



Executive Committee Meeting

April 29, 2026

Virtual



Virginia State Bar

1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

AGENDA

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 12 noon

I. Reports and Information Items	Tab
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B. Request for Approval of Nominating Committee Appointment Recommendations for 2026-27: Disciplinary Board and American Bar Association House of Delegates Michael M. York, Immediate Past President; Chair, Nominating Committee	5
C. Request for Approval of Funds Solicitation Request for Access to Legal Services Janet P. Van Cuyk, Deputy Executive Director	6

The mission of the Virginia State Bar is (1) to protect the public, (2) to regulate the legal profession in Virginia, (3) to advance access to legal services, and (4) to assist in improving the legal profession and the judicial system.

Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

April 29, 2026

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| D. | Approval of Grant and Donations Solicitation Request for the Real Property Section
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II. Notice of Upcoming Meetings, Receptions and Dinners

12 noon, Wednesday, June 3, 2026, Executive Committee meeting

- Hilton Garden Inn, 3315 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach

6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2026, Council Reception and Dinner

- Hilton Garden Inn, 3315 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach

9:15 a.m., Thursday, June 4, 2026, Council meeting

- Hilton Garden Inn, Nautilus Ballroom, 3315 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach

TAB 1



Virginia State Bar
1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 24219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

Date: April 29, 2026
To: Executive Committee
From: Cameron M. Rountree
Executive Director
Re: Executive Director's Report for April 2026

I. President's Report (substitute)

- Chief Justice Powell's investiture (Richmond, March 2, 2026)
- VSB Bar Leadership Institute (Richmond, March 6, 2026)
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Convention (White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, March 20, 2026)

II. VSB in a Snapshot

VSB Members by member class 04/06/2026

Class	Number	Since Last Report	Since Last Year
Active	32,703	+34	+223
Associate	13,303	-14	-118
Disabled	214	-1	+3
Emeritus	42	+1	+8
Judicial	996	+8	+21
Limited Admission	1,262	+5	+119
Pending	5	-1	-15
Retired	6,377	+7	+386
Total	54,902	+39	+627

III. Strategic Plan Update

As a reminder, the four goals of the VSB Strategic Plan are to:

1. Operate from a position of financial health;
2. Strengthen cohesion among members and advance pathways for service in the VSB;
3. Best serve members and advance solutions designed to navigate a changing legal landscape; and
4. Advance access to legal services for all Virginians.

The committees of competent jurisdiction and staff have executed this direction, and I can report the following updates associated with each goal:

- Financial health:
 - Our dues cap bill, HB 276, was amended to increase the statutory limit on VSB dues from \$250 to \$350 and passed the General Assembly conference on March 12. The bill was signed by Governor Spanberger on April 13! While not exactly what the VSB was seeking (i.e., removal of the statutory limit) a \$100 increase will provide additional running room for the VSB to accommodate growing expenses.
- Cohesion & Pathways: Sue Tarley will make new Committee assignments the day after this meeting. This will be an opportunity to engage new members in VSB volunteer activities.
- Changing Legal Landscape: no changes since the February report.
- Advance Access: at this meeting, the VSB will request permission to solicit funds to hire a grant-funded lawyer to assist the VSB Access to Legal Services Department. The privately raised funds will be distributed to the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation and then to the VSB for a one year term position. More details can be found in the meeting materials.

As these efforts continue, I will provide further updates in this report.

IV. President-elect designate

Bruce H. Russell II, of Bruce H. Russell II, P.C. and Abingdon, Virginia, will be the 2026–2027 president-elect of the Virginia State Bar (VSB). Bruce has practiced law for over 25 years and, in that time, has served as a prosecutor, law professor, member of a small firm, and solo practitioner. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and his law degree from the University of Richmond School of Law.

Bruce is currently the chair of the VSB Bench-Bar Relations Committee and a member of several other VSB entities, including Council, the Executive Committee, the Professionalism Course Faculty, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the Local and Specialty Bar Section. He has previously served on the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee and the Entry, Growth & Distribution of Virginia Attorneys Study Committee.

Bruce will succeed Sue Tarley, who will ascend to the role of VSB president on July 1.
Congratulations Bruce!

V. Finances

Now that the Governor signed HB 276, the VSB will be provided with a pathway for some financial relief that could result in the summer of 2027 (effective FY 2028).

The sequential process I announced at the March 1, 2025 Council meeting is underway and, if successful, the plan is envisioned to progress as follows:

- i. VSB solicits public comment regarding legislative activity to amend Va. Code § 54.1-3912 (March 2025).
- ii. Council recommends that the SCV approve VSB legislative activity concerning the statutory cap (June 2025).
- iii. SCV approves legislative activity (September 2025) (this is also when Council members are empowered to approach General Assembly members on behalf of the VSB).
- iv. VSB petitions General Assembly to amend code (before and during the 2026 session).
- v. General Assembly amends Va. Code § 54.1-3912 and Governor signs bill (estimated to be late April 2026). (**NOW**)
- vi. VSB B&F Committee makes recommendations concerning amendments to Para. 11 regarding the reserve fund balance threshold necessary for any proposed dues increase and any proposed new dues amount (June 2026).
- vii. VSB solicits public comment about amending the provision in Part 6, Sec. IV, Para. 11 regarding the prohibition on raising dues unless the reserve fund balance is less than 15% of the previous year's operating expenditures (estimated: June 2026).
- viii. VSB solicits public comment about amending the provision in Part 6, Sec. IV, Para. 11 setting active member VSB dues at \$250 and associate member VSB dues at \$125 (estimated: June 2026).
- ix. Council recommends that the SCV amend both provisions of Part 6, Sec. IV, Para. 11 (estimated: October 2026).
- x. SCV approves amendments to Part 6, Sec. IV, Para. 11 (estimated: December 2026).

- xi. Dues increase effective: June 2027.

VI. Council Elections

The following candidates have been elected to begin terms on Council July 1st filling uncontested vacancies:

Circuit	Member	Term Extension	Note
1	Madeline Woodruff	(2029/1)	replaces D.J. Hansen
2	Naveed Kalantar	(2029/1)	replaces Jake Denton
2	Vanessa Yearick	(2029/1)	replaces Bretta Lewis
10	Allen Nash	(2029/1)	replaces E.M. Wright
13	Brielle Hunt	(2029/1)	replaces Jonathan Petty
15	Sheila Holmes	(2029/1)	replaces Allen Bareford
25	Charlie Moore	(2029/1)	replaces Brian Richardson
28	Dove Goodpaster	(2029/1)	replaces Bruce Russell

The following candidates have been elected to continuing terms on Council July 1st:

Circuit	Member	Term Extension	Note
4	Cas Richardson	(2029/2)	
7	Patrick Murphrey	(2029/2)	
9	Andy Dean	(2029/1)	Filled Sue Tarley's unexpired term.
11	Dale Pittman	(2029/2)	
14	Will Egen	(2029/2)	
14	Joel McClellan	(2029/2)	
18	Sebastian Norton	(2029/2)	
19	Chidinma Harley	(2029/2)	
19	Paul Melnick	(2029/2)	
20	Marie Washington	(2029/2)	

The following circuits have vacancies for the 2026-27 term due to a failure of sufficient candidates. A call for a special election will be scheduled later:

Circuit	Member	Term Extension	Note
13	Mark Dix	(2027/2)	Resigned for health reasons.
19	Luis Perez	(2026/2)	Term limited.
19	Gina Schaeche	(2026/1)	Not seeking a second term.

VII. The Landscape for Mandatory Bars

As many may be aware, on March 5 the US Department of Justice (the Department) proposed a regulation entitled, "Review of State Bar Complaints and Allegations Against Department of Justice Attorneys" in which the Department proposed to establish a process for reviewing bar complaints and allegations against its attorneys. Under the proposed rule, before a current or former

Department lawyer may participate in any investigative steps initiated by the bar disciplinary authority of a State, Territory, or the District of Columbia in response to allegations that a current or former Department attorney violated an ethics rule while engaging in that attorney's federal duties, the Department will have the right to review the allegations in the first instance and shall request that the bar disciplinary authority suspend any parallel investigations until the completion of the Department's review.

As of April 7, one day after the comment period closed, over 47,000 comments were received, the majority (presumably) opposed the proposal. Several similarly situated bar organizations (e.g., NC, GA, WA) and the Conference of Chief Justices (of which Chief Justice Powell is a board member) also criticized the proposal.

The Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia vest in COLD “[a]ll powers and duties of Council, with respect to the Disciplinary System” and that those powers “may be exercised by COLD, subject to the direction and control of Council.” COLD considered the issue and given the short suspense, *inter alia*, did not comment. Silence is not acquiescence to the proposal and the VSB will operate routinely.

The fate of the proposed regulation is currently unknown.

VII. Early Agenda for FY27

- ABA HOD resolution—create a clear VSB policy or bylaw amendment affirming that VSB-appointed delegates act in their individual capacity and allowing any Virginia lawyer to seek appointment by Council, without the filtering mechanism of the VSB Nominating Committee, to provide clearer separation and more latitude for VSB-appointed delegates to act in the HOD.
- Paragraph 11 dues increase—propose an amendment to the Rules of Court to alter the annual dues amount and threshold at which to request same from the Court.
- Leadership training reform—consider creating a leadership training forum and/or whether to merge it with the existing LSBS BLI.
- Court of Appeals (CAV) expansion—prepare for a potential CAV expansion and conduct interviews and generate a report by the VSB JCEC.
- EGAD-VA—prepare for follow up assignments from the SCV and/or GA regarding the EGAD report; plan future events in 2027.

VIII. Rule Changes, Regulations, and Other Information

- The following is an update on VSB action items submitted to the SCV since the February Council meeting:
 - Proposed Amendment to RPC 1.9: Council approved for submission to the SCV an amendment to Rule 1.9(c) that would permit a lawyer to use information gained in the course of the representation of a former client to the disadvantage of that former client if the information is limited to criminal history information that is available from public records in a law enforcement database or court records. The proposal was submitted to the SCV on March 9 and was approved at the Court's April 9 business meeting. An Order is forthcoming.
 - UPR Amendment: Council approved for submission to the SCV an amendment to the Unauthorized Practice Rules that would permit certain non-lawyers to answer questions about or otherwise assist with identifying, selecting, or completing a form prescribed by the Supreme Court of Virginia or other tribunal. The proposed rule also permits those persons to review the form to determine whether it has been completed with all required information and to assist with completing the form if a person is unable to do so because of disability, literacy, or language barriers. The proposal was submitted to the SCV on March 9 and is awaiting a decision.
- The VSB is soliciting input on the following:
 - The Virginia State Bar (VSB) seeks public comment on the use of nondisclosure or confidentiality provisions or agreements pursuant to or contained in settlement agreements reached in civil actions for personal injury arising from an unlawful act that would constitute criminal sexual assault, commercial sex trafficking, or other sexual offense that occurred during the infancy or incapacity of the injured person. The Virginia General Assembly's Senate Courts of Justice Committee has directed the VSB to study and make recommendations on this topic by November 1, 2026. The VSB Legal Ethics Committee requests comments on any aspect of the topic, to include policy or legal ethics considerations.
- There are immediate volunteer vacancies to be filled. Please visit the VSB [website](#) (homepage → Lawyers → Volunteer Bar Service Opportunities → click "List of

Vacancies”) for the most up-to-date list of vacancies and more information on how to apply.

IX. VSB Personnel Changes

Since the Executive Committee’s February 27, 2026, meeting, three staff members have resigned.

- Meetings Coordinator Jordan A. Harris resigned effective March 10.
- Executive Assistant to the Clerk Sylvia S. Daniel resigned effective March 31.
- Assistant Clerk Jennifer Ramos resigned effective April 17.

We wish our former colleagues the best of luck and success in their career endeavors.

X. Military Leave

I will begin my military leave of absence on Friday, May 1, 2026. As mentioned in the February report, in my absence, Janet Van Cuyk will serve as the Acting Executive Director, and DaVida Davis will serve as the Acting Deputy Executive Director.

XI. Upcoming VSB Events

May 2026

May 08 | Antitrust Law Section Board Meeting, Virtual
May 11 | MCLE Board Meeting, Richmond
May 12 | Technology and the Future Practice of Law Committee Meeting, Richmond
May 12 | Lawyer Insurance Committee Meeting, Richmond
May 13 | 44th Annual Real Estate Practice Seminar, Norfolk
May 15 | Disciplinary Board Hearings, Varied
May 15 | Solo & Small-Firm Practitioner Forum, Culpeper
May 19 | Health Law Section Board Meeting, Virtual
May 20 | 44th Annual Real Estate Practice Seminar, Fairfax
May 20 | Administrative Law Section Board Meeting, Richmond
May 21 | Legal Ethics Committee Meeting, Richmond

June 2026

Jun 03 | 2026 VSB Annual Meeting—June 3–6, Virginia Beach

TAB 2



Virginia State Bar

1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

To: Virginia State Bar Executive Committee

From: Crystal T. Hendrick, Finance/Procurement Director

Date: April 3, 2026

Re: Financial Report as of February 28, 2026

The February 2026 financial report is attached for your review. The revenue detail is on page 3. As of February 28, 2026, we collected approximately \$13.0 million. The total collected for bar dues, the largest source of revenue, was approximately \$10.0 million.

