



Richmond Skyline by [Jeff Pittman](#)



Join the MRWBA (or Renew) by Mail only

To renew your membership or join: [Download the application by clicking here](#). Online renewal will be unavailable while the new website is under construction.

MRWBA September Luncheon Meeting - Featuring Hon. Tim Kaine

Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.
Willow Oaks Country Club

The MRWBA welcomes Hon. Timothy M. Kaine as our September Luncheon speaker. Kaine is a former Virginia Governor and former Richmond Mayor and is now the Senior Distinguished Lecturer on Law and Leadership at the University of Richmond. To read more about Governor Kaine, [click here](#).

Members who have paid their dues on or before September 15th will be given the \$20 luncheon member rate and first priority for attendance at the September luncheon.

To register for the luncheon, please click here: [Register for September Luncheon](#). Deadline to register is Monday, September 12th at noon. Spaces are limited!

President's Message

I am honored to serve as President for this 2011-2012 bar year and to work with the excellent group of women on our Board of Directors. The official bar theme is "Achieving Equilibrium." Regardless of your position, your household composition or your personal goals, finding the state where your supply of time and resources matches the demand for them is a constant battle. However, together, we can help

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Contact MRWBA

P.O. Box 3945
Richmond, VA 23235
[MRWBA Website](#)

While the MRWBA Website is under construction, please join the MRWBA Facebook and LinkedIn pages for regular updates.

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each other face the challenge of the minute, the day, or the week. So please join (or renew) your membership with the MRWBA today, and take advantage of our unique opportunities to enrich your practice, expand your network of support, and brighten your horizon.

Based on member responses, we have a few exciting changes this year. First, we will offer events at different times/places during the year to accommodate varied work schedules and our members throughout the Metro region. For our monthly lunch meetings, we have selected a central location, Willow Oaks Country Club, which has easy, free parking, better acoustics and more responsive staff. Our first luncheon THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH AT 12:30 P.M. featuring Timothy M. Kaine is filling up fast. Make your reservation now.

Not everyone can make a lunch time event or Willow Oaks, and therefore, we will host late afternoon and early morning events. Mark your calendar, for this October we have a late afternoon Ethics CLE (Oct 19th, downtown) and an early morning breakfast with the UR Law Dean, Wendy Perdue (October 27th, TBD).

We are striving to increase the benefits of membership. We have kept the luncheon price at \$20 for members (\$30 for guests), even when the program has CLE credits. We will soon have a NEW website to facilitate better communications and networking opportunities. We have solicited local businesses that offer services which can help working women Achieve Equilibrium, and will post them as our Equilibrium Partners (e.g. dinner services, personal trainers, sitter services). We will offer a FREE 2-hour Ethics CLE for members only. We have opened up the floor for CLE presentations for members by members. We have selected a public service charity that provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for every type of schedule and interest.

In short, this organization is designed for you to get the most benefit possible while still juggling all the other responsibilities in your life. Join today. It will be worth your time.

Ali Fannon
President 2011-2012
[Contact Ali by email](#)

Thanks to our Sponsor!

2011-2012 Board

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Members in the News

Congratulations our members selected for the 2011 Leaders in the Law by Virginia Lawyers Media:

Phoebe P. Hall, Hall & Hall
Hon. Hannah M. Lauck,
U.S. Magistrate Judge

To share news about awards and recognitions, job changes, or babies and marriages, contact Carole Timberlake [by email](#).

Connect with MRWBA
and our Members

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Mark your Calendar

MRWBA Events

MRWBA September Luncheon - Hon. Tim Kaine
Thursday, September 15, 2011
12:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks
[Click here to register online](#)

MRWBA / WLSA Mentorship Reception
Thursday, September 29, 2011
5:00 - 8:00 pm at Cafe Caturra
[Click here to register online](#)

MRWBA October CLE Luncheon - Moral Dilemmas of Assisted Reproductive Technologies (with Colleen Quinn)
Wednesday, October 5, 2011
12:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks
[Click here to register online](#)

Richmond Area Bench Bar Conference
Thursday, October 13, 2011
8:00 am - 2:00 pm
[Click here for registration form](#)

with the MRWBA on Facebook to receive news and events updates. Also don't miss our photo gallery -- including pictures from the June 25th MRWBA [Night at the Flying Squirrels](#)



Join the MRWBA LinkedIn Group to connect with the professional profiles of other MRWBA members, share news and status updates, and request and share referrals!



