silenced, voices can be heard—and when I vowed to follow in my mom's footsteps to become a lawyer, and Editor-in-Chief, myself.

Now, to the beginning. None of this would have ever been possible without the *University of Richmond Law Review* Volume 55 Editor-in-Chief, Lincoln Wolfe, allowing me this opportunity. Lincoln, you were an outstanding Editor-in-Chief and leader, and your vote of confidence in me meant the world. You kept this journal going through the COVID-19 pandemic and set a precedent of quality and professionalism that I could only hope to follow. Moreover, despite clerking for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, you would always happily take the time over the past year and let me vent to you over the phone for some solace and advice. Volume 56 worked hard this year to bring the *Law Review* back stronger than ever following the pandemic: we rebuilt our entire editorial process from the ground up to allow for online, remote editing; we brought back and re-envisioned in-person office hours with the Staff; and we resurrected COVID casualties like the annual Symposium and graduation day brunch. I wish you could have seen the liveliness of the *Law Review* that you deserved to see when you were at the helm, and as you read through these pages, I humbly hope you feel assured that you left this journal in the right hands.

While at the tail-end of the COVID-19 pandemic, Volume 56 still had plenty of its own adversity, and I must accordingly give my upmost thanks to our unwavering Staff. Closing the year with just twenty-seven Staff members—one of the smallest mastheads of this journal in its sixty-four-year history—this Staff still produced one of the largest volumes the *Law Review* has ever had. To our

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1. See generally Sallyanne K. Sullivan, *Banning the Pit Bull: Why Breed-Specific Legislation Is Constitutional*, 13 U. DAYTON L. REV. 279 (1988); Sallyanne K. Sullivan & Max Craig Feldman, *Imposing Criminal Liability on Those Who Knowingly Transmit the AIDS Virus: A Recommendation for Legislative Action*, 13 U. DAYTON L. REV. 489 (1988). I promised myself I would get my mother cited in my volume one way or another! Here you go, Mom.

Staff, I know such an accomplishment did not come without some grueling and exhausting weeks over this past year, but I hope you keep in mind all the fun memories we created together along the way: our resident sentient skeleton, *Supra*; the April Fool's joke about us publishing a fifth book during finals (sorry again about that); trying to figure out who on earth Tyson McDonald is and why he received a strike for wrongful termination.

More importantly, I hope all your hard work coming to fruition in these four published books leaves you with much-deserved satisfaction. You helped create a platform where numerous voices will be heard to continue shaping our collective understanding of law and justice for decades to come. And who knows, maybe one day, twenty-five years from now, something you helped publish will change a life forever—just like a 1988 Comment changed mine.

To our Articles Editors—Ave, Madison, James, Jasmine, Michaela, Grant, and Peter—thank you for the endless patience and mentorship you provided the Staff. Watching the Staff members grow over this past year into diligent, meticulous editors was a proud sight to behold, and I owe immense gratitude for the role you played in their development.

To our Manuscripts Editors—Julia, Noland, Kimberly, Amelia, Gavin, Sapir, and Thomas—thank you for your invaluable assistance in helping our final editors prepare pieces for publication, and thank you for your cooperation in joining office hours this year to further supervise and mentor the Staff. I received plenty of pushback when first making that change, but I hope when you look back on all the laughs and memories you had with the Staff, and how positively it shaped the Staff's experiences this year, that you are as happy and proud of the role you all played for this journal as I am.

To our Articles and Comments Editors—Gaby, Ryan, and Carlos—thank you for your help selecting phenomenal, groundbreaking pieces for publication in our Volume. We covered a wide array of legal areas and topics this year, with something to pique the interest of any reader opening each book. Thank you also for helping each Staff member meet their annual scholarship requirement and for taking on the added task of conducting book proofs. At times, your fresh eyes were pivotal in catching what the weary eyes of us final editors could not.