The expenditure data is summarized in pages 5 and 6. As of February 28, 2026, total expenditures were approximately \$10.6 million.

The Administration and Finance Account is reflected on pages 7 and 8. This account manages the receipts and expenses for the annual meeting. The cash balance as of February 28, 2026, was approximately \$212,000.

The Clients' Protection Fund (CPF) is reflected on pages 9 and 10. The CPF board makes monetary awards to people who have suffered financial losses because of the dishonest conduct of Virginia lawyers. As of February 28, 2026, the fund balance was approximately \$10.1 million.

The long-range projections as of February 28, 2026, follow this memo. The report is used as a planning tool to project future revenue, expenditures, and cash balances.

Please contact me if you have questions concerning the financial data. I can be reached at (804) 775-0523 or hendrick@vsb.org.

Attached: Long-Range Projections
February 2026 Financial Report

**VIRGINIA STATE BAR
LONG RANGE PROJECTIONS
OPERATING PLAN SUMMARY
AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

**FY 2026 3% Salary Increase and 2% Bonus - FY 2027, FY 2028 and FY 2029 2% Salary Increase
No Dues Increase**

As of the end of FY:	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL	2023 ACTUAL	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2026 PROJECT. (5)	2027 PROJECT. (6)	2028 PROJECT. (7)	2029 PROJECT. (8)	2030 PROJECT.
Operating Revenue (1)	13,220,617	13,778,275	13,705,753	13,608,130	13,895,178	14,195,000	14,031,850	14,027,850	14,031,850	14,027,850
Less: Operating Expenditures (1)	12,265,449	12,846,137	14,512,629	14,456,486	14,558,258	15,200,000	15,522,000	15,790,000	16,040,000	16,060,000
Contributions To/(From) Operating Reserve	955,168	932,138	(806,876)	(848,356)	(663,080)	(1,005,000)	(1,490,150)	(1,762,150)	(2,008,150)	(2,032,150)
Add: Beginning Operating Reserve Balance	6,055,154	7,010,322	7,942,460	7,135,584	6,287,228	5,624,148	4,619,148	3,128,998	1,366,848	(641,302)
Ending Operating Reserve Balance (2)	7,010,322	7,942,460	7,135,584	6,287,228	5,624,148	4,619,148	3,128,998	1,366,848	(641,302)	(2,673,452)
Ending A&F Reserve Balance	214,174	269,318	268,054	252,563	250,139	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total Reserve Balance	7,224,496	8,211,778	7,403,638	6,539,791	5,874,287	4,869,148	3,378,998	1,616,848	(391,302)	(2,423,452)
Reserve as a % of the preceding year's Operating Expenditures (3)	58.90%	63.92%	51.02%	45.24%	40.35%	32.03%	21.77%	10.24%	-2.44%	-15.09%

NOTES:

- Note 1: The Clients' Protection Fund assessment collected pursuant to Paragraph 16 of the Rules of the Supreme Court regarding Organization & Government of the VSB has been deducted from both the Operating Revenue and Operating Expenditures. The net impact is \$0.
Attorney Wellness revenue is a revenue reduction when transferred to the Supreme Court of Virginia. The net impact is \$0.
The Operating Revenue and Operating Expenditures are based on anticipated actual results and may not agree with budgeted totals.
- Note 2: The total Operating Reserve balance as of 6/30/2025 includes the Professionalism Course Reserve of \$266,609.
- Note 3: Paragraph 11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court regarding Organization & Government of the VSB provides that "No increase in the annual dues above \$250 for active and \$125 for associate members will be authorized by the Court whenever the total combined cash balances of the State Bar Fund and the VSB A&F Account shall exceed 15% of the total annual operating expenditures of the bar for the year preceding the year in which the dues increase is sought."
- Note 4: FY 2025 revenue increase - MCLE fee increase \$205,337. FY 2025 expenditure increase - 3% staff salary increase, 1.5% bonus, rent decrease \$247,500, office renovation \$88,791.
- Note 5: FY 2026 expenditure increase - 3% staff salary increase and 2% bonus.
- Note 6: FY 2027 expenditure increase - 2% staff salary increase.
- Note 7: FY 2028 expenditure increase - 2% staff salary increase.
- Note 8: FY 2029 expenditure increase - 2% staff salary increase.



Report ID: VGLR001

Commonwealth of Virginia
CARDINAL TRIAL BALANCE REPORT

Run Date: 03/11/2026

Run Time: 03:22 00

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Business Unit : 11700 Virginia State Bar
Fiscal Year : 2026 Accounting Period : 8
Account Details : Summary Ledger Selection : ACTUALS
ChartField Selection : By BU,Fund Adj. Period :

<u>Business Unit</u>	<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Net Activity</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
11700	09117					
		101010	Cash With The Treasurer Of VA	9,045,231.46	(843,096.49)	8,202,134.97
		131030	Petty Cash Advances	0.00	0.00	0.00
Asset Total :				9,045,231.46	(843,096.49)	8,202,134.97
		205025	Accts Payable-AP/EX Accruals	(69,051.21)	(97,112.97)	(166,164.18)
		22051401	Pay Susp-Garnishment	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051402	Pay Susp-Garnishment Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051404	Pay Susp-DOA Admin Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051406	Pay Susp-CoVA Care	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051407	Pay Susp-CoVA Health Aware	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051408	Pay Susp-CoVA High Ded	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051424	Pay Susp-VRS Contributions	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051426	Pay Susp-HlthCare Prem Reward	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051427	Pay Susp-Group Life-VRS	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051428	Pay Susp-VSDP/LTD-VRS	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051429	Pay Susp-RetireeHlthCred-VRS	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051442	Pay Susp-CVC Deductions	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051443	Pay Susp-Optional Group Life	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051444	Pay Susp-3rd Party Admin	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051446	Pay Susp-Deferred Comp	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051447	Pay Susp-Hybrid Retirement	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051448	Pay Susp-VRS Hybrid MDB Retire	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051450	Pay Susp-Agy Parking	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051454	Pay Susp-Flex Reimb Dependent	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051455	Pay Susp-Flex Reimb Medical	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051456	Pay Susp-Flex Reimb Admin	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051461	Pay Susp-Deferred Comp EE	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22051462	Pay Susp-Hybrid Retire EE	0.00	0.00	0.00
		22055803	Pay Susp VA State Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00
		2402101	Def Rev-Businss/Professnal Lic	0.00	0.00	0.00
		2402433	Def Rev-Client Protectn Fd Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00
		2402440	Def Rev-Attorney Wellness Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
		2402618	Def Rev-Atty Registration Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00
		255470	Susp Acct-Deposit Pend Distrib	(5,000.00)	0.00	(5,000.00)

<u>Business Unit Fund Code</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Net Activity</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Liability Total :			<u>(74,051.21).</u>	<u>(97,112.97).</u>	<u>(171,164.18).</u>
Equity Total :	308000	Fund Balance	<u>(5,624,147.57)</u> <u>(5,624,147.57).</u>	<u>0.00</u> <u>0.00</u>	<u>(5,624,147.57)</u> <u>(5,624,147.57).</u>
Revenue Total :		Revenue Accounts	<u>(12,754,583.05).</u>	<u>(293,019.02).</u>	<u>(13,047,602.07).</u>
Expense Total :		Expense Accounts	<u>9,407,520.37</u>	<u>1,233,228.48</u>	<u>10,640,748.85</u>
Transfers Total :	609830	Cash Transfer Out - Non-GF	<u>30.00</u> <u>30.00</u>	<u>0.00</u> <u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u> <u>30.00</u>
Total for Fund :	09117	Dedicated Special Revenue-VSB	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total for BU :	11700	Virginia State Bar	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>



Report ID: RGL008

Commonwealth of Virginia
REVENUE STATUS REPORTRun Date: 03/11/2026
Run Time: 03:24 00

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Business Unit: 11700 : Virginia State Bar
Revenue Budget Ledger: CC REVEST
Fiscal Year: 2026
Accounting Period To: 8

Bus Unit	Fund	Account	Description	Estimated Revenue	Year to Date Current Year	Year to Date Last Year	Month - 08 Current Year	Month - 08 Last Year
11700	02354	4008123	Legal Aid Filing Fees	0.00	4,785,681.00	4,227,094.19	638,722.00	498,533.00
			Total for Fund 02354	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,785,681.00	\$ 4,227,094.19	\$ 638,722.00	\$ 498,533.00
09117	4002100		Licenses & Permits	0.00	26,965.00	19,650.00	1,950.00	3,150.00
	4002101		Business & Professnal Licenses	335,875.00	388,665.00	342,460.00	1,095.00	710.00
	4002199		Misc Licenses, Permits & Fees	43,000.00	31,974.50	41,596.61	3,588.75	8,085.00
	4002306		Corp Registered Name Fees	100,000.00	100,285.00	94,000.00	16,285.00	13,600.00
	4002404		Real Estate Sttlmt Agt Reg Fee	18,000.00	7,320.00	13,940.00	1,200.00	1,520.00
	4002433		Clients Protection Fund Fee	176,050.00	169,592.52	171,504.46	53.62	(3,628.75)
	4002440		Attorney Wellness Fund Fee	0.00	15,330.00	35,530.00	1,470.00	1,260.00
	4002452		Miscellaneous Regulatory Fees	0.00	3,340.00	1,310.00	950.00	385.00
	4002501		Admission Receipts	163,075.00	167,815.00	181,645.00	18,600.00	16,875.00
	4002618		Attorneys Registration Fees	10,001,800.00	9,974,905.00	9,926,160.00	13,625.00	15,412.50
	4005046		Other Business Fees	585,000.00	319,723.54	405,651.37	21,547.38	27,416.31
	4006103		Other Edu Gifts/Grants-Private	0.00	25,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00
	4008000		Fine/Fort/Court Fee/Cst/Penlty	100,000.00	50,820.22	53,103.95	10,350.06	7,367.98
	4008316		Pnlty/Past Dues-Attorneys Reg	550,000.00	651,086.00	387,166.50	17,210.00	16,548.50
	4009000		Other Revenue	1,825,000.00	1,013,356.00	1,050,353.00	162,678.00	182,250.00
	4009004		Reg Fees For Workshops/Classes	80,000.00	27,380.00	4,915.00	7,775.00	0.00
	4009060		Miscellaneous Revenues	133,550.00	74,194.29	77,588.97	14,641.21	6,247.00
	4009084		Refund-Exp/Misc Disburse Pr Yr	0.00	(150.00)	46,779.12	0.00	0.00
			Total for Fund 09117	\$ 14,111,350.00	\$ 13,047,602.07	\$ 12,868,353.98	\$ 293,019.02	\$ 297,198.54
			Total for Business Unit 11700	\$ 14,111,350.00	\$ 17,833,283.07	\$ 17,095,448.17	\$ 931,741.02	\$ 795,731.54

VIRGINIA STATE BAR

REVENUE CROSSWALK

Account	Cardinal Description	VSF Description
4002100	Licenses & Permits	Dues – Corporate Counsel Reg
4002101	Business & Professional Licenses	Sections
4002199	Misc Licenses, Permits & Fees	Virginia Lawyer Revenue
4002306	Corp Registered Name Fees	Professional Corporation
4002404	Real Estate Settlement Agt Reg Fee	CRESA Registration Fees
4002433	Clients Protection Fund Fee	Clients Protection Fund Receipts
4002452	Miscellaneous Regulatory Fees	Dues - Over/Under Payments
4002501	Admission Receipts	Professionalism Course Fees
4002618	Attorney Registration Fees	Dues - Attorney Dues
4003002	State Publication Sales	Pamphlet Sales
4005046	Other Business Fees	Lawyer Referral Revenue
4006103	Other Edu Gifts/Grants-Private	Grants
4008000	Fines/Fort/Court Fee/Cst/Penlty	Cost Assessment
4008316	Pnlty/Past Dues-Attorney Reg	Past & Penalty Dues
4009000	Other Revenue	MCLE Fees
4009004	Reg Fees for Workshops/Classes	A&F Account Receipts
4009060	Miscellaneous Revenue	Seminar & Miscellaneous
4009084	Refund-Exp/Misc Disburse Pr Yr	Expenditure Refunds Prior Year



