

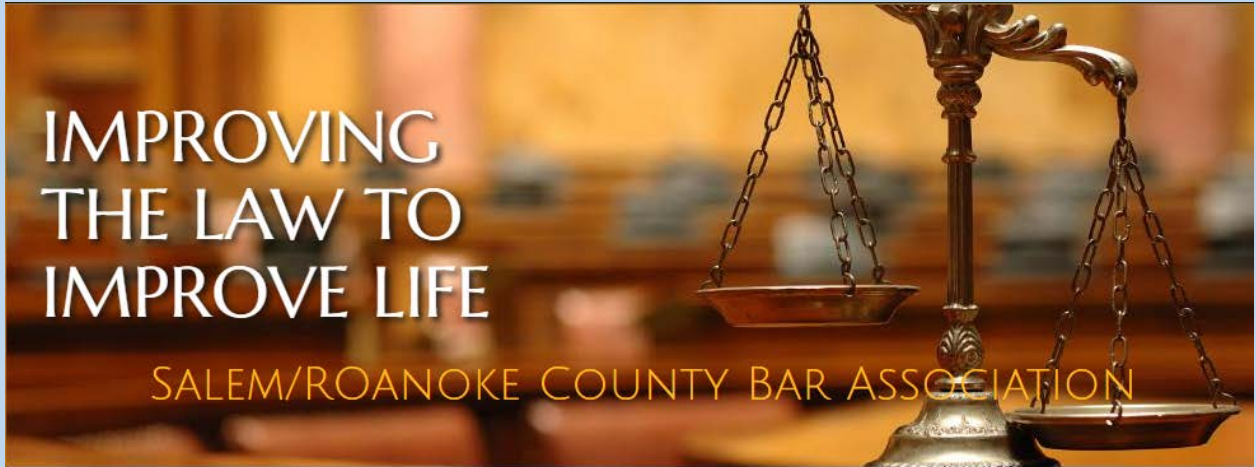
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2020-2021 Officers

Mary Beth Nash, President

Rachel Thompson, 1st Vice President James Steele, 2nd Vice President

Jamie McGuire, Secretary-Treasurer Jessica Preston, Judge Advocate

Adam Moseley, Immediate Past President

Upcoming Meeting Dates

October 2, 2020 and October 16, 2020
Virtual CLE Programs
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Details and Agenda to Be Announced

December 10, 2020
Annual Christmas and Holiday Party
(Tentative pending COVID-19 Restrictions)

WEBLINKS

(all will open a new tab or window)
Legal Organizations and Courts

[Virginia State Bar](#) [Virginia Bar Association](#) [Roanoke Bar Association](#)

[Virginia Mountain/Valley Lawyers' Alliance](#)

[Virginia Supreme Court](#) [Virginia Court of Appeals](#)
[United States Supreme Court](#)

[US 4th Circuit Court of Appeals](#) [US District Court for the Western District of Virginia](#)
[US Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia](#)

Indigent and Mental Health Services

[Blue Ridge Legal Services](#) [Legal Aid Society of the Roanoke Valley](#)

[Virginia Indigent Defense Commission](#)

[Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Services](#)

[LawHelp.org](#)

Legal Research

[Code of Virginia](#) [Virginia Administrative Code](#)

[US Code](#) [Code of Federal Regulation](#)

[LexisWeb](#)

Legal Commentary and News

[Virginia Lawyers Weekly](#) [Wall Street Journal Law Blog](#)

[Virginia Appellate News and Analysis](#) [SW Virginia Law Blog](#)

[Jurist.org](#) [Above the Law](#) [The Federalist Papers](#) [Crime Report](#) [SCOTUSBlog](#)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

[The Richard Lee Lawrence Lifetime Service Award](#)
[The George W. Harris, Jr. Judicial Service Award](#)
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The Richard Lee Lawrence Lifetime Service Award

The Association established the Richard Lee Lawrence Lifetime Service Award in 2015 to recognize members of the Association who have devoted their lives to the betterment of the law and their community, state and nation.

The award is named in honor of Roanoke attorney Richard Lee Lawrence, a true giant in the Roanoke Valley's legal community whose death in 2012 was deeply felt by the attorneys, judges, clients and citizens he had served so diligently. Richard was born in Roanoke on January 12, 1938 to Virginia Porter Lawrence and Reinsley Alan Lawrence. He grew up in South Roanoke and had a job delivering the morning newspaper and attained Eagle Scout Rank as a member of Troop 21.



