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Preface

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PREFACE

The *University of Richmond Law Review* proudly presents the thirty-eighth issue of the *Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. Since 1985, the *Annual Survey* has served as a guiding tool for practitioners and students to stay abreast of recent legislative, judicial, and administrative developments in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Today, the *Annual Survey* is the most widely read publication of the *Law Review*, reaching lawyers, judges, legislators, and students in every corner of the Commonwealth.

This issue of the *Annual Survey of Virginia Law* contains four Judicial and Legislative Updates, each providing summaries of changes in the last year to substantive areas of the law. The topics of these thorough and well-written updates include Civil Practice and Procedure; Criminal Law and Procedure; Taxation; and Wills, Trusts, and Estates. This issue also contains two captivating Articles—one that provides a critical analysis of Virginia’s current procedural landscape governing child dependency cases and legal representation for parents, and one that explains the intersection between abortion law and victims of sexual and domestic violence. The issue also includes a student Comment written by a *University of Richmond Law Review* Executive Board member, which discusses data centers and how Virginia’s corporate income tax can be utilized to tax the value attributable to data.

The enduring *Annual Survey* tradition is made possible by the thoughtfulness and talent of our authors, many of whom contribute to the *Annual Survey* every year. Each piece is a culmination of expertise and sacrificed time in the name of legal scholarship. I am deeply grateful for these authors’ continued kindness and commitment to our publication and its mission of serving Virginia’s legal community.

I would also like to extend sincerest thanks to the *Law Review* staff and Editorial Board for their careful editing and hard work. Throughout the summer and fall, the members of *Law Review* self-

lessly dedicate their time and effort to perfect the already incredible pieces. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for what you all have done behind the scenes. Thank you also to our faculty advisors, Professors Jessica Erickson and Carl Tobias, for their continued guidance and mentorship.

To my fellow Executive Board members, thank you for your concerted effort in fine-tuning the details and putting this book together. To Caleb Briggs, thank you for your thoughtful leadership. To Kim Furtado, thank you for your unparalleled attention to detail and willingness to help. To Zoë Jackson, thank you for always inspiring me with your genuine passion for the law. To Callie Loveland, thank you for your unwavering support. Abby Dreiling, thank you for always cheering me on from our office corner. To Sam Owens, thank you for being my sounding board whenever I needed it. To Mariah Riley, thank you for everything you do to further the success of the journal. And finally, to Coleman Cheeley, thank you for your patience and for being so willing to work with me on anything and everything. I am so grateful to share this experience with each and every one of you.

Finally, thank you to my loving and supportive friends and family. Special thanks to my parents, Michael and Andrea, and my brothers, Michael and Jakob, for all of their unconditional love and support. And, of course, thank you to Matt Thomas for always believing in me. I would not be where I am today without you all.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Editor for this distinguished publication. We hope this year's *Annual Survey of Virginia Law* serves as a valuable resource in your legal practice. Thank you for your continued readership and patronage.

Alexandra M. Voehringer
Annual Survey Editor