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## Governance

### [Volunteers Sought to Run for VSB Council Vacancies](#)

VSB Council, the Virginia State Bar's governing body, will hold its annual elections by electronic ballot in April 2024 for terms beginning July 1. Make sure your contact information is current before March 15 to ensure that you are eligible to run and to vote in your circuit – and that you receive the ballot.



### [Supreme Court of Virginia Approves LEO 1900; Amends Two Rules](#)

On January 4, 2024, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved LEO 1900 effective immediately, and amended Rules 8.4 and 1A:8 effective March 4, 2024.

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## Compliance

2023 MCLE hours must be reported and outstanding 2023 MCLE delinquency fees must be paid by **March 15, 2024**, 4:45 pm ET. Failure to report hours and/or satisfy outstanding delinquency fees will result in administrative suspension.



Pay fees online using the [VSB Member Portal](#). Visa, Mastercard, and American Express are acceptable forms of payment.

[Review MCLE deadline information](#). Please contact the [MCLE Department](#) with questions.

**In 2024, reminders to pay your dues will be emailed and dues statements will not be mailed**, so please keep your email current with the VSB as required by Part 6, Sec. IV, Para. 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. **Sign in** to make sure you have also joined the sections and conferences you are interested in!

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## Volunteers Needed to Regulate the Profession



### **President-elect Michael York Seeks Members for VSB Committees**

Michael York, president-elect of the VSB, seeks active and in-good-standing Virginia lawyers willing to serve on special and standing committees in 2024.

### **Local Disciplinary District Committees 2024**

Attorneys and lay members are needed to serve beginning on July 1, 2024. Applications close February 28, 2024.

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## Discipline

Disciplinary hearings are public meetings found on the disciplinary docket and on the VSB calendar.

### **Recent disciplinary system actions:**

**Nema Sayadian**, license revoked, effective December 29, 2023.

**John Kedrich Evans III**, license suspended, effective January 11, 2024.

**Jared Ryan Jenkins**, license suspended, effective January 17, 2024. Stayed, pending appeal.

**Steven Scott Biss**, license suspended, effective January 26, 2024.

**Denis Charles Englisby**, license suspended, effective January 27, 2024.

**Patrick Lynn Edwards**, license suspended, effective January 30, 2024.

**Cameron Wade Gilbert**, license suspended, effective January 31, 2024.

**Thomas Charles Mason III**, public reprimand, effective January 10, 2024.

**Private discipline:** 3 private admonitions.

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## Pro Bono / Access to Legal Services

**Get paid to participate in a new access to legal services initiative.** Fairfax County Access to Counsel (ACE) Program needs attorneys. ACE is an eviction program to increase access to legal representation for those unable to afford an attorney. **Lawyers receive training and are eligible for flat fee compensation of \$500 for each client they assist**, once meeting the eligibility requirements for the CLE course hosted by LSNV.

**Apply:** <https://bit.ly/FFXACEapp>

**Questions?** Email: [FFXACEAdmin@facetscares.org](mailto:FFXACEAdmin@facetscares.org)



### Pro Bono Award Nominations

Nominations for the **Oliver White Hill Law Student Pro Bono Award** and the **Frankie Muse Freeman Organizational Pro Bono Award** are now open. The deadline to submit for both awards is **Friday, March 29**. Information on both awards may be found on the [Access to Legal Services awards page](#).

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## Awards



**Howard E. Gwynn**, Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Newport News, receives the **Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award** from the Virginia State Bar Criminal Law Section. The Carrico Award recognizes an individual "who has made a singular and unique contribution to the improvement of the criminal justice system in the Commonwealth of Virginia." Read more about Gwynn [on the VSB website](#).

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**Nominate a Colleague!**



Nominations are being sought for the **Annual Tradition of Excellence Award**. This award recognizes lawyers who embody the highest tradition of personal and professional excellence in Virginia, enhance the image and esteem of attorneys in the Commonwealth, and have devoted significant amounts of time, efforts, and/or funds to activities that benefit their community. **Deadline: April 1, 2024.**

Recognize an exceptional young lawyer by nominating them for the R. Edwin Burnette Jr. **Young Lawyer of the Year Award**. The deadline to submit a nomination is **March 29**. This award honors an outstanding young Virginia lawyer who has demonstrated dedicated service to the Young Lawyers Conference, the legal profession and the community and is presented at the 2024 VSB Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach. **View a list of past recipients.**

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## Upcoming CLE and Events: Plan to Attend

The **54th Annual Criminal Law Seminar** will be held on February 2 in Charlottesville and February 9 in Williamsburg. This premiere CLE offers 6.0 hours (1.0 Ethics) credit. Keynote speakers are the **Hon. Penney S. Azcarate**, chief judge, Fairfax County Circuit Court, (Feb. 9) and **Benjamin G. Chew** of Brown Rudnick (Feb. 2). Both Judge Azcarate and Chew participated in the highly-publicized case *Depp v. Heard* in 2022.



