

Arbitration Associates, Inc.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA AND D.C. PANEL

JOSEPH E. BANKERT, ESQ.

Mr. Bankert graduated the University of Pittsburgh, J.D. in 1974. He is senior partner of Bankert & Bethel and is a member of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association, Suburban Maryland Building Industry Association, and the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. His areas of expertise include construction, zoning and land use, bankruptcy, business law matters, negligence, and personal injury.

MARNI E. BYRUM, ESQ.

Ms. Byrum graduated Pepperdine University School of Law, J.D. in 1979. She is a member of the Virginia State Bar; District of Columbia Bar, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal, Fourth and D.C. Courts, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, and U.S. Claims Court. She was awarded Certificates of Special Achievement in 1983 and 1984 by the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and was appointed to the Special Task Force for Reorganization of Federal Labor Relations Authority from 1983 to 1984. Her areas of expertise include labor, employment, and personnel law, representing both plaintiffs and defendants.

LAWRENCE E. CARR JR., ESQ.

Larry Carr is the founding partner and president of Carr Maloney P.C. in Washington DC. He concentrates his practice on environmental coverage litigation. Larry has been in the private practice of law for 45 years, and the majority of the time has been spent handling defense litigation in the District of Columbia and Maryland. He is a past president of the Bar Association of DC, the Research Foundation of the Bar Association, and the DC Defense Lawyers. Larry currently is Fellow of the American Bar Foundation as well as a member of the Defense Research Institute. He retired as a Colonel in the United States Marine Corps Reserve after more than 30 years of service. Larry is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, received a Master of Law from George Washington University, is admitted to practice in DC and Maryland, and he is a member of the United States Court of Appeals for DC as well as several other federal judicial circuits.

ROBERT E. DRAIM, ESQ.

Robert Draim graduated from Wake Forest University in 1976 and then went on to earn his JD from the University of Richmond in 1979, where he was editor of the University of Richmond Law Review and also earned the Michie Company Prize and Hornbook Awards. Mr. Draim went on to Judicial Clerkship under U.S. District Court Judge Richard B. Kellam, Eastern District of Virginia (Norfolk Division) from 1979-1980, and has since had a distinguished career representing plaintiffs and defendants. He has been recognized among Best Lawyers in America since 2012 and his legal publications include co-authoring Products Liability and Tort and Personal Injury Law, both for the Virginia Practice series of Thomson Reuters. Robert Draim's areas of practice include legal malpractice, professional liability, securities and insurance sales practices, commercial liability, products liability, premises liability (mold, lead paint, pesticides and third-party assaults), defamation, and statutory liability including Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. He is currently a partner with Hudgins Law Firm, P.C. in Alexandria, VA.

BRENDAN FEELEY, ESQ.

Mr. Feeley graduated the University of Virginia Law School, J.D. in 1972. He served as substitute judge, Arlington County, 1994-1995, 4th District Committee of the Virginia State Bar, and as state bar representative on medical malpractice panels. Mr. Feeley was appointed escheator of Arlington County by the governor 1986-1990, and served as assistant commonwealth's attorney. His areas of expertise include medical malpractice, personal injury, contract disputes, real estate, employment disputes, business contracts, domestic matters, and landlord/tenant cases.

CHARLES E. GALLAGHER, JR., ESQ.

Mr. Gallagher graduated the University of Notre Dame, J.D. in 1982. He is a member of the Virginia State Bar, Alexandria Bar Association, Fairfax County Bar Association, VADA, Prince George's County Bar Association, Maryland State Bar Association (Section of Litigation), American Bar Association, D.C. Bar, Federal Trial Bar, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, and The Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Maryland Association of Defense Counsel, and Washington Claims Association. Mr. Gallagher serves as a neutral case evaluator for Fairfax County Circuit Court. His areas of expertise include insurance coverage issues, toxic tort litigation, products liability, and personal injury.

JOHN P. HARRIS, III, ESQ.

John P. "Jack" Harris, III attended VMI and graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1965 with a degree in Naval Science. After nine years as a Navy pilot, Jack decided to go to law school and graduated from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1977. He has been practicing law for 27 years and is a partner at Harris & Harris in Fredericksburg. He is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, certified as a Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, and is listed in The Best Lawyers in America. His professional affiliations include the Fredericksburg Area Bar Assoc. (President 2002), Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Bar Assoc., Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. His areas of expertise include Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Nursing Home Litigation and General Civil Litigation.

TRACY ANN HOUCK, ESQ.