To our Associate Editors—our Associate Online Editors, Dylan, Ben, and Lily, and our Associate Symposium Editor, Hannah—thank you for the support you provided to our Online and Symposium forums. The *University of Richmond Law Review Online* continues to grow more and more each year and is the undeniable future of our journal. I was also so proud to see the Symposium return with a resounding success, addressing topical discussions on public health law in the wake of this pandemic.

I feel incredibly humbled and privileged to have worked with such an outstanding group of editors and future lawyers, but never more so than when working with our Executive Board. When asked by the Volume 55 Editorial Board why I wanted the role of Editor-in-Chief, I frankly responded that it was because I thought there was someone more specialized and better suited for each of the Executive Board positions. I view the Editor-in-Chief position as a support role, floating across the various spheres of the *Law Review* and assisting others in maximizing their more specific potential. I knew I would not be the best Managing Editor or Symposium Editor, so I instead told Volume 55 to give me the best in each of those positions. And from the moment the Volume 56 masthead was first announced to the day I am writing these acknowledgments, I knew that is exactly what I got.

Emily Fahey, I have always been amazed by your intelligence and competence. At times, I wondered if it should have been you leading Volume 56, but I am incredibly thankful to have instead had your leadership at the helm of the Unified Journal Competition. We endured an unprecedented competition this past summer, yet we remained resilient and managed to compose, as explained above, one of the most impressive *Law Review* Staffs in this journal's history. Also, your editing skills were always exceptional, and I greatly appreciate your contributions to our publication.

Maya Ravindran, thank you for your unending positivity and humor, even during those stressful March and August months of Article solicitation. I will always look back at those memories together, whether it was dealing with you-know-who or that one insane time you were doxxed on Twitter (I still cannot believe that happened), and I will laugh because you helped us overcome all of it and nonetheless procure phenomenal pieces of legal scholarship for our volume—all with that contagious smile on your face.

Tesia Kempfski, thank you for your dedicated service to making the *University of Richmond Law Review Online* what it is today, but thank you even more for being an ideal teammate and one of the most genuine people I have ever met. At the worst of times, when most questions I faced were “What piece are you editing now?” or “What is the next deadline you must meet?” you were always the one to ask the more important questions of “How are you doing?” or “Do you have anything fun planned this weekend?” You always kept things in perspective and supported me as a human being just as much as Editor-in-Chief. For that especially, you have my endless gratitude.

Caroline Jaques, you were the most qualified and impactful Managing Editor this journal has ever had. You went to bat for us with the Richmond Law administration on several occasions. You overhauled our budget, subscriber list, and other internal processes to make this journal more efficient for years to come. And you were instrumental in bringing back important *Law Review* traditions like social gatherings, the annual Symposium, and our *Law Review* brunch the morning of graduation. On our last day as Richmond Law students, our friends and families finally got to see us in our capacities as *Law Review* members, all thanks to you.

Andy O’Connell, for all the work you did to produce an impressive *Annual Survey of Virginia Law* this year, I most wish to acknowledge all the work you did for this journal that is not shown by anything we published. You provided irreplaceable assistance in the creation of the *Law Review’s* first ever *Guidebook*, a one-stop manual covering all of our journal’s procedures, policies, and internal consistency rules. You and I worked tirelessly this year strategizing with the Richmond Law administration to obtain academic credit for *Law Review* members—much-deserved compensation that I am confident our journal will soon obtain as a result of the groundwork we laid. Finally, you always kept the Staff’s morale in mind and always went the extra mile to ensure everyone was mentally healthy and motivated. For all these thankless tasks you took on unprompted, I thank you now.

Ren Warden, you have no idea how excited I was to hear that my close friend and coworker from Boston was transferring to Richmond Law, joining the *Law Review*, and becoming the Symposium Editor for the Volume 56 Executive Board. The other Executive Board members showed me their strong work ethics and leadership qualities over this past year, but I knew of yours already. You

helped roar the *Law Review* back from the COVID-19 pandemic to put on a spectacular Symposium event and book for our journal. Thank you for endless dedication to Volume 56—and distracting me with obscure fun facts that I may or may not have appreciated at the time. I am so proud to have known you as a coworker and as a fellow editor, but I am even more thankful that I will get to know you as a lifelong friend.