Commonwealth of Virginia

February 2026 Expenditure Summary

Report ID: RGL035
Layout ID: VGLR0035
Period Ending: 2026-06-30

Run Date: March 25, 2026
Run Time: 11:01:10 AM

Business Unit: 11700 Virginia State Bar

Cost Center	Description	Budget	2026-8	Current Year Expenditures	(Over) Under Budget	% of Budget Remaining
(None)	(None)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
6000	Salaries	11,238,115.00	890,125.34	7,686,212.76	3,551,902.24	32%
6020	Benefits	0.00	10,993.59	71,702.98	(71,702.98)	0%
6040	Wages & Professional Services	0.00	0.00	5,677.60	(5,677.60)	0%
6060	Receiverships	100,000.00	14,879.80	84,752.11	15,247.89	15%
6080	Dues, Subscriptions & Training	77,500.00	3,080.81	38,511.91	38,988.09	50%
6100	Rent: Office Space	756,475.00	63,424.61	502,776.19	253,698.81	34%
6103	Grants	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	(15,000.00)	0%
6120	Rent: Office Equipment	12,580.00	1,031.23	8,451.16	4,128.84	33%
6140	Office Supplies	31,875.00	147.34	7,590.53	24,284.47	76%
6160	Stationery & Forms	6,500.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	100%
6180	Office Furniture & Equipment	7,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,000.00	100%
6200	Staff Travel	119,800.00	1,122.80	34,618.96	85,181.04	71%
6220	Office Insurance	18,650.00	0.00	18,070.30	579.70	3%
6240	Repairs and Maintenance	68,600.00	3,859.34	30,863.57	37,736.43	55%
6260	Printing & Copying	242,650.00	27,460.32	112,964.35	129,685.65	53%
6280	Postage	209,400.00	27,181.55	122,329.80	87,070.20	42%
6300	Communication Technology	52,100.00	2,194.97	27,482.26	24,617.74	47%
6320	Advertising	18,000.00	1,040.03	5,525.30	12,474.70	69%
6340	Other Contractual Services	419,400.00	12,271.48	343,128.75	76,271.25	18%
6345	Special Projects	10,000.00	105.00	7,855.00	2,145.00	21%
6360	Computer Operating	642,025.00	(4,210.05)	319,855.47	322,169.53	50%
6380	Other Technology Projects	200,000.00	33,215.53	233,595.48	(33,595.48)	(17%)
6400	Professionalism Course-Trav	100,000.00	7,236.15	72,484.14	27,515.86	28%
6420	Professionalism Course-Misc	22,000.00	2,776.76	4,576.56	17,423.44	79%
6440	Council, Comm, Boards-Trav	453,970.00	14,358.65	246,290.64	207,679.36	46%
6460	Council, Comm, Boards-Misc	231,945.00	1,454.50	89,977.07	141,967.93	61%
6480	Sections-Trav	141,458.00	10,957.58	79,419.61	62,038.39	44%
6500	Sections-Print	16,143.00	0.00	10,179.32	5,963.68	37%
6520	Sections-Comm	11,975.00	97.52	7,683.48	4,291.52	36%
6540	Sections-Other	121,330.00	4,096.60	34,339.72	86,990.28	72%
6560	Senior Lawyers Conf-Trav	11,200.00	0.00	8,793.70	2,406.30	21%

6580	Senior Lawyers Conf-Print	15,100.00	0.00	8,905.00	6,195.00	41%
6600	Senior Lawyers Conf-Comm	8,900.00	48.56	3,581.10	5,318.90	60%
6620	Senior Lawyers Conf-Misc	12,500.00	0.00	853.00	11,647.00	93%
6640	Young Lawyers Conf-Program	64,000.00	9,393.05	39,482.54	24,517.46	38%
6660	Young Lawyers Conf-Print	3,500.00	8.40	392.79	3,107.21	89%
6680	Young Lawyers Conf-Travel	31,700.00	1,729.28	21,633.04	10,066.96	32%
6700	Young Lawyers Conf-Misc	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	100%
6702	Diversity Conference - Program	46,750.00	0.00	26,970.16	19,779.84	42%
6704	Diversity Conference - Print	1,500.00	0.00	34.50	1,465.50	98%
6706	Diversity Conference - Travel	9,400.00	0.00	2,559.81	6,840.19	73%
6708	Diversity Conference - Misc	2,400.00	0.00	375.00	2,025.00	84%
6710	CLSBA-Travel	15,760.00	0.00	1,153.31	14,606.69	93%
6715	CLSBA-Print	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	100%
6725	CLSBA-Communications	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100%
6730	CLSBA-Other	4,675.00	0.00	241.67	4,433.33	95%
6760	Attorney General Costs	25,000.00	0.00	22,240.69	2,759.31	11%
6780	A&F Trans	80,000.00	8,025.00	27,530.00	52,470.00	66%
6800	Clients' Protection Fund Trans	176,050.00	522.74	169,487.52	6,562.48	4%
6820	Online Legal Research	85,000.00	84,600.00	84,600.00	400.00	0%
	All Cost Centers	\$15,938,326.00	\$1,233,228.48	\$10,640,748.85	\$5,297,577.15	33%

**VIRGINIA STATE BAR
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE ACCOUNT
AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

Cash Balance as of July 1, 2025	\$ 250,139.12
Year-to-Date Revenue through February 28, 2026	27,540.04
Year-to-Date Expenses through February 28, 2026	<u>(64,980.95)</u>
Cash Balance as of February 28, 2026	<u>\$ 212,698.21</u>

LEDGER

**BALANCE
2/28/2026**

Annual Meeting	\$ 171,315.59
Midyear Seminar	43,193.64
Council, Committees, etc.	(1,030.11)
Other	<u>(780.91)</u>
Total Ledger Balance	<u>\$ 212,698.21</u>

**VIRGINIA STATE BAR
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE ACCOUNT
MONTHLY STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES
FOR FEBRUARY 2026**

	BALANCE 2/1/2026	FEBRUARY 2026 ACTIVITY	BALANCE 2/28/2026
Revenue:			
Annual Meeting	\$ 19,505.00	\$ 8,025.00	\$ 27,530.00
Money Market Account Interest	8.88	1.16	10.04
Total Revenue	19,513.88	8,026.16	27,540.04
Expenses:			
Annual Meeting	63,159.89	0.00	63,159.89
National Meetings and Miscellaneous	1,030.11	0.00	1,030.11
Employee Recognition	0.00	474.60	474.60
Bank Service Charges	266.00	50.35	316.35
Expenses to be Reimbursed	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	64,456.00	524.95	64,980.95
Total Revenue Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (44,942.12)	\$ 7,501.21	\$ (37,440.91)

**VIRGINIA STATE BAR
CLIENTS' PROTECTION FUND
CASH BALANCE
AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

Cash Balance as of July 1, 2025	\$ 10,105,267.27
Year-to-Date Revenue through February 28, 2026	243,381.77
Year-to-Date Expenses through February 28, 2026	<u>(260,844.23)</u>
Cash Balance as of February 28, 2026	<u>\$ 10,087,804.81</u>
Liability for claims approved but not paid:	<u>2,000.00</u>
Available Cash Balance as of February 28, 2026:	<u>\$ 10,085,804.81</u>

Funds Invested/Maintained as Follows:

Truist Business Checking Account	771,138.15
United States Treasury Bill	0.00
Federal Home Loan Bank	5,016,666.66
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	1,500,000.00
Federal Farm Credit Bank	<u>2,800,000.00</u>
Total Cash and Investments	<u>\$ 10,087,804.81</u>

**VIRGINIA STATE BAR
CLIENTS' PROTECTION FUND
MONTHLY STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES
FOR FEBRUARY 2026**

	BALANCE 2/1/2026	FEB 2026 ACTIVITY	BALANCE 2/28/2026
REVENUE			
INTEREST:			
Investment Interest	\$ 70,012.25	\$ 4,320.00	\$ 74,332.25
REIMBURSEMENT FROM ATTORNEYS:			
AG's Collections	-	0.00	0.00
Debt Set-Off Receipts	-	0.00	0.00
Individual Restitution (a)	5,681.78	297.74	5,979.52
TRANSFERS:			
CPF Assessment	162,845.00	225.00	163,070.00
Total Revenue:	\$ 238,539.03	\$ 4,842.74	\$ 243,381.77
EXPENSES			
Bank Service Charges	-	70.00	70.00
Attorney General's Fees	-	0.00	0.00
CPF Board Expenses - Oper. Acct. Reim.	-	0.00	0.00
Receivership Reimbursement	-	63,303.41	63,303.41
Payments to Clients	118,621.87	78,848.95	197,470.82
Total Expenses:	\$ 118,621.87	\$ 142,222.36	\$ 260,844.23
Total Revenue Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ 119,917.16	\$ (137,379.62)	\$ (17,462.46)

(a) Erroneous restitution of \$438 recorded in FY 2025 was transferred to operating in July 2025.
\$438 should have been recorded in report as a decrease in revenue in July 2025.

TAB 3



Virginia State Bar

1111 East Main Street Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

Fax: (804) 775-0501 TDD: (804) 775-0502

To: Executive Committee

From: Renu M. Brennan, Bar Counsel

Date: April 2, 2026

DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM REPORT

I. Public/Private Discipline (July 1, 2025 to March 27, 2026)¹

Public Discipline – 69, one case is on appeal.	Private Discipline – 31
Diligence/Competence/ Communication – 17	Diligence/Competence/ Communication – 14
Safekeeping Property – 12	Safekeeping Property – 8
Reciprocal – 8	Conflict of Interest – 4
Criminal or Deliberately Wrongful Conduct – 6	Declining or Terminating Representation – 2
Terms Violations – 4	Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel – 1
Judicial Officials – 4	Misconduct – 1
Fees – 4	Communication with Persons Represented by Counsel – 1
13-29 – 2	
Misconduct – 2	
UPL: Multijurisdictional Practice of Law – 2	
Reporting Misconduct – 1	
Conflict of Interest – 1	
13-22 Criminal Show Cause – 1	
Dishonesty – 1	
Scope of Representation – 1	
Confidentiality of Information – 1	
Meritorious Claims and Contentions – 1	
Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel – 1	

¹ This chart represents each instance of public discipline issued by a Memorandum or Summary Order and each private admonition or reprimand within FY 2026.

II. Docket Statistics (February 28, 2026)

Total Open Cases/Cases at Preliminary Investigation and Subcommittee Level:

- **Total open cases are at 298.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 249 (2024) and 347 (2021).
- **There are 8 prior fiscal year cases.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 1 (2022) and 9 (2021).
- **Cases over 365 days are at 12.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 11 (2024 and 2025) and 44 (2021).
- **Preliminary Investigation and District Committee cases are at 175.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 125 (2025) and 289 (2021).
- **District Committee cases over 180 days are at 59.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 39 (2024) and 77 (2021).
- **Cases awaiting report by bar counsel are at 14.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 4 (2024) and 34 (2021).
- **Cases awaiting report by investigator are at 37.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 26 (2024) and 45 (2023).
- **There are 8 cases awaiting meeting by subcommittee.** The range for the previous 5 years was between 1 (2022) and 16 (2025).
- **Cases awaiting Certification and Charges of Misconduct are at 7 and 0 respectively.** The range for cases awaiting Certification for the past 5 years was between 0 (2022) and 7 (2021), and the range for Charges of Misconduct was between 0 (2025) and 3 (2023).

III. Trials, Sanctions, Agreed Dispositions, Consents to Revocation, and Impairments:

- **We have 42 cases to be tried.** (39 Disciplinary Board/Circuit Court and 3 District Committee). The range for the prior 5 years was between 30 (2024) and 50 (2021).
- **We have held 21 trials this year to date.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 16 (2023) and 33 (2025).
- **Subcommittees have issued 48 sanctions year to date.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 33 (2021) and 53 (2024).
- **We have reached 65 agreed dispositions year to date.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 45 (2022) and 53 (2024).
- **We have entered into 15 consents to revocation year to date.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 2 (2025) and 22 (2022).
- **We have closed 8 impairments year to date.** The range for the prior 5 years was between 4 (2021) and 12 (2025).

IV. Intake Report as of March 31, 2026 – James C. Bodie, Intake Counsel

The VSB received 2,518 bar complaints between July 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026. During the same period in FY 2025, the VSB received 2,459 complaints. FY 2026 to date has a 2.34% increase in complaints over FY 2025.

V. Overview of Cases Under Investigation as of April 1, 2026 – Michael Schuler, Chief Investigator

206 ROIs FY 26 (7/1/2025-4/1/2026)
184 ROIs FY 25 in same period (7/1/2024-4/1/2025)

168 ROIs FY 24 in same period (7/1/2023-4/1/2024)

78 ROIs CY 26 (1/1/2026-4/1/2026)

71 ROIs CY 25 in same period (1/1/2025-4/1/2025)

59 ROIs CY 24 in same period (1/1/2024-4/1/2024)

119 Active Investigations, including 27 Family Law Matters, 21 Criminal Defense Matters, 13 Immigration Matters, 9 Estate Planning Matters, 5 Trust Account Overdrafts, 4 Personal Injury Matters, and 1 Bankruptcy Matter

VI. Matters Before the Supreme Court of Virginia and Court of Appeals of Virginia

Supreme Court of Virginia

Appeals

Joseph Willis Lee, III v. Virginia State Bar Ex Rel., Third District, Section III Committee

[By Opinion dated March 19, 2026](#), the Court affirmed a three-judge circuit court's order suspending Lee's license to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia for two years for a violation of Rule 3.8(d) Additional Responsibilities of a Prosecutor. The Court heard oral argument on January 13, 2026. Assistants Attorney General Robert Claiborne and Derek Reigle represented the bar.