The VSB **Bar Leaders Institute** (BLI) will be held on Friday, March 8, 2024, at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture in Richmond. **Please note that this is a change of venue.** Current and prospective bar leaders are encouraged to attend a 1 hour CLE/Ethics (pending). **Justice Cleo E. Powell**, Supreme Court of Virginia, will be the keynote speaker.

### **Bankruptcy Practice Seminar, Richmond, 3.0 (Pending)**

Friday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Join us in-person, webcast, or by telephone.

The **Diversity Conference** will host the 4th Annual **Forum on Diversity in the Legal Profession** on Friday, March 15, at the Jepson Alumni Executive Center at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

**Save the Date: 40th Annual Advanced Family Law Seminar**

The region's premier Family Law CLE, held at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond. Thursday, April 18, 9:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m. 6.0 (Ethics: 1.0) *Pending*

Register for the entirely virtual **VSB Techshow**. Registrants can receive up to 7 hours Live CLE/4 hours Ethics credit the day of the conference (April 29) and can get up to 13 total hours of CLE/5 hours of Ethics (approval pending) for just \$50 by watching on-demand sessions they miss live.

The **Leroy Rountree Hassell Sr. Indigent Criminal Defense Seminar** will be in-person only, Friday, May 3, in Richmond, Weyers Cave, and Wytheville.

The **VSB Annual Meeting** will be held in Virginia Beach from May 29–June 1.

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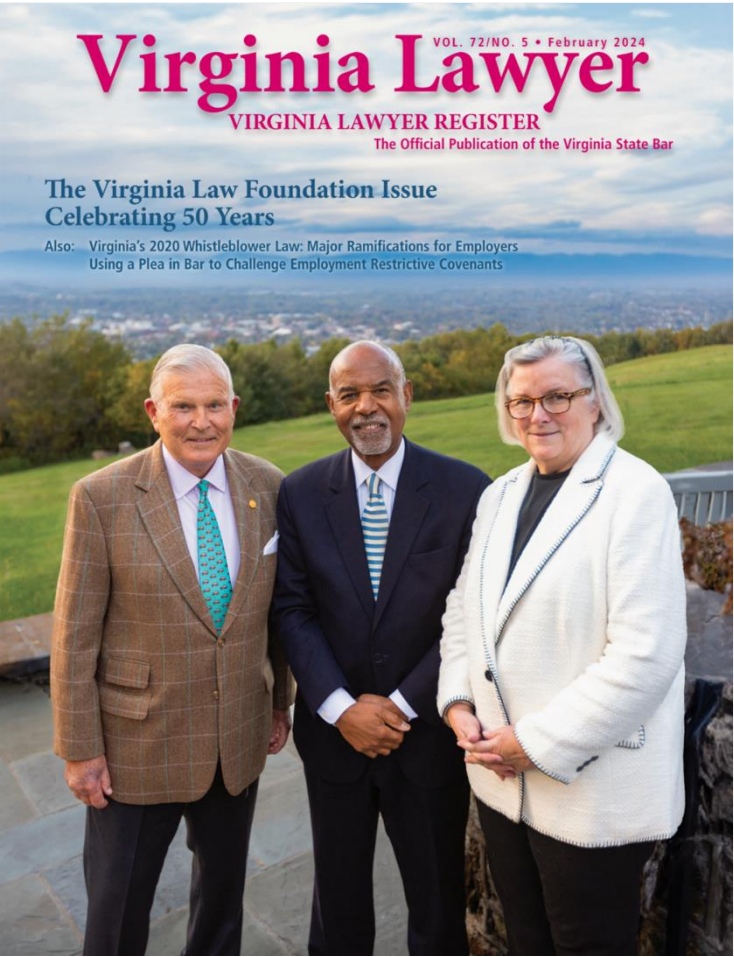
**Your Malpractice Insurance Costs:**

Do you know what factors can affect the cost of your law firm insurance? ALPS knows finding the right insurance options to protect your firm can be both frustrating and time-consuming. That's why they've put together this guide outlining the top 5 things impacting policy costs. ALPS makes insurance easy so you can get back to doing what you do best - practicing law. [Free guide here.](#)



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**Virginia Lawyer magazine and Advertising**



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