

## Welcome to The Brief

Welcome to the latest issue of *The Brief*, our newsletter designed to keep you updated on what's happening at your Virginia Law Foundation. Here are a few things you might have missed:

- Our 2018 Annual Report highlights the success of the past year, acknowledging Fellows and donors who have helped us along the way. You can view the full report [here](#).
- At our [First Annual Grants Luncheon](#), the Virginia Law Foundation awarded \$440,000 in 2018 grants to support law-related projects throughout the Commonwealth.
- We hosted our inaugural [Experience Philanthropy](#) program at Loudoun Topgolf, which included an ethics CLE seminar preceding the tournament. All proceeds went directly toward funding VLF's 2019 grants.
- Featured Story: Experience CLE and Rule of Law Day at the Virginia Holocaust Museum. Read a full recap of the event below.

Enjoy this issue of *The Brief* and thank you for supporting your Virginia Law Foundation.

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### Fellow Spotlight: Hon. Cynthia D. Kinser (Fellows Class of 2016)

The Honorable Cynthia D. Kinser, former Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court, shares her thoughts on the importance of legal education for both lawyers and the general public.

Watch the video on our [website](#).



### Donor Spotlight: Monica T. Monday (Fellows Class of 2011)

Monica T. Monday, managing partner of Gentry Locke, discusses why she is proud to offer her support to the Virginia Law Foundation.

Watch the video on our [website](#).

## Grant Spotlight: Virginia Beach Justice Initiative

Patrick McKenna, Co-Founder and Director of the Virginia Beach Justice Initiative, describes how the Virginia Law Foundation's grant has helped further VBJI's efforts to support victims of human trafficking.

Watch the video on our [website](#).



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## Featured Story: Rule of Law Day VLF Co-Hosts Awards Program and Experience CLE Seminar

On October 15, Virginia's legal community celebrated Rule of Law Day at the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond. VLF Fellows, members of the Virginia State Bar, justices of the Virginia Supreme Court, and other prominent guests gathered to honor Michael W. Smith and the Honorable Jane Marum Roush for their efforts to uphold the Rule of Law throughout their decades of service to the Commonwealth.

Preceding the awards program, Virginia CLE® held a continuing legal education seminar surveying the legal responses to war crimes, genocide, and human rights atrocities. The seminar reinforced the themes of the awards program, since just laws and accountability are essential aspects of the Rule of Law. The session was the latest installment of our [Experience CLE](#) programs, which combine seminars with immersive experiences.

Irving M. Blank, Chairman of the Nuremberg Courtroom Exhibit Committee and past President of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Law Foundation, began the Rule of Law Awards Program by introducing the Honorable Jane Marum Roush. Roush received the Civility in the Law Award for her service as a judge for the Fairfax County Circuit Court, as a justice for the Virginia Supreme Court, and for her current work as a mediator for The McCammon Group.



*Left to right: Jay Weinberg (Fellows Class of 2002), Irving Blank (Class of 2008), Hon. Jane Roush (Class of 2016), Mike Smith (Class of 2011)*  
Photo by the Virginia Holocaust Museum.

"I always try to conduct myself in accordance with the highest ideals of the profession," said Roush. "I feel deep personal and professional satisfaction as a mediator and I try to be courteous and civil as I help instill the Rule of Law."

Next to be honored was Michael W. Smith, who was presented with the Rule of Law Award. A partner and chairman at Christian and Barton, LLP, Smith has served as president of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond, the American College of Trial Lawyers, and the Virginia State Bar. Through his leadership, Smith has helped spread awareness of the Rule of Law.

After receiving the award, Smith warned against taking the Rule of Law for granted. "History tells us it can be attacked and that can result in disaster. This museum teaches what can happen," said Smith. "Remain vigilant, remain patriots, and protect the Rule of Law every day."

Between the two programs, a luncheon was offered with generous support from VLF Fellow Jay Weinberg.

Thank you to everyone who attended and to all who contributed to making the event a success.

# Your Generous Investment in the Foundation Matters

With your help, we can go further than ever toward making sure every Virginian has meaningful access to justice. Every dollar of your donation goes directly to our annual grant allocation.

**Thank you to all who have donated January through October 2018!**

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# Upcoming Events

- The October 31 MCLE deadline is rapidly approaching! Visit our educational division, [Virginia CLE®](#), for all your MCLE needs.
- While you're exploring Virginia CLE®, also [check out the many new titles](#) and new editions available in our extensive collection of law practice publications.
- Save the Date! Our VLF Annual Dinner and Fellows Induction will be held January 24, 2019. This event is open to all and we hope you will be able to join us!

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## About the Virginia Law Foundation

Through the generosity of the Virginia legal community, the [Virginia Law Foundation](#) has provided **over \$25 million in grants** to support projects throughout the Commonwealth that facilitate access to justice, promote an appreciation and understanding of the Rule of Law, and provide law-related education in support of these ideals.

**Our Fellows Program** encourages civic-mindedness and recognizes excellence in the practice of law and public and professional service.

[Virginia CLE®](#), Continuing Legal Education by the Virginia Law Foundation, was voted Virginia's #1 CLE provider by readers of *Virginia Lawyers Weekly*.



*No Virginian should be denied meaningful access to justice.*

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