Joseph D. Lento v. Virginia State Bar Ex Rel., Ninth District Committee

On July 28, 2025, Joseph D. Lento noted an appeal of the disciplinary board's Memorandum Order revoking his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, effective May 16, 2025. The disciplinary board found that Lento violated Rules 1.1 Competence, 1.3(a) and (b) Diligence, 1.4(a) and (b) Communication, 1.5(a) Fees, 1.15(b)(4) Safekeeping Property, 1.16(a)(1) and (d) Declining or Termination Representation, 5.1(a) Responsibilities of Partners and Supervisory Lawyers, 8.4(b)

Misconduct, and 8.5 Disciplinary Authority; Choice of Law. By Order entered November 12, 2025, the Court dismissed Lento's appeal for failure to timely file a transcript or written statement of facts.

On November 26, 2025, Lento filed a Petition for Rehearing. By Order entered on March 6, 2026, the Court denied Lento's Petition for Rehearing. Assistants Attorney General Stan Hammer and Chris Bernhardt represented the bar.

Douglas Bell Wessel v. Virginia State Bar Ex Rel., Fifth District, Section II Committee

On September 5, 2025, Douglas Wessel noted an appeal of a three-judge circuit court's order suspending his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia for thirteen months, effective July 15, 2025. The three-judge circuit court found that Wessel violated Rules 1.3(b) Diligence, 1.16(a)(1) and (3) Declining or Terminating Representation, 8.4(a) Misconduct, and 1.15(b)(4) Safekeeping Property. Senior Attorney General Pebbles Burgess and Assistant Attorney General Erin McNeill represent the bar.

Oral argument is set for April 2026 Session.

Phillip Ben-Zion Leiser v. Virginia State Bar Ex Rel., Fifth District, Section I Committee

On October 17, 2025, Phillip Ben-Zion Leiser noted an appeal of a three-judge circuit court's order suspending his license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia for three years, effective September 22, 2025. The three-judge circuit court found that Leiser violated Rules 8.2 Judicial Officials and 8.4(b) Misconduct. Senior Attorney General Pebbles Burgess and Assistant Attorney General Robert Claiborne represent the bar.

Oral argument is set for April 2026 Session.

Appeal before the Court of Appeals of Virginia

Justin Lee Criner v. Virginia State Bar **Record No. 0710252**

On April 8, 2025, Justin Criner's license was revoked by consent. On April 11, 2025, upon the VSB's motion, the Chesterfield Circuit Court entered an order appointing Drew Sarrett, Esq., as the receiver of Criner's former practice, the Beale Law Firm. Criner has appealed the order appointing a receiver to the Court of Appeals of Virginia. Assistants Attorney General Erin McNeill and Chris Bernhardt represent the bar.

VII. Federal Lawsuit

Phillip Leiser v. Renu M. Brennan

By Order entered September 17, 2025, the Eastern District of Alexandria (EDVA) dismissed, without prejudice, Leiser's lawsuit against the Virginia State Bar and now retired Chief Justice Goodwyn and me, in our official capacities, and denied Leiser's motion for a preliminary injunction seeking to enjoin a disciplinary hearing against him. As set forth above, the disciplinary hearing was held on September 18, 2025, and Leiser has noted his appeal of the order.

On October 7, 2025, Leiser filed a Motion to Reconsider the EDVA's September 17, 2025 Order. By Order entered December 4, 2025, the EDVA denied Leiser's Motion to Reconsider.

Leiser noted an appeal of both the September 17 and December 4 Orders to the Fourth Circuit. The Fourth Circuit docketed Leiser's appeal and entered a briefing order.

By Order entered February 24, 2026, the Fourth Circuit denied Leiser's motion for a preliminary injunction. Assistant Attorney General Robert Claiborne represented retired Chief Justice Goodwyn, the bar, and me.

Louis B. Antonacci v. The Virginia State Bar, et al.

On January 23, 2026, Antonacci filed suit in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia against several defendants including the bar and Assistant Bar Counsel Richard W. Johnson in his individual capacity. Deputy Solicitor General Ethan Fallon represents the bar.

VIII. Matter Before the Supreme Court of the United States

Louis B. Antonacci v. Renu Brennan, et al.

On December 8, 2025, Antonacci filed a Petition for Writs of Certiorari. The Court denied Antonacci's petition on February 23, 2026. Assistants Attorney General Erin McNeill and Bridget Ambrosio represented the bar.

IX. Proposed Rules of Professional Conduct

[By Order entered on November 24, 2025](#), the Supreme Court of Virginia amended the following Rules of Court: 1:15 – Local Rules of Court; and 1A:9 – Virginia Legal Aid Counsel. [A proposal by the VSB](#) was approved as LEO 1901 – Reasonable Fees and the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence. Rule 1:15 and LEO 1901 are effective immediately, while Rule 1A:9 goes into effect on January 23, 2026.

X. Unauthorized Practice of Law (UPL)

As of March 26, 2026, there are twelve open cases; of those, ten are in the preliminary stage and two are in the final stage.

XI. Receiverships

As of April 1, 2026, there are 14 open receiverships:

Bell (02/07/23); **Shapiro** (03/09/23); **Rowan** (07/25/23) and 01/26/24); **Ward** (02/14/24); **McLaughlin, III** (06/24/24);

McCreedy (12/12/24); **Park** (02/05/25); **Tyson** (02/07/25);
Criner (04/11/25); **Smyrnos** (07/14/25); **Allen** (08/07/25);
Booberg (11/14/25); **Muchow** (01/05/26); **Wright** (03/13/26)

The receivership budget for FY 2026 is \$100,000. As of April 1 2026, the VSB paid \$81,252.11 in receivership costs and received \$63,303.41 for a net \$17,948.70 for FY 2026.

Attachments:

Statistics – Five Year Comparison and Six-Month Comparison

Joseph Willis Lee, III v. Virginia State Bar Ex rel., Third District, Section III Committee, Record No. 250724, March 19, 2026

STATISTICS – FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON						
Docket Period Ending→	2/28/26	2/28/25	2/29/24	2/28/23	2/28/22	2/26/21
Total Open Cases	298	257	249	283	258	347
DISTRICT COMMITTEE CASES OVER 180 DAYS						
Cases Awaiting Report by Investigator	37	28	26	45	44	41
Cases Awaiting Report by Bar Counsel !	14	11	4	13	16	34
Cases Awaiting Meeting by Subcommittee*!	8	16	9	10	1	2
Total	59	55	39	68	61	77
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS & DC CASES						
Preliminary Investigation Cases	63	33	58	69	68	86
District Committee Cases	112	92	120	175	144	203
Total	175	125	178	244	212	289
SANCTIONS ISSUED BY DISTRICT COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES Y-T-D						
Total	48	46	53	47	49	33
DC CASES AWAITING CERTIFICATION TO DB TO BE WRITTEN BY BAR COUNSEL						
Total	7	2	1	1	0	7
DC CASES AWAITING CHARGE OF MISCONDUCT TO BE WRITTEN BY BAR COUNSEL						
Total	0	0	1	3	1	2
CASES TO BE TRIED						
District Committee	3	2	3	3	3	2
Disciplinary Board / Circuit Court	39	35	27	31	37	48
Total	42	37	30	34	40	50
CONSENTS TO REVOCATION Y-T-D						
Total	15	2	11	4	22	9
TRIALS HELD Y-T-D						
District Committee	2	2	4	0	0	1
Disciplinary Board / Circuit Court	19	31	27	16	17	21
Total	21	33	31	16	17	22
AGREED DISPOSITIONS Y-T-D						
District Committee	30	38	42	28	30	21
Disciplinary Board / Circuit Court	35	13	11	18	15	27
Total	65	51	53	46	45	48
CLOSED IMPAIRMENTS Y-T-D	8	12	7	11	5	4

STATISTICS—SIX-MONTH COMPARISON

Docket Period Ending→	2/28/26	1/31/26	12/31/25	11/30/25	10/31/25	9/30/25
Total Open Cases	298	288	278	296	299	308
DISTRICT COMMITTEE CASES OVER 180 DAYS						
Cases Awaiting Report by Investigator	37	40	32	41	35	32
Cases Awaiting Report by Bar Counsel !	14	14	33	20	7	10
Cases Awaiting Meeting by Subcommittee *!	8	10	30	27	5	7
Total	59	64	95	88	47	49
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS & DC CASES						
Preliminary Investigation Cases	63	52	49	29	52	69
District Committee Cases	112	116	119	119	129	117
Total	175	168	168	148	181	186
SANCTIONS ISSUED BY DISTRICT COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES Y-T-D						
Total	48	39	32	23	20	16
DCCASES AWAITING CERTIFICATION TO DB TO BE WRITTEN BY BAR COUNSEL						
Total	7	16	5	6	0	4
DCCASES AWAITING CHARGE OF MISCONDUCT TO BE WRITTEN BY BAR COUNSEL						
Total	0	1	2	0	0	0
CASES TO BE TRIED (DC:						
District Committee	3	5	3	1	2	2
Disciplinary Board/Circuit Court	39	38	36	35	45	48
Total	42	43	39	36	47	50
CONSENTS TO REVOCATION Y-T-D						
Total	15	15	15	15	5	3
TRIALS HELD Y-T-D						
District Committee	2	2	2	2	1	1
Disciplinary Board/Circuit Court	19	16	13	10	9	4
Total	21	18	15	12	10	5
AGREED DISPOSITIONS Y-T-D						
District Committee	30	25	21	13	12	8
Disciplinary Board/Circuit Court	35	30	27	16	15	13
Total	65	55	48	29	27	21
CLOSED IMPAIRMENTS Y-T-D	8	8	7	5	5	4

PRESENT: All the Justices

JOSEPH WILLIS LEE, III

v. Record No. 250724

VIRGINIA STATE BAR EX REL.
THIRD DISTRICT, SECTION III COMMITTEE

OPINION BY
JUSTICE D. ARTHUR KELSEY
MARCH 19, 2026

FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF PETERSBURG

A three-judge circuit court found that Joseph Willis Lee, III, violated the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct (the “Disciplinary Rules”) by knowingly withholding exculpatory evidence from a criminal defendant. Lee argues that the Virginia State Bar subcommittee that certified the ethics complaint had improper notice of a prior disciplinary action against him. Lee also contends that the evidence was insufficient to support the circuit court’s finding of ethical misconduct because the trial judge in the criminal case wherein the misconduct occurred came to a different conclusion. Disagreeing with both assertions, we affirm.

I.

Counsel for Rayshawn Scott, a criminal defendant who had been prosecuted by Lee, filed a complaint with the Virginia State Bar alleging that Lee had violated Disciplinary Rule 3.8(d) by withholding exculpatory evidence during Rayshawn’s trial. The allegation arose from Lee’s failure to inform Rayshawn that Lee had offered Shaquille Scott (Rayshawn’s cousin) a reduction in criminal charges in exchange for Shaquille’s testimony against Rayshawn. Rayshawn’s conviction based on this testimony was later vacated because Lee had withheld exculpatory evidence in violation of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963).

A Bar investigator submitted a report to the Third District, Section III Subcommittee of the Virginia State Bar (the “Subcommittee”). An email included in the investigative report, as well as a statement in the original complaint to the Bar, mentioned a prior disciplinary action

against Lee. After reviewing the investigative report, the Subcommittee certified the matter to the Bar Disciplinary Board. The certification stated that “[b]y failing to disclose to Rayshawn Scott or his attorney that [Lee] had offered to reduce the criminal charges pending against Shaquille Scott in exchange for Shaquille Scott’s testimony,” Lee had violated Disciplinary Rule 3.8(d), which requires “[a] lawyer engaged in a prosecutorial function” to “make timely disclosure . . . of the existence of evidence which the prosecutor knows tends to negate the guilt of the accused.” 1 J.A. at 12 (emphasis omitted).

Upon Lee’s demand that his matter be heard before a three-judge circuit court pursuant to Code § 54.1-3935(A), the Bar filed its complaint with the circuit court. The circuit court held a two-day trial on Lee’s misconduct charge, during which it received hundreds of pages of exhibits and heard the testimony of Rayshawn’s counsel, Shaquille’s counsel, and the special prosecutor appointed to Shaquille’s case. After conclusion of the Bar’s evidence, Lee made a motion to strike, which the circuit court denied.

Lee then offered his own testimony. Despite the evidence against him, Lee maintained that no agreement had been offered to Shaquille. He testified that he “had no conversation with [Shaquille’s counsel] about any reduction of charges in any way.” 2 *id.* at 605. Lee similarly denied confirming the agreement in a conversation with the special prosecutor assigned to Shaquille’s case. *Id.* at 613. After concluding his evidence, Lee made another motion to strike, which again was denied.

In its final order, the circuit court made detailed factual findings. Specifically, it found that Lee had made an agreement with Shaquille to reduce his felony charge to a misdemeanor charge in exchange for Shaquille’s testimony against Rayshawn. Lee knowingly failed to disclose this agreement to Rayshawn or his counsel, and Shaquille testified at Rayshawn’s trial

as the only witness to place Rayshawn at the scene of the crime. The circuit court also found that Lee's denials were "not credible." 1 *id.* at 317. His testimony stood in contrast to the testimonies of the other attorneys involved in the case, and the circuit court found them to be "credible and consistent with one another." *Id.* Clear and convincing evidence, the circuit court concluded, proved that Lee had violated Disciplinary Rule 3.8(d).