He went to Roanoke College, served in the United States Marine Corp and then graduated from Washington and Lee School of Law. After graduating from law school, he began his legal career and worked as an assistant to Leroy Moran who was then the Commonwealth's Attorney, and then went into private practice. Years later, when the Commonwealth's Attorney, Sam Garrison, was called to Washington, DC to serve as minority counsel for the House Judiciary Committee during the Watergate hearings, Richard was appointed to finish Garrison's term.

At the end of his term as Commonwealth's Attorney he reentered private practice, where he remained for the next four decades, practicing with the firms Lutins, Lawrence, and Shapiro and then Lawrence and Lumsden among others. During the last 17 years of his life he practiced with his son, David Denton Lawrence at the Lawrence Law Firm. He was known for his work ethic, often working well into the night. He often took cases that no one else would consider, many times at little or no charge. It may have been his dedication to those people who did not have an advocate or a voice that he is best known for. He was a pillar of the legal bar in the Roanoke Valley. Over the course of his long career he tried thousands of cases, many of them notable but many more known only to those whose lives they affected. Along the way Richard enjoyed mentoring dozens of young lawyers, who are now defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges throughout the area.



The first recipient of the Richard Lee Lawrence Lifetime Service Award was Charles H. Osterhoudt. A longtime member and Past President of the Association, Charlie was honored not only for his long service as an advocate in the Courts of the Roanoke Valley, but also for his service on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, his support of the Roanoke Valley Greenways initiative, and many other public and private charitable services.

The second recipient was Salem Attorney Charles B. "Charlie" Phillips, who was presented with the award in October 2017. Although retired from private practice, Charlie has continued to place his expertise in domestic relations as a pro bono volunteer for Blue Ridge Legal Services.

In 2019, Edward "Skip" Lautenschlager became the third recipient of the award. In addition to his many contributions to the bar, Skip was recognized for his longtime service to the Salem Rotary Club and its many projects in the Roanoke Valley.

In 2020, the Association presented the Lawrence award to John S. Koehler in recognition of his longtime service as Corresponding Secretary of the Association.

The George W. Harris, Jr. Judicial Service Award

The Association established the George W. Harris, Jr. Judicial Service Award in 2016 to recognize members of the Judiciary who have provided exemplary service to the citizens of the Roanoke Valley.

The award is named in honor of the late George W. Harris, Jr. who served as a judge of the 23rd Judicial District of Virginia on the General District Court from 1985 to 2005 and as a judge-designate for many years there after. Judge Harris was born in Lynchburg, graduated from Dunbar High School in 1955, and attended the University of Virginia for two years as one of the first black students to enroll there. He subsequently transferred to Virginia Union University where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1963, and then graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law and received his law degree in 1967.



In 1985 he was appointed as a judge to the 23rd Judicial District, serving for 20 years and earning a reputation for being analytical and firm but very fair. Judge Harris was a member of many professional organizations including the Virginia Bar Association, the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association, the Roanoke Bar Association, the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, the American Judges Association, the American Judicature Society, the Virginia District Court Judges Association, and the Old Dominion Bar Association, of which he was president.

Judge Harris was also involved in the community through his service on the school board of the City of Roanoke and on the boards of the Southwest Virginia Community Development Fund, the Roanoke Valley Council of Community Services, the Hunton YMCA, and the Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley. In the early 1970s, he joined NAACP lawyers in federal court to force Roanoke officials to desegregate the public schools.

The first recipient of the George W. Harris, Jr. Judicial Service Award was Judge Diane McQ. Strickland, a retired judge of the 23rd Judicial Circuit of Virginia. Judge Strickland was the first female judge appointed to serve on the bench in the Roanoke Valley, serving first on the General District Court from 1987 to 1989 and then on the Circuit Court from 1989 to 2002, including a term as Chief Judge from 1999 to 2001. Among her many achievements as a Judge, she is particularly remembered for founding the Roanoke Valley Drug Court, which became a model for Drug Court's across the Commonwealth. In retirement, Judge Strickland continued to serve the citizens of the Roanoke Valley and the Commonwealth as a mediator, and also by accepting an appointment to serve on the Commission investigating the Virginia Tech Shooting in 2007.



