

Class Notes Summer 2018

Philip S. Payne '73 and his wife, Mary Ruth, have started The Lotus Campaign. This charity aims to increase the number of rental units available for people experiencing homelessness by engaging the private, for-profit real estate and investment communities.



Lawrence D. Diehl '74 was recently ranked one of the Top 10 Attorneys in Virginia by Super Lawyers®. He currently works with Barnes & Diehl, P.C. practicing family law.

Hamner Hill '81 was named the director of the University Studies program at Southeast Missouri State University.



Hon. R. Ferrell Newman '83 has been named the chairman of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. His three-year term began on July 1, 2018.

Jim Penny '83 and his wife, **Pamela Penny HON J.D. '16**, recently had an article about their 1770 house, Bel-Mede, in Williamsburg, VA, published in the October 2018 issue of *Early American Life*.



Jon Freedman '85 was appointed to serve on the board of directors for the WaterReuse Association for General Electric.

Peter Van Bergen '86 and his wife, Jamie, are currently working on a film entitled "Criminal Silence" that is based on the growing epidemic of suicide and effective suicide prevention. Production will begin in September with the goal of completion by mid-October for the "College Television Awards". The film will tell the story of a normal day in the life of someone suffering with anxiety, depression and ultimately, suicide.



Hon. Jerry Kilgore '86 was named chairman of the Appalachian School of Law Board of Trustees.

Hon. David J. Whitted '94 was sworn in as a Judge in the juvenile and domestic relations branch on Friday, July 6th, in Chesapeake, Virginia.



Patricia F.S. Cogswell '94 is currently serving as the Deputy Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration. In this position, she is responsible for guiding the implementation of the Administrator's strategic goals, and overseeing the day-to-day operations of TSA.

Hon. John T. Molleur '96 was recently appointed Hearing Office Chief Administrative Law Judge (HOCALJ) for the Social Security Administration, Office of Hearing Operations, in New Haven, Connecticut. Chief Judge Molleur also assumed additional duties as Acting HOCALJ for the hearing office in Hartford, Connecticut. He has served as an administrative law judge since May 2010 and has issued almost 4,000 decisions on applications for Social Security disability benefits.

Christopher Wesser '99 was recently appointed President of Spindle, Inc. He ascends to the role of President after joining the company's board of directors in July. Spindle Inc. is a provider of payment processing services.



Dawn Figueiras '00 is currently serving as an adjunct professor at Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Virginia, where she teaches estate planning.

Kim Urbanchuk '05 has joined Parsons, an engineering, construction, technical, and management services firm, as the company's Chief Ethics and Compliance Counsel. In this role, she will identify and address emerging compliance risks arising out of Parsons' evolving business strategy and the corporation's efforts to transform the company into a data-based, cognitive technology provider.



Omid Safa '09, a partner at Blank Rome LLP, recently helped a policyholder client win a sprawling, year's long fight for asbestos coverage, and also won a major bad-faith trial to get coverage for underlying claims against a health system. These accomplishments made him one of five insurance attorneys under 40 recognized by Law360 as Rising Stars.

Robert Barret '10 was recently engaged to Amy Dawn Buckmaster. Barret is currently employed as a corporate attorney at Lowes Headquarters, and his fiancé is employed at Lowes Headquarters as a lead financial analyst. The wedding is planned for November in Williamsburg.





Anne Hampton Andrews Haynes '11 recently accepted a new job with Chief Justice Lemons in Richmond, Virginia. She will serve as his Career Law Clerk. She started this new career on June 18.

James I. Dougherty '12 has been elected as a new partner at the international law firm Withers Bergman LLP where he began his career five years ago. Based in the firm's Greenwich, Connecticut, and New York City offices, he advises individuals on estate planning and administration, probate matters and litigation arising from trust and estate succession issues. Also, the second edition of his book "Connecticut Probate and Estate Administration," was published by LexisNexis at the end of 2017.



Kaitlin Cannavo '15 has joined the law firm of Kaplan Voekler Cunningham & Frank PLC in Richmond, Virginia. In this position, Kaitlin represents issues in securities offerings, mergers & acquisitions, financings and sophisticated corporate matters.

Tyler F. Chriscoe '16 is currently working with Van Camp, Meacham & Newman, a North Carolina firm, where his practice will focus on estate planning and estate administration, corporate law, and real property law.



Clarke Bonney '16 is currently serving as an associate in the corporate practice group with Wilcox Savage in Norfolk, Virginia.

Leonard Simmons '16, an associate with Seward & Kissel in New York, recently wrote an article entitled "Not Alone: Sensitivity to Veterans' Mental Health through Mindful Legal Representation." The article discusses the positive impact legal representation has on veterans attempting to obtain compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for disabilities connected to service. In addition, the article examines the usefulness of mindfulness practices amongst attorneys representing veterans in this complex and often frustrating symptoms. The article is published on the American Bar Association's website, in the Health Law Section.