The circuit court next moved from the misconduct phase to the sanctions phase of the proceedings. The Bar admitted into evidence a certification of a prior disciplinary action against Lee, which showed that he had previously been disciplined for similar conduct, specifically, withholding exculpatory evidence in a criminal trial in violation of Disciplinary Rules 3.8(d) and 3.4(e). *See* 6 *id.* at 2475-82. In determining its sanction in the present case, the circuit court noted Lee's "repeated denials that he made the [o]ffer until the Court found he committed misconduct" and Lee's previous offense for the same misconduct. 1 *id.* at 318. Given these aggravating factors and the nature of Lee's misconduct, the circuit court suspended Lee's license to practice law for two years.

After the evidentiary hearing, but before the final order was issued, Lee filed a motion to dismiss the Subcommittee's initial certification of misconduct. Lee argued that the Subcommittee had received a disclosure of his prior "Disciplinary Record," which he claimed was improper during the misconduct phase. *See generally* Va. Sup. Ct. R., Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-30(B). For this reason alone, Lee argued, the circuit court proceedings against him should never have commenced. The circuit court denied Lee's motion to dismiss, holding that the documents reviewed by the Subcommittee did not constitute "Disciplinary Records" under Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 13-30(B) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia and that the circuit court did not have the authority to dismiss the Subcommittee's certification. 1 J.A. at 306.

II.

A.

On appeal, Lee asserts two assignments of error. The first challenges the circuit court's denial of his motion to dismiss the Subcommittee's certification. Lee maintains that the Subcommittee improperly received notice of a prior disciplinary action against him and that such disclosure invalidates the later circuit court proceedings. Lee concedes that the circuit court did not review any prior disciplinary actions against him until after the conclusion of the misconduct phase. Lee also admits that this record was relevant to the sanctions phase. Even so, Lee concludes that the alleged error during the certification process requires us to vacate the circuit court's final decision and to dismiss the ethical charge against him. We decline to do so.

"Code § 8.01-678 makes 'harmless-error review required in *all* cases.'" *Commonwealth v. White*, 293 Va. 411, 420 (2017) (citation omitted). "The harmless-error concept is no mere prudential, judge-made doctrine of appellate review," but rather, it "is a legislative mandate, which has been part of our statutory law since the early 1900s, and limits the adjudicatory power of Virginia appellate courts." *Id.* at 419; *see also Walker v. Commonwealth*, 144 Va. 648, 652 (1926) (construing the predecessor harmless-error statute). "The harmless-error check on judicial power has never been a begrudged limitation, but rather one 'favored' by Virginia courts," *White*, 293 Va. at 420 (citation omitted), because it stems from the "imperative demands of common sense," *Oliver v. Commonwealth*, 151 Va. 533, 541 (1928).

The "common sense" aspect of the doctrine, *id.*, is on full display in this case. A Subcommittee's certification is "based on a reasonable belief" that an ethical violation has been committed. Va. Sup. Ct. R., Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-15(B)(3). The subsequent "Charge of Misconduct" initiates the misconduct phase before a three-judge circuit court if demanded pursuant to Code § 54.1-3935. *See id.* ¶ 13-16(A)-(B). In its de novo proceeding, the circuit

court must determine whether the ethical violation has been proven by clear and convincing evidence.

In Lee’s case, the circuit court’s ultimate decision renders harmless any error that might have occurred in the Subcommittee’s determination to charge Lee with misconduct.¹ Lee received a fair trial in conformity with the rules governing the circuit court proceeding. Any alleged evidentiary error affecting the Subcommittee’s “reasonable belief,” *id.* ¶ 13-15(B)(3), that Lee had acted unethically had no effect on the clear-and-convincing determination of the circuit court because the alleged error was not repeated there.

In this respect, the situation is no different than an evidentiary challenge to a grand jury indictment (based upon probable cause) after a later conviction by a petit jury (based upon proof beyond a reasonable doubt) that was untouched by the earlier evidentiary dispute. Under settled law, “any error in the grand jury proceeding connected with the charging decision” is deemed “harmless beyond a reasonable doubt” after a petit jury’s subsequent guilty verdict. *United States v. Mechanik*, 475 U.S. 66, 70 (1986); *see also Bell v. Commonwealth*, 264 Va. 172, 191 (2002). *See generally* 7 Wayne R. LaFare et al., *Criminal Procedure* § 27.6(b), at 132-33 (4th ed. 2015).

B.

Lee’s second assignment of error contends that the trial judge in Rayshawn’s criminal case, when holding that Lee committed a *Brady* violation, also found that Lee “did nothing

¹ Virginia courts strive to resolve legal contests on the “best and narrowest ground available” for decision. *Rebh v. County Bd. of Arlington Cnty.*, 303 Va. 379, 382 & n.1 (2024) (per curiam) (citation omitted). Consistent with that tradition, our harmless-error ruling sidelines any need to rule on Lee’s arguments addressing (i) whether the documents provided to the Subcommittee constituted a “Disciplinary Record,” *see* Va. Sup. Ct. R., Part 6, § IV, ¶ 13-30(B), (ii) what constituted proper timing for a Subcommittee’s review of a disciplinary record, or (iii) whether the circuit court has the authority to dismiss a Subcommittee’s certification.

purposefully wrong or that would constitute an ethical violation.” 1 J.A. at 64, 316. The trial judge also “emphasize[d]” that he had “great respect” for Lee, and as far as the judge was concerned, “that should be the end of it.” 6 *id.* at 2274. Those findings, Lee contends, render the evidence insufficient as a matter of law in Lee’s disciplinary proceeding before the circuit court. We disagree.

The circuit court issued detailed, factual findings supporting its conclusion that Lee had violated Disciplinary Rule 3.8(d). Lee does not argue that, viewed in their totality, these findings “are not justified by a reasonable view of the evidence or are contrary to law,” *see Pollack v. Virginia State Bar*, 304 Va. 451, 461 (2025) (citation omitted). Lee instead argues that the trial judge’s exonerating statements in Rayshawn’s case necessarily put in “equipoise” all other incriminating evidence in his disciplinary proceeding before the circuit court. *See Appellant’s Br.* at 1, 27.

The argument is creative but unconvincing. The trial judge’s statements in Rayshawn’s case were summarized in an order vacating Rayshawn’s convictions based upon Lee’s *Brady* violation and denying Rayshawn’s motion to disqualify Lee. *See* 1 J.A. at 64, 316. The finding was dicta to the extent it related to the *Brady* violation because *Brady* does not require purposeful wrongdoing or provable ethical violations. *See Workman v. Commonwealth*, 272 Va. 633, 644 (2006). It was not dicta, however, to the extent the judge considered it pertinent to the motion to disqualify.

The flaw in Lee’s argument is that whatever the context of the trial judge’s statements in Rayshawn’s case, they cannot be treated as irrefutable proof of Lee’s innocence in the circuit court’s disciplinary proceeding. Virginia law recognizes various legal doctrines (*res judicata*, collateral estoppel, double jeopardy, etc.) that specifically examine the preclusive impact of

factual findings in one judicial proceeding upon another. Lee’s packaging of this contest as a sufficiency issue involving “evidence in equipoise,” Appellant’s Br. at 27, implies the inefficacy of these preclusion doctrines in his case. We need not test that supposition, however, because Lee did not assert any of them on appeal.² His only thesis is that the circuit court’s factfinding exercise, no matter how clear and convincing the evidence appeared to be, was nonetheless subject to the first judge’s view that his exoneration of Lee “should be the end of it.” 6 J.A. at 2274. Lee presents no convincing legal basis for this conclusion.

III.

In sum, the circuit court correctly denied Lee’s motion to dismiss the Subcommittee’s certification and properly acted within its factfinding discretion to find that Lee had violated the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct by knowingly withholding exculpatory evidence from a criminal defendant.

Affirmed.

² See generally *Amazon Logistics, Inc. v. Virginia Emp. Comm’n*, 304 Va. 107, 111 (2025); *AlBritton v. Commonwealth*, 299 Va. 392, 412 (2021); *Coward v. Wellmont Health Sys.*, 295 Va. 351, 367 (2018).

TAB 4



Virginia State Bar

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Richmond, Virginia 24219-0026
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MINUTES OF THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date and Time: February 28, 2026, 12 noon

Location: Virginia State Bar, Bank of America Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room,
1111 E. Main Street, Richmond

The VSB Executive Committee met on Friday, February 28, 2026. At 12:03 p.m., President K. Brett Marston called the meeting to order. Twelve (12) committee members attended the in-person meeting satisfying the quorum requirement in Part I, Art. V, Sec. 2 of the Bylaws of the Virginia State Bar (VSB). There was no remote participation.

Committee members in attendance:

President K. Brett Marston
President-Elect Susan B. Tarley
Immediate Past President Michael M. York
Member Derek A. Davis
Member Chidinma U. Harley
Member Ann Marie Park
Member Bruce H. Russell II
Member E. M. Wright, Jr.
Diversity Section Chair Debra L. Powers
Local and Specialty Bar Associations Section Chair Nicholas J. Gehrig
Senior Lawyers Section Chair Barbara S. Anderson
Young Lawyers Section Chair Simone T. Williams

Absent:

Member Craig E. Ellis

Also attending:

Cameron M. Rountree	VSB	Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
Janet P. Van Cuyk	VSB	Deputy Executive Director
Renu M. Brennan	VSB	Bar Counsel
Megan R. Connor	VSB	Deputy Director of Bar Programs & Engagement
Emily F. Hedrick	VSB	Ethics Counsel
Crystal T. Hendrick	VSB	Director of Finance and Procurement
Shawne D. Moore	VSB	Assistant to the Executive Director
Lauren P. Langley	VSB	Deputy Director of Regulatory Compliance

David B. Neumeyer	VSB	Past Chair, former EGAD VA Study Committee
Lonnie D. “Chip” Nunley III	VSB	Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
Caryn B. Persinger	VSB	Director of Communications
Mallory J. Ralston	VSB	Director of Bar Programs & Engagement
Danielle Y. Roache	VSB	Senior Accountant
Michael W. Robinson	VSB	Chair, Legal Ethics Committee
Randy E. Webne	VSB	Director of Human Resources

I. Reports and Information Items

A. President’s Report

Brett Marston reported on his activities. The President’s Report for February 2026 was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

B. President-Elect’s Report

Susan Tarley reported on the activities of the National Council of Bar Presidents Midyear Meeting, and the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates meeting, held in San Antonio, Texas, February 5-7, 2026.

C. Executive Director’s Report

Cameron Rountree reported on matters relating to the VSB and staff. The Executive Director’s Report for February 2026 was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

D. Financial Report

Crystal Hendrick presented the VSB Financial Report as of December 31, 2025. The December 2025 report was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

E. Bar Counsel Report

Renu Brennan reported on the activities in the Office of Bar Counsel. The Disciplinary System report, dated January 30, 2026, was included in the materials provided to the Executive Committee.

F. Legislative Activity Report

Janet Van Cuyk presented the report on legislative activity to increase compensation for Guardians ad Litem pursuant to Section IV, Part 6, Paragraph 9(j) of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The Report on 2026 Legislative Activity to Increase Compensation for Guardian ad Litem (GALs), dated February 27, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

G. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board (MCLE) Report

DaVida Davis reported on Amendments to MCLE Regulations 102, 103 and 104. The memo dated February 27-28, 2026, Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board Regulations and Opinions Revised December 15, 2025, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

II. Action Items

A. Approval of the Minutes of October 23, 2025 Meeting

Brett Marston presented a draft of the minutes of the October 23, 2025 Executive Committee meeting in Roanoke. A draft copy of the minutes was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

A motion was made by Susan Tarley, and seconded by Derek Davis, to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2025 meeting.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2025 meeting, and the motion passed.

B. Approval of the Minutes of December 11, 2025 Meeting

Brett Marston presented a draft of the minutes of the December 11, 2025 Executive Committee virtual meeting. A draft copy of the minutes was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

A motion was made by Susan Tarley, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2025 meeting.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2025 meeting, and the motion passed.

C. Approval of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget

Lonnie “Chip” Nunley presented the request for approval of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget as approved by the Budget and Finance Committee. A copy of the FY 2027 Proposed Budget, dated February 2, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

After a discussion, a motion was made by Ann Marie Park, and seconded by Derek Davis, to approve the FY 2027 Proposed Budget.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY 2027 Proposed Budget, and the motion passed.

D. Approval of Nominating Committee Recommendations for Appointments

Michael York presented the request for approval of the Nominating Committee Recommendations for 2026-2027. A copy of the Nominating Committee Report dated February 9, 2026, was included in the materials provided to the Executive Committee.

- American Bar Association
 - Nominating Committee Recommendation for Appointment:
 - Weiner, Brianna B.

A motion was made by Derek Davis, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to approve the Nominating Committee recommendation for appointment, and send to Council with a

recommendation for appointment to the American Bar Association House of Delegates.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the Nominating Committee recommendation, and the motion passed.

