



Virginia Law Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Virginia Law Foundation Announces New Board Members and Officers for 2026

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, **January 6, 2026** — The Virginia Law Foundation (VLF) welcomes two members and a new slate of officers to its Board of Directors for 2026.

For 37 years, **David J. Gogal** has practiced civil litigation at Blankingship & Keith, P.C., and he now begins his one-year term as president of the VLF. He has held numerous leadership roles, most recently chair of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board, but also chair of the Committee on Lawyer Discipline, president of the Fairfax Bar Association, and member of both Bar Council and the Virginia Bar Association Board. He has contributed to improving justice and the Rule of Law by chairing several Boyd-Graves Conference committees.

Additionally, Gogal has served on the faculty of the VLF's National Trial Advocacy College since 1993 and has edited the Fairfax Bar Association Circuit Court Practice Manual for more than two decades. His volunteerism includes decades of civic involvement, including mentoring law students in pro bono service and teaching in high school model judiciary programs, middle school mock trials, and Rule of Law presentations, as well as serving as a Scout leader, youth sports coach, and president of the Fairfax Police Youth Club.

“I am both honored and excited to be the president of the Virginia Law Foundation in this semiquincentennial year of our nation,” says Gogal. “Under the exceptional leadership of our CEO Alison Martin and our hardworking staff, the VLF continues to be the premier provider of continuing legal education in Virginia and an impactful philanthropic organization.”

As the United States celebrates its 250th Anniversary, the VLF is looking forward to presenting relevant programming on constitutional law in collaboration with Mount Vernon and other partners. Gogal points out, “As the President of the Constitutional Convention and, of course, our nation’s first president, George Washington knew all too well the importance of our Constitution, an independent judiciary, and the Rule of Law. In his April 3, 1790, letter to the chief justice and associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, he noted:

‘... I have always been persuaded that the stability and success of the national Government, and consequently the happiness of the People of the United States, would depend in a considerable degree on the Interpretation and Execution of its Laws.... In my opinion, therefore, it is important that the Judiciary System should not only be independent in its operations, but as perfect as possible in its formation.’

It’s a privilege to uphold our country’s founding principles and work with the Virginia Law Foundation to continue to promote, through philanthropy, the Rule of Law, access to justice, and law-related education.”

VLF’s executive committee for 2026 also includes:

- President-Elect — **Edward L. Weiner**, founding partner, Weiner, Spivey & Miller, PLC
- Vice-President — **Darrel Tillar Mason**, founder, Darrel Tillar Mason, PLC
- Immediate-Past President — **Stephen E. Noona**, member and chair of litigation, Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.
- Secretary — **Teresa L. Moore**, vice president of administration, Virginia Law Foundation
- Treasurer — **Tekoi L. Dent**, chief financial officer, Virginia Law Foundation



David J. Gogal

The VLF also welcomes the following individuals to begin three-year terms:

- **Victor O. Cardwell**, principal and chair of the board, WoodsRogers
- **Chidi I. James**, principal, Blankingship & Keith, P.C.

Now beginning her second year as **CEO, Brigadier General (Ret.) Alison Martin** speaks to the critical role volunteers play in the advancement of the organization's mission and impact: "I feel privileged to work alongside a board comprised of some of the most vibrant legal leaders in the Commonwealth. These passionate volunteers help connect the VLF with our statewide community, steer our philanthropic efforts—now totaling more than \$30M in grants—toward the greatest need, and shape the educational experiences we provide to support Virginia attorneys. We look forward to another productive year working to create a more just Virginia."

For more information on the VLF's leadership and mission, visit virginialawfoundation.org.

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About the Virginia Law Foundation

The Virginia Law Foundation has provided more than \$30 million in grants since its inception to support law-related projects throughout the Commonwealth that further its mission to facilitate access to justice and promote an understanding of the Rule of Law.

Virginia CLE, the VLF's education division, is the recognized leader in providing continuing education for Virginia lawyers.

The Virginia Law Foundation accepts donations year-round and guarantees that 100% of every unrestricted donation is allocated to the grants program. Its two designated funds include the Bobzien-Gaither Education Fund, which supports ongoing continuing legal education and engagement, and the Adam Roush Fund for Wellness, which supports wellness programming and equitable access to well-being resources for legal professionals.

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