

La Bravia J. Jenkins

CERTIFICATION

Member, Kentucky Bar Association, 2/9/2022
Member, Virginia State Bar since 1992
Member, Supreme Court of the United States Bar since 2012

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, VA
Bachelor of Science, Journalism, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Attorney, February 2022 – Present
Legal Aid Society, Louisville, Kentucky

Duties: Represent clients who are facing eviction from their homes due to poverty, domestic violence or recent joblessness. Also, counsel clients who are seeking to have serious criminal convictions expunged from their records.

Commonwealth Attorney, August 2008 – August 2021
City of Fredericksburg, Virginia

Duties: As an elected constitutional officer, prosecute all criminal cases within the City of Fredericksburg. Responsible for all aspects of litigation from beginning to end including grand jury, pleadings, discovery, courtroom advocacy, and appellate research, writing and advocacy. The position required prosecution of all manner of crime including violent and narcotics offenses and complex criminal offenses such as fraud, public corruption, identity theft and other economic offenses. As president and a member of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, participated in advocacy before the Virginia General Assembly on behalf of the 120 elected Commonwealth's Attorneys on legislative issues dealing with criminal law.

Skills: Demonstrated leadership of an office that grew from five to eight attorneys and six to eight support positions during my tenure. Oversaw complete digitalization of over 10,000 archived files, freeing five hundred square feet to accommodate additional staff; procured and implemented database and word processing software to ensure efficiency and accuracy of information. Ability to organize efficient and successful criminal prosecutions.

Assistant/ Deputy Commonwealth Attorney, November 1995 – 2008
City of Fredericksburg, 11/95 –12/2000
Spotsylvania County, 1/2001 – 10/2005

Duties: Prosecute felonies, misdemeanors, and limited civil matters for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In Fredericksburg, implemented team approach to prosecuting child physical and sexual abuse cases. Member of the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court team. Lectured at the Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy.

Senior Assistant Public Defender, July 1992 – November 1995
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER
Fredericksburg, Virginia

Duties: Represented adult and juvenile criminal defendants until all state remedies and appeals were exhausted.

Skills: Working knowledge of criminal law in Virginia, legal research and writing, the ability to manage a large open caseload, and excellent communication with clients and legal practitioners.

Law Clerk/Intern, July 1991 - July, 1992

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM SHORE ROBERTSON

Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Virginia

Duties: Reviewed pleadings and orders for accuracy and completeness. Wrote memoranda stating the court's opinions in civil and criminal matters.

Skills: Meticulous research and precise legal writing. Critical legal analysis, proficiency in Excel in designing a database of prior circuit decisions.

Part-time professor, Introduction to Criminal Law and Evidence, September 2004 – May, 2006

GERMANNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fredericksburg, VA

Duties: Instruct students, primarily law enforcement officers and students interested in law school, on the basics of criminal law. The class focused on the bill of rights.

Skills: Working knowledge of criminal law and procedure and the ability to relate to students who had no previous legal education. Formulating and grading assignments, quizzes and mid-term and final examinations, and counseling students, where necessary.

PROFESSIONAL and COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Member, Jefferson County Public Law Library Advisory Board

Member, Toonerville Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

President, Fredericksburg Area Bar Association (2020)

Board of Governors, Criminal Law Section, Virginia State Bar (2019 – present)

Co-Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, National District Attorneys Association (2019 – 2021)

Virginia Drug Court Advisory Board (2015 – 2019)

Faculty, Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course (2015 – 2018)

Lecturer, Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy (2005 – 2020)

President, Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys (2015-2016)

Chairman, Commonwealth's Attorneys Services Council (2015-2016)

President, Board of Directors, Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center (2008-2010)

Vice President, Fredericksburg Chapter of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association (2010 – 2021)

Board of Directors, Virginia Criminal Justice Conference (2015 – 2021)

Board of Directors, Rappahannock Community Foundation (2019 – 2021)

Board of Directors, Rappahannock Community Corrections Board (2013 – 2019)

Prosecution Advisory Board, Liberty University School of Law (2017 – 2019)

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (1973 – present)

AWARDS

Rappahannock Rotary Club Ethics in Business and Politics Award, 2020

Virginia Lawyers Weekly Leaders in the Law (2017)

Virginia Lawyers Weekly Hall of Fame (2019)

The Robert F. Horan award, Virginia Commonwealth's Attorneys Association (2017)

Girl Scouts Commonwealth Council of Virginia Woman of Distinction (2008)

Winner, Public Defender Spirit Award (1994)

Editor-in-Chief, *The Docket*, George Mason School of Law newspaper