The Association has honored Judge G.O. "Tommy" Clemens and Judge Clifford R. Weckstein, both retired judges of the 23rd Judicial Circuit in 2018. Although neither Judge Clemens nor Judge Weckstein were able to accept the award in person, their names have been added to a plaque on public display in the Roanoke County Circuit Courthouse.

Past Presidents of the Association

Although the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association was founded in 1957, records of the Association from prior to 1983 are missing. The list of Past Presidents therefore is sadly incomplete and if anyone has information concerning the holders of the President's office from before 1983, we would be grateful to receive it. Please send any information to the Corresponding Secretary at scrba@srcba.org. In addition to the names listed below, we do know that Edward W. "Skip" Lautenschlager served as President sometime in the late 70s or early 80s, but he confessed that he could not remember the exact dates of his service. Also, Frederick L. Hoback, Jr., who later served as a Juvenile Court Judge, and Raymond F. Robrecht, Jr., a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, both served as Presidents of the Association.

2018 Brad Thompson
2017 Nanda David
2016 Peter Lubeck
2015 Sarah Jane Newton
2014 Bryan L. Meadows
2013 Scott R. Geddes*
2012 Ann M. Green
2011 Matthew J. Pollard
2010 Compton M. Biddle
2009 Leisa K. Ciaffone**
2008 John S. Koehler
2007 Thomas E. Bowers
2006 Aaron T. Lavinder
2005 Marian Kelley
2004 William H. Lindsey
2003 John Weber**
2002 Charles H. Osterhoudt
2001 Bruce E. Mayer

2000 Joseph B. Obenshain
1999 Jeffrey L. Dorsey
1998 Francis W. "Skip" Burkart III*
1997 Michael S. Ferguson
1996 Charles Van Hoback
1995 H. Morgan Griffith***
1994 Deborah Caldwell-Bono
1993 Ellen Weinman
1992 Edward R. "Randy" Leach
1991 Vincent A. Lilley*
1990 G. Steven Agee****
1989 Thomas M. Blaylock
1988 William C. Maxwell
1987 John "Jack" Gregory, Jr.
1986 M. Frederick King*
1985 David D. Walker
1984 James R. Swanson*****
1983 Edward Natt

*Judge of the 23rd Judicial District of Virginia General District Court

**Judge of the 23rd Judicial District of Virginia Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

***Served as a member and Majority Leader of the Virginia House of Delegates and presently serves as Congressman for the 9th District of Virginia

****Served as a member of the Virginia Senate, as a Judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia, Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and presently serves as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit.

*****Judge of the 23rd Judicial Circuit of Virginia

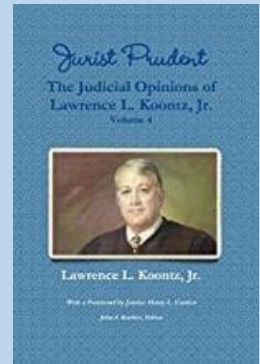
Scholarship Funds Supported by the Association

The Association is proud to sponsor scholarships for graduating seniors in both the Salem and Roanoke County Public School Divisions. The Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association Scholarship is awarded by the [Salem Educational Foundation & Alumni Association](#) and the Tom Farrell Memorial Scholarship is awarded through the [Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation](#). Donations to support these scholarships may be made directly to the Foundations.

Jurist Prudent: The Lawrence L. Koontz, Jr. Opinions Project

Upon his retirement from active service as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia in 2011, Lawrence L. Koontz, Jr. had completed more than four decades of service to citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. In order to recognize that service and help preserve Justice Koontz's legacy as one of the outstanding jurists in Virginia and the United States, the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association instituted this project to collect all of Justice Koontz's published opinions, both from his tenure as a Justice of the Supreme Court and as an inaugural member of the Court of Appeals of Virginia. The seven-volume work was completed in 2017.

[Volumes 1 to 7 are currently available for purchase.](#)



As a service to its members, the SRCBA provides access to this directory to members of the public who may be seeking the assistance of an attorney. Attorneys in this directory are members of the Association and have provided the information concerning their area(s) of practice.

The SRCBA does not expressly endorse the services offered by its members nor does it receive any remuneration for referrals through this directory.

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[Jessica Padgett Preston \(Salem Commonwealth's Attorney's Office\)](#)

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[Edwin W. "Skip" Lautenschlager](#)