Job Opening

Dominion is seeking to fill a Counsel position in its Richmond legal department. To read more about the position and apply online, [click here](#).

MRWBA Ethics CLE Seminar (with Tom Spahn)
Wednesday, October 19, 2011
4:00 - 6:00 pm, location tbd

Breakfast with UR Law Dean Wendy Perdue
Wednesday, October 26, 2011
7:30 - 9:00 am, location tbd

MRWBA November Luncheon - Public Service
Wednesday, November 2, 2011
12:30 pm at Willow Oaks

MRWBA December Luncheon - Women of Achievement
Wednesday, December 7, 2011
12:30 pm at Willow Oaks

Other Events

NAWBO Open House and Silent Auction
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
5:30 - 8:30 pm at Willow Oaks
[Click here to register online](#)

Virginia Women Attorneys Association Annual
Conference - Beyond Networking: Defining Yourself in
Today's Market
September 23-24, 2011
Lansdowne Resort
[Click here for more information and registration](#)

SmartConnect - Richmond Business Women's
Consortium
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Crossroads Art Center
[Click here for more information about Sponsorships and Exhibit
Tables](#)

New Member Profiles

Profiles of our newest members hopefully will help you make personal and professional connections with other members, encourage you to introduce yourself to new members at bar programs, and make the newsletter more enjoyable to read.

Julie Roscoe Eckstein
Julie Roscoe Eckstein Law Office
University of Richmond School of Law, 2001
Contact Julie [by email](#)



Why did you join the MRWBA?

Owning my own firm, I feel isolated from other attorneys, and wanted to get out and socialize and network more, with my women associates.

What did you do before law school?

Broadcast journalism.

What has been your biggest challenge since law school?

Working and raising children. Trying to convince businessmen that I'm available 24/7 while not letting them hear a screaming child in the background.

Sarah Molenkamp

Mondial Assistance

Counsel, USA

University of Michigan School of Law, 2007

Contact Sarah [by email](#)



What was your favorite class in college or law school?

My favorite class of all time was a class I took in college on Shakespeare. The brilliance of the plays, coupled with a dynamic and entertaining professor, made this a memorable, thoroughly enjoyable class. My second favorite class was also an English class taught by the same professor on the Bible as a piece of literature. Perhaps I should just credit the brilliance to that professor and not the subject matter!?

What did you do before law school?

Before law school I worked in the political arena. I started out of college working on a gubernatorial campaign in Honolulu, Hawaii and then moved to DC to pursue a job in PR/Communications and Lobbying after a brief stint in political journalism.

What has been your biggest challenge since law school?

In 2009, I was laid off from a large national law firm due to the down economy. In the 18 months that followed before landing at Mondial, I experienced the greatest highs and lows I've had since law school, juggling a legal consulting gig that required decades more experience than I had while at the same time trying to navigate the worst job market in my lifetime. It was challenging and rewarding, it taught me so much about myself, and, in the end, it landed me exactly where I am supposed to be.

If you hadn't become a lawyer, what other career would you have pursued?

When I applied to law school I also applied to culinary school. So I think if I weren't an attorney, I'd be sweating in a restaurant kitchen somewhere as a line cook. I also always wanted to be a travel writer.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I love to cook, study/taste wine, travel, and read. I'm an avid follower of Michigan football and Detroit Tigers baseball.

What are your vacation plans for 2011?

I just started the new job, so no vacation for me in 2011. However, I just booked a two week trip to Hong Kong and Bali in May 2012!

Tell us about your family.

I was born and raised in Richmond, but my family moved away after I graduated from St. Catherine's in 1998. I haven't been back in nearly 13 years. My family is small, but close. My parents live in Washington, DC and my only brother, Greg, lives with his wife in New York City. I'm single but live with the most adorable and sweet 2 year old Japanese Spitz dog named Riley.

Mentorship Program

The MRWBA continues its long tradition of mentoring Women Law Students Association members at the University of Richmond School of Law. Last year over 40 students requested mentors.

The first mentor/mentee reception will be September 29, 2011 from 5:00p.m.-8:00p.m. (drop in anytime) at Café Caturra at 5811 Grove Avenue. Please [click here to register online](#).

To volunteer to be a mentor for a law student, [click here](#).

To volunteer to be a mentor for a new attorney, [click here](#).

To request a mentor, [click here](#) if you're a law student.

To request a mentor, [click here](#) if you're a new attorney.

For more information about the mentorship program or the mentor/mentee reception, please contact Melissa VanZile [by email](#).