Mary Grace Whitten, you said we sat next to each other in our first-year legal writing class, and I still do not believe you. Apparently, you tried starting conversations with me, but I was too focused on work to notice. If that was the case (again, up for debate), after looking back on our past year together, that was a grave mistake on my part—one which I am happy I had the chance to remedy in working with you as the Volume 56 Editor-in-Chief and Executive Editor this year. When applying for this role, I was asked by the Volume 55 Editorial Board with whom, if I did end up serving as Editor-in-Chief, I would want to work as my Executive Editor. I told them I wanted a partner who could swap places with me as the leader of this journal at a moment's notice. They gave me exactly what I needed in choosing you. Thank you for the countless hours you have dedicated to this journal over the past year. Thank you for keeping the internal operations of our journal running smoothly at all times while I focused on which commas get italicized. And thank you most for making me laugh every day we were in the office together. I could not have asked for a better partner.

There is one final member of the *Law Review* team I must thank, but for whom I could never condense my overwhelming appreciation into words: Glenice Coombs, the *Law Review's* Legal Publications Coordinator. I have no idea what I did to deserve being the fortieth and final Editor-in-Chief to serve alongside Glenice, but I am so blessed to say I was. Glenice, your career dedication to the high quality and standards of this journal is only surpassed by the love and kindness you have shown to the hundreds of students who have worked on it over the years. The *University of Richmond Law Review* alumni network consists of some of the most prominent attorneys and judges in Virginia and across this country, and each one has nothing but the upmost gratitude to have had the opportunity to work with you. For the past year, you liked to call me your “boss.” For the rest of my life, I am lucky to call you my dear friend. I hope I helped end your time on the *Law Review* on a high note.

The journal is where it is today because of the hard work and commitment of those mentioned above, but I am where I am today because of the love and support of my friends and family. Kate Gow, the love of my life and the designated “First Lady of the *Law Review*,” thank you for your incomparable empathy and support this past year, the past nine years, and every year to come. You make everything around you better, including me, and I cannot wait to marry you this September. Thank you also to Fenchurch, Roethke, and Junji for welcoming me home and making me smile dozens of times each day.

Damian and Jayden Hondares, thank you for your irreplaceable friendship, and to their newborn Ruby Hondares, I cannot wait to know the person you will become and share all these memories surrounding your birth with you. To the late Tim Edwards, thank you for showing me how far kindness and respect to others can take you. To my stepmother, Patricia Sullivan, thank you for filling a void in my life. I am proud to call you Mom.

I could never explain how much I owe to my father, Mark Sullivan. Yes, my late mother was the spiritual force that drove me to law school and the *Law Review*, but my father is the one who has been by my side my entire life, pushing me towards this moment. For all the remarkable accomplishments my mother achieved in her life, the accomplishments of my father after her life are even more extraordinary. At one point, he was left to raise five young children all on his own—and he did it. He faced an eleven-hour commute from Malvern, Pennsylvania, to Greenville, South Carolina, just to keep his children in the same school with their childhood friends—and he did it. He remarried and was suddenly tasked with providing a quality life for eight children and sending each one of them to college—and he did it.

Dad, you are a remarkable man and I strive every day to meet your drive, loyalty, and selflessness. Thank you for everything you have done for me and our family. Thank you for the constant support as I strive to do everything for mine. And thank you for teaching me that I never needed to hear Mom’s voice—because I *am* her voice.

Finally, to my late mother, Sallyanne Sullivan: thank you for bringing me to this moment I have dreamed about the past decade. From one Editor-in-Chief to another, I hope I made you proud.

It has been my humble honor to serve as the fifty-sixth Editor-in-Chief of the *University of Richmond Law Review*, and it is now my distinct pleasure to proudly present the final issue of Volume 56. Let the voices be heard.

Christopher J. Sullivan  
*Editor-in-Chief*