- Clients' Protection Fund Board
 - Nominating Committee Recommendations for Appointment:
 - Tarley, Jr., John
 - Nominating Committee Recommendations for Reappointment
 - Bentley, Lori J.
 - Gibney, Yvonne S.
 - Simmons, Liza S.

A motion was made by Derek Davis, and seconded by Ann Marie Park, to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and send them to Council with a recommendation for appointment to the Clients' Protection Fund Board.

The Executive Committee voted eleven (11) votes yes, no one opposed, with Susan Tarley abstaining to approve the recommendations and the motion passed.

- Council Members at Large
 - Nominating Committee Recommendations for Appointment:
 - Davies, Peter H.
 - Lawson, Jill K.
 - Nominating Committee Recommendation for Reappointment:
 - Newton, Molly E.

A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Susan Tarley, to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendations and send them to Council for approval and submission to the Supreme Court.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and the motion passed.

- Disciplinary Board
 - Committee Recommendations for Appointment
 - McCandless, Jason L.
 - Stephenson, Tambera D., lay member
 - Worster III, Robert M.
 - Committee Recommendations for Reappointment
 - Boyce, Dawn E.

- Nash, Mary Beth
- Smith, Theodore, lay member
- Wilks, Reiss F.

A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Debra Powers, to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and send them to Council for approval and submission to the Supreme Court.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendations and the motion passed.

- Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board
 - Nominating Committee Recommendations for Appointment
 - Leslie, Christopher C.
 - Nominating Committee Recommendations for Reappointment
 - Armstrong, Thomas H.
 - Martingayle, Kevin E.
 - Stephenson, Scott A.

A motion was made by Susan Tarley, and seconded by Ann Marie Park, to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendations and send them to Council for approval and submission to the Supreme Court for appointment to the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and the motion passed.

E. Approval of Disciplinary District Committee Nomination

Cameron Rountree presented the recommendation for a disciplinary district committee appointment to the Fifth District Disciplinary Committee, Section III. A copy of the memo Request for Approval of Appointment to Disciplinary District Committee, dated February 27-28, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

A motion was made by Michael York, and seconded by E. M. Wright, Jr., to vote to approve attorney nominee Matthew A. Crist, for appointment to the Fifth District Disciplinary Committee, Section III.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve the attorney nominee Matthew A. Crist and the motion passed.

F. Approval of Amendments to VSB Section Bylaws and Solicitation or Receipt of Grants and Other Funds.

Mallory Ralston presented a request for approval, and a recommendation to Council, to repeal the existing governing section bylaws, and to adopt proposed changes, effective February 28, 2026. A memorandum dated February 27-28, 2026, VSB Section and

Former Conference Bylaws Amendments, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

After a discussion, a motion was made by Susan Tarley, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to vote to approve and send to Council with recommendations that Council repeal the existing governing bylaws, and adopt the proposed changes, effective February 28, 2026, for the sections listed below:

- Administrative Law Section (last amended in 2004).
- Antitrust, Franchise and Trade Regulation Section (“Antitrust Law”) (last amended in 1991).
- Antitrust Law Section to change its name to the “Antitrust and Consumer Protection Section,” effective immediately (February 28, 2026).
- Business Law Section (last amended in 2015).
- Construction Law & Public Contracts Section (last amended in 2009).
- Corporate Counsel Section (last amended in 2009).
- Criminal Law Section (last amended in 2019).
- International Practice (last amended in 2012).
- Real Property Section (last amended in 2010).
- Taxation Section (last amended in 2001).
- Taxation Section to change its name to the “Taxation Law Section”, effective immediately (February 28, 2026).
- Trusts & Estates Section (last amended in 2011).
- Young Lawyers Section (last amended October 2025).

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve and the motion passed.

G. Approval of Amendments to Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(c)

Michael Robinson presented a request for approval of an amendment to Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(c) as approved by the Legal Ethics Committee. A copy of the memo, Proposed Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(c) – Conflict of Interest-Former Client, dated February 28, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

After a discussion, a motion was made by Michael York, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to approve the request to amend Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(c), as approved by the Legal Ethics Committee, and send to Council with a recommendation to approve.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve and the motion passed.

H. Approval of Amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules

Michael Robinson presented a request for approval of proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules, as approved by the Legal Ethics Committee. A copy of the memo, Proposed UPL Rules, dated February 28, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee.

After a discussion, a motion was made by Ann Marie Park, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to amend the proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules.

The Executive Committee voted six (6) yes, five (5) opposed, with Brett Marston abstaining, to amend the proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules, and the motion passed.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Ann Marie Park, and seconded by Bruce Russell, to reconsider the amendments to the proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules.

The Executive Committee voted eleven (11) yes, no one opposed, and with Brett Marston abstaining, to reconsider the amendments to the proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules, and the motion passed.

After a final discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Derek Davis, to table the vote on the amended proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules.

The Executive Committee voted six (6) yes, five (5) opposed, with Brett Marston abstaining, to table the vote on the proposed amendments to Part 6, § I, Paragraph 3(O) of the Rules of Court, Unauthorized Practice Rules. The matter was tabled and no recommendation was made to Council.

I. Approval of Grant and Donation Solicitation Request

Mallory Ralston presented the request for the approval of the solicitation, or receipt of grants and other funds. A memorandum dated February 27, 2026, Section Solicitation or Donation of Funds or Grant Requests, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee. The VSB Request Form for Solicitation or Receipt of Grants and Other Funds, from the Antitrust, Franchise and Trade Regulation Law Section, dated February 13, 2026, was distributed to the Committee at the meeting.

A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Barbara Anderson, to approve the Requests for the Approval of the Solicitation, or Receipt of Grants and Other Funds for the sections listed below:

- Antitrust, Franchise and Trade Regulation Law Section
 - Reception to be attended by members of the Antitrust, Health and Environmental Law Sections.
- Business Law Section

- 52nd Annual Advanced Business Law Conference
- Local and Specialty Bar Section
 - To Support the various projects of the Local and Specialty Bar Section.

The Executive Committee unanimously voted to approve the requests and the motion passed.

J. Approval of Professionalism Course Extension Requests

Megan Connor presented member requests for approval of professionalism course extensions. A copy of the memo, VSB Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course Extension Requests, dated February 2, 2026, was included in the meeting materials provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting for the members listed below:

1. Nereida G. L. Favela, Circuit 33-Washington, DC
 - A motion was made by Ann Marie Park, and seconded by Chidinma Harley, to accept the staff recommendation to not grant the request for an extension to August 13, 2026.
 - The Executive Committee voted, ten (10) yes, with no one opposed, Michael York and Bruce Russell abstaining, to accept the staff recommendation not to grant the request for an extension, and the motion passed.
2. Heather M. Hathaway, Circuit 33-Overland Park, KS
 - A motion was made by Debra Powers, and seconded by Derek Davis, to accept and approve the staff recommendation not to grant the request for an extension.
 - The Executive Committee voted, eleven (11) yes, with no one opposed, and member Bruce Russell abstaining, to accept and the staff recommendation not to grant the request for an extension, and the motion passed.
3. Angela M. Tonello, Circuit 19-Herndon
 - A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Derek Davis, to accept and approve the staff recommendation to grant the request for an extension through December 31, 2026.
 - The Executive Committee unanimously voted to accept the staff recommendation granting the request for an extension through December 31, 2026, and the motion passed.

The following extension requests were received after the meeting materials were finalized. A supplement to the original memo was distributed to the Executive Committee during the meeting for the following members:

4. Erin L. Collins, Circuit 33-Las Vegas, NV
 - A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Chidinma Harley, to accept and approve the staff's recommendation to grant the request for an extension through September 20, 2026.
 - The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept and approve the staff recommendation to grant the request for an extension through September 20, 2026, and the motion passed.

5. Emily L. Siron, Circuit 13-Richmond

- A motion was made by Bruce Russell, and seconded by Chidinma Harley, to accept and approve the staff's recommendation to grant the request for an extension through September 30, 2026.
- The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept and approve the staff recommendation to grant the request for an extension through September 30, 2026, and the motion passed.

K. Approval of Executive Director Performance Review (Closed Session)

Brett Marston requested a motion to convene in a closed session to discuss the Executive Director Performance Review Subcommittee report.

A motion was made by Susan Tarley, and seconded by Michael York, pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, to convene a closed session for the following purpose: Discussion of personnel information concerning identifiable individuals, as authorized by to § 2.2-3705.1(1) of the Code of Virginia.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept and approve the motion made pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, to convene a closed session for the following purpose: Discussion of personnel information concerning identifiable individuals, as authorized by to § 2.2-3705.1(1) of the Code of Virginia, and the motion passed.

L. Certification

Brett Marston requested, after the Executive Committee reconvened in open session, each member responded to the following certification:

"To the best of my knowledge, I certify that only public business matters lawfully exempt from the VFOIA open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting of the Executive Committee."

All Executive Committee members responded "yes" in response to the request for certification, and the meeting reconvened in open session.

M. Adjournment

There being no other business for the Executive Committee, at 2:24 p.m., in open session, the meeting was adjourned.

TAB 5



Virginia State Bar
1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 24219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

Date: April 15, 2026

To: Executive Committee

From: Michael M. York
Immediate Past President
Chair, Nominating Committee

Re: Nominating Committee Appointment Recommendations for 2026-2027
American Bar Association House of Delegates and Disciplinary Board

The Virginia State Bar ("VSB") Nominating Committee met virtually on Tuesday, April 2, 2026, to review, discuss, and recommend candidates for appointment to the American Bar Association House of Delegates and the Disciplinary Board.

Present were Michael M. ("Mike") York, chair; Committee members, D. Sue ("Susie") Baker, William J. ("Will") Egen, Bretta M. Z. Lewis, Luis A. Perez, and Joanna L. Suyes attended via Microsoft Teams. In accordance with Part I, Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws of the Virginia State Bar. VSB staff, Executive Director Cameron M. Rountree and Deputy Executive Director Janet P. Van Cuyk announced that a quorum was present. Assistant to the Executive Director Shawne D. Moore also attended.

Requested Executive Committee Action: After considerable discussion, the Nominating Committee submits the following recommendations for consideration and approval.

Appointments to the American Bar Association House of Delegates, Tracy A. Giles; and to the Disciplinary Board William H. "Bill" Atwill, Jr., and forward the recommendation for the Disciplinary Board to the Supreme Court, requesting the Court's approval and appointment of Bill Atwill to the Disciplinary Board.

Meeting Notes:

- **ABA House of Delegate Apportionment/Vacancy and Nomination:** Cameron updated the committee on the vacancy in the ABA House of Delegates, and

recommended Tracy A. Giles for the at-large seat. Cameron shared Tracy's substantial background in both state and national bar activities, including service on the ABA Board of Governors, MCLE Board, and various committees. Joanna made a motion to nominate Tracy, which was seconded and approved by a voice vote.

- **Background:** Cameron explained that Virginia currently has six (6) seats for the ABA House of Delegates, with a review process every five (5) years to determine state allotments. He noted that two (2) seats are reserved for the VSB president and president-elect, while four (4) are at-large. Due to President-Elect Susan B. Tarley not being an ABA member, a vacancy is anticipated beginning August 2026.
- **Discussion of ABA Day and Delegate Role:** Mike described his recent participation in ABA Day on Capitol Hill, emphasizing the non-partisan nature of the initiatives discussed, such as judicial security. He recounted conversations with Tracy about the VSB's relationship with the ABA and Tracy's balanced perspective, reinforcing his suitability for the delegate role.
- **Disciplinary Board Vacancy and Candidate Selection:** Janet presented the committee with three (3) exceedingly qualified candidates to fill the Disciplinary Board vacancy left by Robin J. Kegley's 27th district judicial appointment: Bill Atwell, Vicki L. Francois, and Kamala H. Lannetti. The committee was challenged to arrive at a single recommendation. At the meeting's end, the committee voted to recommend former Disciplinary Board chair, Bill Atwill of Kilmarnock, for the board seat.

Attachment: Nominating Committee Report for April 2, 2026

2026-27 American Bar Association House of Delegates

There are six (6) delegates: the President, President-elect, one member from the Young Lawyer's Section and three at-large members. Members are appointed by Council to two-year terms and may serve three consecutive terms.

