

# SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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TERESA M. CHAFIN

SENIOR JUSTICES  
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100 NORTH NINTH STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2334  
(804) 786-6455  
WWW.VACOURTS.GOV

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Press Release – Friday, September 6, 2019

## THE HONORABLE TERESA M. CHAFIN INVESTED AS JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

ABINGDON – The Honorable Teresa M. Chafin was formally invested as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia in a special session of the Court held at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center today. Justice Chafin was elected by the General Assembly to a twelve-year term beginning September 1, 2019, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Elizabeth A. McClanahan. Chief Justice Donald W. Lemons and the Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia are pleased to welcome Justice Teresa M. Chafin as a member of the Court.

A native of Lebanon, Virginia, Justice Chafin received her undergraduate degree from Emory and Henry College and her Juris Doctor from the University of Richmond School of Law. Justice Chafin was elected to the Twenty-ninth District Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in 2002, where she served as Chief Judge until 2005, when she was elected a judge of the Twenty-ninth Judicial Circuit, serving as Chief Judge in 2008 and 2009. In 2012, Justice Chafin was elected a judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia. Prior to her service in the judiciary, Justice Chafin was an attorney in private practice in Lebanon, Virginia.

About the Supreme Court of Virginia: The Supreme Court of Virginia possesses both original and appellate jurisdiction. The Court reviews decisions of lower courts, including the Court of Appeals, from which appeals have been allowed. Virginia does not allow an appeal to the Supreme Court as a matter of right except in cases involving the State Corporation Commission, certain disciplinary actions against an attorney, and review of the death penalty. The Court's original jurisdiction is limited to cases of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, and actual innocence. The Supreme Court also has original jurisdiction in matters filed by the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission relating to judicial censure and retirement, and removal of judges.

Media Contact: Kristi S. Wright, Director of Legislative and Public Relations, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, (804) 786-6455.