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SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA



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

CLERK
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KARL R. HADE
CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY
K. LORRAINE LORD
REPORTER OF DECISIONS
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SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA JUDICIAL LEARNING CENTER OFFERS EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS AND RESOURCES ON THE HISTORY OF THE COURT, AND THE ROLE OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

RICHMOND - Chief Justice Donald W. Lemons is pleased to announce the opening of the Judicial Learning Center, located in the Supreme Court of Virginia building at 100 North Ninth Street, Richmond. The Supreme Court of Virginia Judicial Learning Center promotes public understanding of the rule of law and appreciation for the structure and function of the judicial branch of government in the Commonwealth.

Judicial Learning Center exhibits provide an overview of Virginia's judicial system, the rich history of Virginia's judiciary, and its contributions to the development of America's legal system. Visitors may view an interactive portrait collection of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia, photographs highlighting significant civil rights cases and Virginia's "Judicial Trailblazers," and listen to oral history interviews about landmark cases and advancements. The Learning Center is designed to address Virginia Standards of Learning curricula for both elementary and high school students.

The Supreme Court of Virginia Judicial Learning Center is financially assisted by a generous grant from the Virginia Law Foundation. Through philanthropy, the Virginia Law Foundation promotes the rule of law, access to justice, and law-related education.

Tours of the Supreme Court of Virginia Learning Center can be arranged with advance notice by contacting the Virginia State Law Library. More information is available at www.scvahistory.org.

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. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court serves as the administrative head of Virginia's

Judicial System. The Chief Justice is charged with overseeing the efficient and effective operation of the Judicial Branch.

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