Committee Recommendation:

Giles, Tracy A. (2028/1) 23-Roanoke

Continuing Members: 5

Biberaj, Buta	(2027/2)	20-Leesburg
Little, Melissa A.	(2027/2)	14-Henrico
Nelson, Margaret A.	(2027/1)	24-Lynchburg
Russell II, Bruce H.	(2028/1)	28-Abingdon
Weiner, Brianna B.	(2028/2)	19-Fairfax / YLS member

2026-27 DISCIPLINARY BOARD

There are twenty (20) members on the Disciplinary Board: Sixteen members must be active VSB members and four shall be non-lawyers. All must have served previously on a district committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Atwill, Jr., William H. (2028/U) 15-Kilmarnock Seventh District Committee

Continuing Members: 19

Boyce, Dawn E.	(2029/2)	19-Fairfax
Carroll, Adam M.	(2028/2)	02-Virginia Beach
Friend, Melanie A.	(2027/1)	12-Chesterfield
Gibney, Yvonne S.	(2027/1)	13-Richmond
Grady, Carolyn V.	(2028/1)	13-Richmond
Haddow, Colleen M.	(2028/1)	18-Alexandria
Martin, Alison G. M.	(2028/2)	14-Henrico
Martingayle, Elisabeth	(2028/2)	Lay Member-Va. Beach
Massenburg, Jr., Samuel	(2027/1)	Lay Member-Haymarket
McCandless, Jason L.	(2029/1)	17-Arlington
Moore, Michael C.	(2027/1)	13-Richmond
Nash, Mary Beth	(2029/2)	23-Roanoke
Plantania, Joseph D.	(2028/2)	16-Charlottesville
Royer, Jennifer D.	(2027/2)	23-Roanoke
Smith, Theodore	(2029/2)	Lay Member-Fredericksburg
Stephenson, Tamera D.	(2029/1)	Lay Member-Covington
Tiller, David R.	(2028/1)	28-Lebanon
Wilks, Reis F.	(2029/2)	13-Richmond
Worster III, Robert M.	(2029/1)	19-Fairfax

Other Candidates: 2

Francois, Vicki L.

Lannetti, Kamala H.

23-Roanoke

02-Va. Beach

Eighth District Committee

Second District Committee – Section I

TAB 6



Virginia State Bar

To: The Virginia State Bar Executive Committee
From: Janet P. Van Cuyk, Deputy Executive Director
Date: April 29, 2026
Re: Request for Solicitation, Access to Legal Services Pro Bono Grant

I. SUMMARY:

The Virginia State Bar (VSB) respectfully requests the Executive Committee to approve its solicitation of a one-year grant from the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation (GRBF) to support the VSB's involvement in the Supreme Court of Virginia's (Court's) Virginia Commission on Access to Justice's (Commission's) Pro Bono Virginia ([PBV](#)) Campaign. The grant funding would allow the VSB to hire a full-time position to coordinate statewide PBV activities.

II. BACKGROUND

The VSB is an administrative agency of the Court responsible for regulating the legal profession in Virginia with part of its mission "to advance access to legal services" in Virginia and a 2025-2028 Strategic Plan goal to "advance access to legal services for all Virginians." PBV is a statewide initiative to promote, increase, and sustain pro bono publico legal services across the Commonwealth; remove barriers to Virginia lawyers providing such services; and institutionalize a longitudinal, coordinated approach for providing pro bono publico legal services to low-income and underserved Virginians.

The VSB is seeking to apply for grant funding to support a full-time, grant-funded position to support the goals of PBV and to serve the public and legal profession by supporting, facilitating, and promoting the delivery of pro bono legal services throughout the Commonwealth. The VSB currently does not have sufficient operating funds to support this position. The VSB is operating at a budget deficit and, without an increase in its annual membership dues, will deplete its reserve funds by Fiscal Year (FY) 2030. Should a dues increase be approved by the Court, the VSB anticipates supplanting the grant-funding with operating funds to make the position a full-time, VSB-funded position in FY 2028.

The grant-funded employee will manage and coordinate statewide pro bono activities with the following goals:

- Increase pro bono participation among Virginia lawyers.
- Strengthen volunteer attorney engagement and satisfaction.
- Improve statewide coordination of pro bono delivery systems.
- Enhance infrastructure such as reporting, centralized information, training, and technology.

- Support Qualified Legal Services Providers (QLSPs), bar associations, and community partners.
- Promote a unified, modernized, accessible approach to pro bono legal services.
- Build community between volunteers, direct service providers, and stakeholder organizations.
- Nurture a positive pro bono culture across the legal profession.

Grant funds must be used to support, implement, and advance PBV programming statewide, as directed by the PBV's steering committee. The VSB would be responsible for hiring, training, and supervising a full-time employee. The position would be supervised by the VSB's Director of Access to Legal Services, Crista Gantz.

The VSB anticipates total grant funds will not exceed \$160,000. Grant funds will be used for the following:

- The salary and benefits of a full-time, grant-funded employee of the VSB. Benefits may be in the amount equal to, but may not exceed, those of the VSB's other employees.
- Reasonable administrative costs (e.g., software, printing, and mailing). Administrative costs must be approved, in advance, by the GRBF; and the GRBF may cap the amount of any such expenditures.
- The grant-funded employee's reasonable travel expenses. Travel expenses may be reimbursed in the amount equal to, but may not exceed, those of the VSB's reimbursement guidelines.

III. REQUEST

The VSB requests the VSB's solicitation of a grant from the GRBF, up to but no greater than \$160,000, to support PBV. Grant funds would be used for a full-time grant-funded position, reasonable administrative costs, and travel expenses to support statewide PBV Campaign implementation.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR REQUEST FORM FOR SOLICITATION OR RECEIPT OF GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDS

The Virginia State Bar (Operations) Access to Legal Services Department

Virginia State Bar (VSB) policy requires approval by the executive director **BEFORE** solicitation or acceptance of any grant or receipt of funds, and approval by the Executive Committee **BEFORE** solicitation or acceptance of funds from any entity.

Are you applying for a grant? X yes no

Are you soliciting or receiving funds from individuals? yes X no

Are you soliciting or receiving funds from organizations? X yes no

- 1. Describe the project or event you want funded by money solicited or received from another entity or from grant funds. Include anticipated accomplishments, goals, time frame, any sponsors or co-sponsors, the target audience, beneficiaries, etc.**

Part of the VSB's mission is "to advance access to legal services" in Virginia and a 2025-2028 Strategic Plan goal is to "advance access to legal services for all Virginians." Pro Bono Virginia ([PBV](#)) is a statewide initiative to promote, increase, and sustain pro bono publico legal services across the Commonwealth; remove barriers to Virginia lawyers providing such services; and institutionalize a longitudinal, coordinated approach for providing pro bono publico legal services to low-income and underserved Virginians.

The VSB will apply for grant funding to support a full-time, grant-funded position to support the goals of PBV and to serve the public and legal profession by supporting, facilitating, and promoting the delivery of pro bono legal services throughout the Commonwealth. The grant-funded employee will manage and coordinate statewide pro bono activities with the following goals:

- Increase pro bono participation among Virginia lawyers.
- Strengthen volunteer attorney engagement and satisfaction.
- Improve statewide coordination of pro bono delivery systems.
- Enhance infrastructure such as reporting, centralized information, training, and technology.
- Support Qualified Legal Services Providers (QLSPs), bar associations, and community partners.
- Promote a unified, modernized, accessible approach to pro bono legal services.
- Build community between volunteers, direct service providers, and stakeholder organizations.
- Nurture a positive pro bono culture across the legal profession.

2. If this is a grant, what organization will be providing the funds if the grant application is approved? Please attach a copy of the grant application you intend to file.

The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation. The [GRBF](#) is a Virginia Nonstock Corporation organized for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The GRBF's mission is "to expand access to Justice by mobilizing, training, and connecting attorneys to pro bono clients" and vision is "for all attorneys to commit to pro bono service."

3. What is the budget for this project or event?

The VSB anticipates total grant funds to not exceed \$160,000. Grant funds will be used for the following:

- The salary and benefits of a full-time, grant-funded employee of the VSB. Benefits may be in the amount equal to, but may not exceed, those of the VSB's other employees.
- Reasonable administrative costs (e.g., software, printing, and mailing). Administrative costs must be approved, in advance, by the grantor; and grantor may cap the amount of any such expenditures.
- The grant-funded employee's reasonable travel expenses. Travel expenses may be reimbursed in the amount equal to, but may not exceed, those of the VSB's reimbursement guidelines.

4. How much money will be provided by the granting organization? Will the bar be obligated in any way (dollars or staff support)?

The VSB anticipates total grant funds to not exceed \$160,000 to be paid on July 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027.

The VSB will be obligated to competitively hire, on-board, and supervise the grant-funded employee. If awarded the grant, the employee would be supervised by the Director of Access to Legal Services, Crista Gantz.

5. Why do you want to use grant funds or funds solicited or received from individuals or another organization? Why is this project not included in the VSB operating budget?

The VSB currently does not have sufficient operating funds to support this position. The VSB is operating at a budget deficit and, without an increase in its annual membership dues, will deplete its reserve funds by 2030. Should a dues increase be approved by the Supreme Court of Virginia, the VSB anticipates supplanting the grant-funding with operating funds to make the position a full-time, VSB-funded position in Fiscal Year 2028.

- 6. Who will manage/oversee the project or event? Grant management includes making sure expenses are allowed within the approved grant and within the guidelines of the Virginia State Bar; reviewing and approving invoices for payment and filing periodic reports as required by the grantor in a timely manner.**

The grant-funded employee will be supervised by and the grant will be managed by the Director of Access to Legal Services, Crista Gantz.

- 7. Has this project been implemented before?**

No.

- 8. Is there any other bar association that has a similar project?**

No.

- 9. Have there been previous requests for solicitation or grant funds for a similar project? If so, what was the Executive Committee or executive director action on any previous requests?**

No.

- 10. If this is a solicitation for funds or approval request for receipt of funds from individuals or organizations, please provide the following:**

- a. Who/how many persons or entities will be solicited or who and how many persons or entities are offering or donating funds.**

The VSB will apply for grant funds only from the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation.

- b. Whether the person or entity has been solicited before by the VSB or has previously donated or offered funds to the VSB.**

No.

- c. Whether this is a one-time solicitation request.**

Yes.

- d. Amount/contribution requested.**

The VSB anticipates total grant funds to not exceed \$160,000, to be paid on July 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027.

TAB 7



Virginia State Bar

2026 GRANT APPLICATION

Statewide Pro Bono Coordination for Pro Bono Virginia Partnership

Applicant: The Virginia State Bar
Target Area: Commonwealth of Virginia – Statewide
Grant Period: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
Amount Requested: \$160,000 (\$80,000 on July 1, 2026 and January 1, 2027)
Date: May 4, 2026

I. ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The Virginia State Bar (VSB) is an administrative agency of the Supreme Court of Virginia (Court) responsible for regulating the legal profession in the Commonwealth with a part of its mission “to advance access to legal services” in Virginia and a 2025-2028 Strategic Plan goal to “advance access to legal services for all Virginians.”

How the VSB Complements the PBV’s Goals:

The Court’s Virginia Access to Justice Commission’s ([Commission’s](#)) Pro Bono Virginia ([PBV](#)) Campaign is a statewide initiative to promote, increase, and sustain pro bono publico legal services across the Commonwealth; to remove barriers to Virginia lawyers providing such services; and to institutionalize a longitudinal, coordinated approach for providing pro bono publico legal services to low-income and underserved Virginians.

As detailed in the next section, the VSB is actively involved in the PBV Campaign, including serving as a member of its leadership committee and has and continues to provide support for pro bono services across the Commonwealth. Receiving the grant funding would supplement the VSB’s ongoing access to legal services initiatives and is consistent with the VSB’s mission and strategic plan goals.

Prior Work Related to Pro Bono, Legal Services, and Statewide Coordination:

Access to Legal Services Department and Access to Legal Services Committee:

The mission of the VSB’s Access to Legal Services Department (Department), which includes the Access to Legal Services Committee (Committee), includes fostering support for free and reduced fee legal services with the goal of improving access to the legal system. The Department and Committee promote pro bono publico services by Virginia lawyers and encourages the

integrated development of like contributions by law school faculty and students, lay mediators, court reporters, interpreters, tax accountants, paralegals, and members of related professions.

The Department and Committee, in collaboration with members of Virginia's judiciary, the Commission, voluntary bar associations, the Indigent Defense Commission, the Legal Services Corporation of Virginia, Qualified Legal Services Providers (QLSPs), and other stakeholders, are continually explore ways to expand and enhance opportunities for pro bono service to complement the rich regional network of existing service providers.

Virginia Free Legal Answers:

The VSB serves as the Administrator for Virginia Free Legal Answers, a virtual legal advice clinic on which the legal questions of qualifying persons will civil legal issues are answered by pro bono attorneys licensed in their state.

Virginia Lawyer Referral Service:

The Virginia Lawyer Referral Service (VLRS) connects clients to a lawyer for a consultation of up to a half hour for an administrative fee of \$35. The VLRS makes over 20 referrals a day (5,900 a year); and receives over 18,000 calls yearly.

Pro Bono Training and Pro Bono Conference:

The VSB provides in person, virtual, and on demand pro bono trainings and hosts an annual pro bono conference, either in person or virtually.

Paladin:

Most recently, in January 2026, the VSB launched a statewide pro bono portal, in partnership with Paladin, a pro bono management platform. The platform enhances pro bono engagement across the state by facilitating connections between volunteer lawyers and Qualified Legal Services Providers (QLSPs) to provide legal assistance. The VSB is the administrator for the site.

Pro Bono Reporting:

Beginning in 2019, lawyers' annual dues & fees statement has a place for the voluntary reporting of pro bono hours and financial contributions for the previous year. The VSB coordinates and reports on statewide pro bono activities.