Tracy Ann Houck received her bachelor's degree in English Literature from the College of William and Mary, her Publishing Institute degree from the University of Denver, and graduated in 1992 from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond. After spending more than 2 years in Tokyo as an English language instructor, she worked as Copy Editor / Editor for several years in New York for Warren, Gorham & Lamont and for Marsh & McLennan, and then for The Michie Company in Charlottesville. She has been practicing law in Fredericksburg for 16 years, first for Roberts, Ashby & Parrish, and now as a partner at the successor firm of Parrish, Houck & Snead, PLC. Her professional affiliations include the Virginia Joint Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, the Fredericksburg Area Bar Association (President 2006), the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Bar Association (President 2000), the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, and the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, for which she serves on the CLE Committee and co-chairs the Solo and Small Firm Conference. Her areas of expertise include Insurance Defense, Personal Injury, Insurance Coverage, and General Civil Litigation. Just announced; Ms. Houck is the winner of the "2011 Legal Elite" for her ADR work. This award arrives on the heels of her recognition as the 2011 Bar Leader of the Year Award from the CLBA of the Virginia State Bar.

JOHN H. JOHNSTON, ESQ.

Mr. John H. Johnston, Esq. earned his B.A. from American University in 1967; and his J.D. from George Washington University in 1970. John's years of experience include specializing in Insurance Defense as a named partner at Slenker Brandt Jennings and Johnston from 1970 to 1998 in Fairfax, VA. After this, Mr. Johnston concentrated on personal injury and medical malpractice as a managing partner with Johnston and Turbitt from 1998-2004 in Burke, VA. Currently, at the eponymous firm of McLean, VA he focuses on plaintiff's personal injury and medical malpractice. With Bar memberships in Virginia, 1970, District of Columbia, 1989, Maryland, 1991, and as a founding member of Northern Virginia Defense Lawyers Association, Mr. Johnston has tried over three hundred civil jury trials covering most areas of tort litigation. He is peer rated AV-Preeminent-Martindale-Hubbell, Fairfax Circuit Court Neutral Case Evaluator, and enjoys helping new associated learn the art of trial work.

HON. JOSEPH B. KENNEDY (Ret.)

Retired federal administrative law judge, Judge Kennedy has 45 years experience as a trial lawyer and trial judge. He graduated George Washington University, J.D. with honors in 1951. He attended the National Judicial College in 1983 and 1985. He is a certified mediator for the United States Postal Service. As a solo practitioner, Judge Kennedy has experience in the areas of contracts, torts, personal injury, employment and labor law, corporate law, antitrust and trade regulation law, real estate, landlord and tenant, patent and trade mark, and copyright and unfair competition.

J. JAY LITTEN, ESQ.

Partner at Litten & Sipe LLP, a Harrisonburg law firm. Jay received his undergraduate and law degrees from the College of William and Mary before commencing practice in Harrisonburg in 1985. His litigation practice consists primarily of personal injury work (representing both plaintiffs and defendants), but he also handles some commercial litigation. Aside from litigation, the greatest portion of his practice is in the field of local government law. The Circuit Court of Rockingham County has appointed him as a Commissioner-in-Chancery.

JOHN D. MCGAVIN, ESQ.

John D. McGavin has been a Principal of Trichilo, Bancroft, McGavin, Horvath & Judkins, P.C. since 1988. His areas of practice include Civil Litigation, Products Liability, Professional Liability, Personal Injury, Trucking Litigation, and Traumatic Brain Injury Litigation in State and Federal Courts. He was President of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys Oct. 2004-2005, and is a member of the Virginia State Bar, and Fairfax Bar Association where he is a Steering Committee Member for the Conciliation and Mediation Program. He currently serves as a representative to the Boyd-Graves Conference and the U.S. District Court Merit Selection Panel. A frequent lecturer, CLE presenter, and published author, Mr. McGavin earned his B.A. with distinction from University of Virginia in 1979 and his J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary in 1982.

JAMES W. PRESSLER, JR., ESQ.

Mr. Pressler graduated the Suffolk University Law School in Boston, J.D. in 1974. He was clerk with the law offices of F. Lee Bailey, Boston-Suffolk Voluntary Defenders Association, and the Massachusetts attorney general's office before becoming general counsel for the National Association of Government Employees/International Brotherhood of Police Officers in Washington, D.C. Since 1981 he has been president and managing partner of Riselli & Pressler. Mr. Pressler has served as an arbitrator and mediator/case evaluator for D.C. Superior Court since 1993, and is certified by the U.S. Postal Service for mediation. His expertise includes personal injury and negligence, labor and employment law (including Title VII), medical malpractice, wrongful death, and Fair Labor Standard Act cases.