

# SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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S. BERNARD GOODWYN

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SUPREME COURT BUILDING  
100 NORTH NINTH STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219  
(804) 786-6455

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MURIEL-THERESA PITNEY

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

KARL R. HADE

## CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY

K. LORRAINE LORD

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## PRESS RELEASE – January 31, 2025

### **The Honorable S. Bernard Goodwyn, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Announces Retirement**

The Honorable S. Bernard Goodwyn, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, has announced his intention to retire effective January 1, 2026. Elected Chief Justice by the Justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia for a term commencing on January 1, 2022, his retirement will coincide with the end of his current term as Chief Justice of the Court.

Chief Justice Goodwyn was appointed to the Supreme Court of Virginia by Governor Timothy M. Kaine in 2007 and was unanimously elected by the General Assembly to the Supreme Court of Virginia in 2008 and re-elected in 2020. Prior to joining the Supreme Court of Virginia, Chief Justice Goodwyn served as a judge of the Circuit Court for the City of Chesapeake for over ten years, and served as a judge of the General District Court for the City of Chesapeake for two years.

Chief Justice Goodwyn is a member of the Board of Directors of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of its Criminal Justice Committee, and the former Co-Chair of the Virginia Access to Justice Commission. Chief Justice Goodwyn is a recipient of the Virginia Bar Association's Gerald L. Baliles Distinguished Service Award.

Prior to going on the bench, Chief Justice Goodwyn served as a Research Associate Professor at the University of Virginia School of Law and as a litigation partner at a Norfolk, Virginia, law firm. He earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard University in 1983 and his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1986.

Media contact: Alisa W. Padden, Director, Legislative and Public Relations, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, (804) 225-3474.