II. PROJECT NARRATIVE

The VSB would use grant funding to support a full-time, grant-funded position to support the goals of PBV and to serve the public and legal profession by supporting, facilitating, and promoting the delivery of pro bono legal services throughout the Commonwealth. Grant funding would be used to support, implement, and advance PBV programming statewide, as directed by the PBV's steering committee. The grantee will employ and supervise a full-time employee, with benefits whose work includes, but is not limited to:

Statewide Pro Bono Coordination and Project Management:

- Serve as liaison to the PBV partner organizations (i.e., GRBF, the Commission, the VSB, and the [Virginia Bar Association](#)) and stakeholders, including handling meeting logistics, information sharing across programs, and management of PBV files and work product.

- Provide project management across core PBV programming areas.
- Advance targeted efforts related to PBV Enterprise, PBV Academy, PBV Alliance, and PBV Compass programs.

Program Implementation: Coordinate and execute PBV Campaign deliverables including, but not limited to, (i) building personalized pathways to pro bono service, (ii) community and culture-building initiatives, (iii) PBV Academy programming (iv) PBV Alliance support functions, (v) enterprise-wide communications and branding campaigns, (vi) website and portal centralization and maintenance, (vii) data collection and reporting, (viii) providing CLE and informational programming, and (ix) providing program design support across PBV programming areas.

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Plan and support PBV training, CLEs, meetings, events, information sessions, and workgroups.
- Represent PBV at relevant stakeholder meetings and statewide gatherings.

Communication and Outreach:

- Support production of informational materials, newsletters, digital communications, PBV branding content, and outreach campaigns.
- Coordinate social media, campaigns, and marketing efforts within PBV's branding structure.
- Respond to inquiries from attorneys, partners, and members of the public.

III. BUDGET

The VSB anticipates total grant funds to not exceed \$160,000. Grant funds will be used for the following:

- The salary and benefits of a full-time, grant-funded employee of the VSB. Benefits may be in the amount equal to, but may not exceed, those of the VSB's other employees: **\$112,927- \$137,721.**
- Reasonable administrative costs (e.g., software, printing, and mailing): **\$5,000 - \$7,000.**
- The grant-funded employee's reasonable travel expenses: **\$6,000 – \$9,000.**

Virginia State Bar full-time employee cost estimate

Salary	Group Life	Disability	Retiree Health Insurance Credit	Defined Benefit Retirement Rate	Hybrid DC retirement rate	FICA	Health insurance*	Total
	1.18%	0.50%	1.12%	12.52%	1.00%	7.65%		
\$90,000.00	\$1,062.00	\$450.00	\$1,008.00	\$11,268.00	\$900.00	\$6,885.00	\$26,148.00	\$137,721.00
\$80,000.00	\$944.00	\$400.00	\$896.00	\$10,016.00	\$800.00	\$6,120.00	\$26,148.00	\$125,324.00
\$70,000.00	\$826.00	\$350.00	\$784.00	\$8,764.00	\$700.00	\$5,355.00	\$26,148.00	\$112,927.00

**Cova Care, flat cost, assumes family coverage*

VIRGINIA STATE BAR REQUEST FORM FOR SOLICITATION OR RECEIPT OF GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDS

Real Property Section – Annual Meeting & Membership Reception

Bar policy requires approval by the executive director **BEFORE** solicitation or acceptance of any grant or receipt of funds, and approval by the Executive Committee **BEFORE** solicitation or acceptance of funds from any entity.

Are you applying for a grant? ____yes ☒no

Are you soliciting or receiving funds from individuals? ____yes ☒no

Are you soliciting or receiving funds from organizations? ☒yes ____no

- 1. Describe the project or event you want funded by money solicited or received from another entity or from grant funds. Include anticipated accomplishments, goals, time frame, any sponsors or co-sponsors, the target audience, beneficiaries, etc.**

The Real Property Section will host their annual business meeting on June 4 in conjunction with the VSB Annual Meeting. Section members will be invited to participate in year-end business such as the election of the following bar year's Board of Governors. The section would like to host a membership reception following the business meeting. Section dues money cannot be spent on alcohol, so the Board of Governors would like to ask a few law firms to sponsor a bar during the reception.

- 2. If this is a grant, what organization will be providing the funds if the grant application is approved? Please attach a copy of the grant application you intend to file.**

N/A

- 3. What is the budget for this project or event?**

The Section has \$1,000 allotted to their Annual Meeting Travel & Subsistence, plus additional funds that will not otherwise be spent on an educational program at the VSB Annual Meeting (the section is not sponsoring a CLE this year). All expenses for this event, including hors d'oeuvres, any rental and entertainment fees, will be covered by the Section's budget. The Section is only soliciting funds for the purpose of covering the cost of alcohol.

- 4. How much money will be provided by the granting organization? Will the bar be obligated in any way (dollars or staff support)?**

It is estimated that \$750.00 will be solicited for the cost of the bar. The Virginia State Bar will not be obligated to pay for alcohol.

- 5. Why do you want to use grant funds or funds solicited or received from individuals or another organization? Why is this project not included in the VSB operating budget?**

VSB Section funds cannot be used to pay for alcohol.

- 6. Who will manage/oversee the project or event? Grant management includes making sure expenses are allowed within the approved grant and within the guidelines of the Virginia State Bar; reviewing and approving invoices for payment and filing periodic reports as required by the grantor in a timely manner.**

VSB staff Mallory Ralston and Katina Lancaster are managing the logistics for this event with assistance from the Secretary of the Real Property Section, Jim Windsor.

- 7. Has this project been implemented before?**

Yes, but this section typically hosts two separate events that are now being combined into one. Typically, alcohol at their dinner is paid for by individuals. The Section feels that local firms would be interested in supporting this year's membership reception by sponsoring the bar.

- 8. Is there any other bar association that has a similar project?**

Yes, the VBA and other VSB Sections host membership meetings and receptions often.

- 9. Have there been previous requests for solicitation or grant funds for a similar project? If so, what was the Executive Committee or executive director action on any previous requests?**

Yes, the request to solicit funds for this purpose is common since VSB money cannot be spent on alcohol.

- 10. If this is a solicitation for funds or approval request for receipt of funds from individuals or organizations, please provide the following:**

- a. Who/how many persons or entities will be solicited or who and how many persons or entities are offering or donating funds.**

Approximately five law firms will be presented with the opportunity to sponsor the bar for this reception. The section will cease solicitation once the requested amount has been met. If additional funds are provided, they will not be absorbed by the VSB, rather put towards the meeting/reception.

b. Whether the person or entity has been solicited before by the VSB or has previously donated or offered funds to the VSB.

It is unlikely that these firms have been solicited before by the VSB. The Real Property Section does not regularly solicit funds. However, some larger law firms may have been solicited for funding of other VSB programs.

c. Whether this is a one-time solicitation request.

This is likely to be a recurring request if the event is a success.

d. Amount/contribution requested.

\$750.00

Submitted by: **Mallory Ralston, Director of Bar Programs & Engagement**

Date: 4/9/2026

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

TAB 8



Virginia State Bar

1111 E. Main Street, Suite 700
Richmond, Virginia 23219-0026
Telephone: (804) 775-0500

To: VSB Executive Committee

From: Megan Connor, Deputy Director, Bar Programs & Engagement

Date: April 2, 2026

Re: VSB Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course Extension Requests

I. Action Requested

Pursuant to Rule 13.1 Suspension for Failure to Complete Professionalism Course—

Each person admitted to the Virginia State Bar on or after July 1, 1988, as an active member shall complete the course of study prescribed by the Executive Committee of the Virginia State Bar and approved by the Supreme Court of Virginia on the Rules of Professional Conduct and the lawyer's broader professional obligations, and any active member who fails to complete the course shall be suspended unless an extension is obtained for good cause shown. Such course of study shall be funded by attendance fees paid by those attending the course.

Any active member licensed after June 30, 1988, and any other member who changes his or her membership to active status shall complete the required course within twenty-four months of becoming an active member. Failure to comply with this Rule shall subject the active member to the penalties set forth in Paragraph 19 herein.

“Good cause shown” as used herein shall include illness, hospitalization or such other cause as may be determined by the Executive Committee, whose determination shall be final. The Executive Director of the Virginia State Bar is authorized to grant extensions for compliance with this paragraph until the next Executive Committee meeting. Any determination by the Executive Committee or the Executive Director may be reviewed by the Supreme Court on request of the member seeking an extension.

the VSB Executive Committee is charged with evaluating requests for extensions of time to complete the course.

The following **extensions** have been requested:

Cody Steven Barnett

Office of the Attorney General

1446 K Street, Room 2115, Lincoln, NE 68508

Bar ID 99726

Bar Register Date: 4/17/2024

Course Due Date: 4/17/2026

Mr. Barnett is **requesting an extension through June 5, 2026**, so that he may attend the course on June 4 in Virginia Beach. Mr. Barnett was previously registered to attend the course on March 12, but his flight from Nebraska was significantly delayed, and he could not make his connecting flight to Virginia.

This request does not fall into an existing category in the Executive Committee Professionalism Course Extension Guidelines.

Staff recommend granting the extension.

Imogen Amy Marea Francis

11705 Hadley Street

501/110 Kitchener Road, Auckland, New Zealand 0620

Bar ID 100415

Bar Register Date: 10/11/2024

Course Due Date: 10/21/2026

Ms. Francis is **requesting an extension through February 1, 2027**. Ms. Francis had been living in the United States on a temporary work visa but returned to New Zealand when that visa expired. She is currently awaiting a decision on her pending K-1 visa application.

This request does not fall into an existing category in the Executive Committee Professionalism Course Extension Guidelines.

Staff recommend granting the extension.

Yunus M. Paisner

Yunus Muhammad PC

440 N. Barranca Ave #7987, Covina, CA 91723

Bar ID 100247

Bar Register Date: 9/4/2024

Course Due Date: 9/9/2026

Mr. Paisner is **requesting an extension through September 18, 2026**, so that he may attend the course in Richmond on that date, due to work and familial obligations that prevent him from attending an earlier offering.

This request falls into Executive Committee Professionalism Course Extension Guideline #2:

Convenience Argument: Rarely is an extension granted to allow an attorney to attend a course at a more convenient location. The attorney is usually required to attend during the 60-day Notice of Delinquency period and pay the required fee. Again, the facts and circumstances of each situation may require a different result. For instance, circumstances warranting a request to attend a program closer to home which may require an extension would be if the attorney had been ill and is still unable to travel long distances; or if a child or other family member at home is terminally ill.

Staff does *not* recommend granting the extension. Mr. Paisner may complete the course requirement during the Notice of Delinquency period and pay the \$50.00 fine.

Full submissions:

Cody Steven Barnett

Office of the Attorney General

1446 K Street, Room 2115

Lincoln, NE 68508

Bar ID 99726

Bar Register Date: 4/17/2024

Course Due Date: 4/17/2026

Not long after joining the Virginia Bar, I was appointed Solicitor General for the State of Nebraska. I tried to attend the professionalism course before moving to Nebraska to start the new position, but the pertinent dates were booked. After settling into the new position, I tried again to schedule a time to fly out and attend the course. The first two times I tried, the dates were booked. But I was able to secure a seat at the March 12, 2026 course, a month before my compliance deadline.

On March 11, my flight was originally set to leave Lincoln for Chicago and then on to Roanoke. The flight got delayed several times until it reached the point I could no longer make any connection into Roanoke. I called the Virginia State Bar and emailed both Megan Connor and Brooke Landers about the situation. I was informed that my registration for the course would be shifted to the next available date, June 4, and received a confirmation email this morning. I therefore humbly request a short extension to cover the month or so between my compliance deadline of April 17, 2026, and the next available course offered, June 4.

Imogen Amy Marea Francis

11705 Hadley Street

501/110 Kitchener Road, Auckland, New Zealand 0620

Bar ID 100415

Bar Register Date: 10/11/2024

Course Due Date: 10/21/2026

I am a New Zealand citizen and was on a temporary work visa when I passed the bar exam. Unfortunately, I had to leave the United States in August 2025, due to my visa expiring and not being able to secure another visa. I have since been residing in New Zealand, waiting for my pending K1 fiancé visa to be approved. My visa is expected to come through around November 2026.

While waiting to receive my visa I am hesitant to leave New Zealand, as when it is granted I need to attend an interview at the United States Embassy in Auckland, New Zealand. I am requesting a short extension to allow me to take the professionalism course once I am back in the United States after my visa has been granted.

Yunus M. Paisner

Yunus Muhammad PC

440 N. Barranca Ave #7987, Covina, CA 91723

Bar ID 100247

Bar Register Date: 9/4/2024

Course Due Date: 9/9/2026

This is a request for a short extension to complete the professionalism course. The following are pertinent facts in support of this request:

1. I am based out of state in Oregon, and will need to travel to Virginia for the sole purpose to attend this course.
2. Looking at the future courses offered I have the following conflicts:
 - a. June 4: I am in the middle of a jury trial that begins on May 27, 2026 in Oregon Circuit Court.
 - b. August 13: I have a previously scheduled summer out of town trip with two of my teenage children. This summer parenting time required a reservation per a court order and cannot be changed at this time without the time being lost for summer. These plans include already paid reservation fees.