

VIA EMAIL TO: ebooth@pzlaw.com
Virginia Beach Bar Association
Attn: Edwin S. Booth, Esq., President
2425 Nimmo Parkway, Bldg. 10
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
w/c to: Kathy Stull, Executive Director
kstull@vbarassoc.com

Re: Nomination of Ryan G. Ferguson for the Circuit Court, General District Court and
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Dear Mr. Booth:

As a member in good standing of the Virginia Beach Bar Association, it is my pleasure to nominate Ryan G. Ferguson as a candidate to fill the judicial vacancy in the Circuit Court or any vacancy which may be created in either the General District Court or Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Mr. Ferguson's nomination is seconded by Gerald L. Harris, Esq.

Mr. Ferguson was born on February 28, 1978 in Richmond, Virginia. He lives in Virginia Beach with his wife and two children. He was awarded a B.S. in Kinesiology from James Madison University in 2001, where he was a member of the varsity football team. Mr. Ferguson was awarded a J.D. in 2005 from the Robertson School of Law at Regent University. He was admitted to the Virginia State Bar and Supreme Court of Virginia in 2006 and subsequently was admitted to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Ferguson has neither been publicly reprimanded nor has his license ever been suspended or revoked by the Virginia State Bar or similar agencies elsewhere.

Mr. Ferguson is a member of the Virginia State Bar, Virginia Beach Bar Association, Virginia Bar Association, American Bar Association, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and the Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association. He currently serves as the President-elect of the Virginia Beach Bar Association and is serving a second term as an elected Member of the Virginia State Bar's Bar Council.

Mr. Ferguson has sixteen (16) years of active trial practice. He started his career in 2006 as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Virginia Beach where prosecuted felony and misdemeanor cases. He entered private practice in 2007 as an associate attorney with Kaufman & Canoles, PC in Virginia Beach. In 2013, Mr. Ferguson joined Bischoff Martingayle PC in Virginia Beach as a partner where he maintained a broad litigation practice, which included civil litigation, family law, criminal and traffic defense. In 2022, The Hon. Jason S. Miyares appointed Mr. Ferguson to serve as on his Senior Leadership Team in the capacity as both General Counsel for the Office of the Attorney General and as Director of the Hampton Roads Regional Office of the Attorney General. Mr. Ferguson is regarded as an excellent litigator, an articulate writer and as a consummate professional and a capable leader. His high degree of knowledge of established legal principles, procedures, and his analytical skills are matched by his work ethic, preparation and his strategic insight. Mr. Ferguson possesses an even temperament, calm demeanor and he treats everyone with whom he interacts with respect. He is a family man and has a great appreciation for the impact the courts have on your constituents, the community and the Commonwealth.

I have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Ferguson on the Board of Directors for the VBBA, where he has demonstrated his commitment to servant leadership. I believe Mr. Ferguson is highly qualified and possesses all the qualities necessary to serve as a judge of any court in Virginia Beach. It is

for these reasons that I am honored to nominate Mr. Ferguson. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can offer any additional information.

With warm regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Charles A. Rice

dotloop verified
11/25/22 2:50 PM EST
K4XP-EOUM-USWV-IXRT

Charles A. Rice, Esquire

Seconded by:

Gerald L. Harris

dotloop verified
11/25/22 2:47 PM EST
DF4U-8WXU-HTCF-YPKP

Gerald L. Harris, Esquire

Nominee:

Ryan G. Ferguson

dotloop verified
11/25/22 2:31 PM EST
GJE2-2PQA-CVQV-9PDJ

Ryan G. Ferguson, Esquire

FOR USE IN BALLOT

Ryan G. Ferguson, Esq. Educational Background: James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, B.S. in Sports Management, May 2001; Regent University School of Law, Juris Doctorate, 2005. Experience: Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, Virginia Beach, 2006 – 2007; Associate, Kaufman & Canoles, PC, Virginia Beach, 2007-2013; Partner, Bischoff Martingayle P.C., Virginia Beach; General Counsel and Director of the Hampton Roads Office, Office of the Attorney General of Virginia; Richmond/Virginia Beach. Professional/Community Activities: member of VBBA, VBA, ABA, NPBA and VTLA; President-elect VBBA; 2nd judicial circuit representation on Virginia State Bar's Bar Council; Member of the Board of Directors and Executive Officer (past) Virginia Beach SPCA; Member of the Board of Directors of Beach Day School (First Presbyterian Church); Member of Board of Directors of the Cavalier Golf and Yacht Club.

RYAN G. FERGUSON

1225 Tanager Trail, Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 416-8646
ferg77d@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, Richmond/Virginia Beach, VA
General Counsel and Director of the Hampton Roads Office, August 2022 - Present

- Attorney for the Office of the Attorney General “the Commonwealth’s largest law firm”
- Senior advisor to the Attorney General
- Manage a large team of attorneys and staff
- Manage all outside and special counsel relationships
- Oversee the Office’s response to Freedom of Information Act requests
- Develop, implement and enforce policy
- Collaborate with and provide counsel to other Commonwealth agencies
- Assist University Counsel with FOIA and outside counsel appointments

BISCHOFF MARTINGAYLE PC, Virginia Beach, VA
Partner & Attorney-at-law, November 2013 – August 2022

- Active trial practice in the areas of civil litigation, domestic relations, criminal and traffic defense
- Extensive civil and criminal jury and bench trial experience
- Lead counsel and local counsel on matters litigated in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- Lead counsel in arbitrations and mediations

KAUFMAN & CANOLES, PC, Virginia Beach, VA
Associate Attorney July 2007 – November 2013

- Member of the Litigation Section and Private Client Services, Family Law and Bankruptcy, Creditors’ Rights and Business Restructuring groups
- Maintained an active caseload of over 100 files at any given time.
- Participated in numerous mediations, settlement conferences and discovery depositions.
- Provided legal counsel to business entities, charitable organizations and individual clients.
- Represented Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. in various matters and assisted the firm’s General Counsel in litigation on an as-needed basis.

Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney, Virginia Beach, VA
Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney June 2006 – July 2007 *Legal Intern*
2004 – 2006

- Prosecuted felony and misdemeanor criminal offenses.
- Lead counsel on bench and jury trials.
- Handled an active caseload averaging of approximately 150 files per month.
- Trained law enforcement officers on issues pertaining to search and seizure and probable cause.
- Composed briefs in opposition to petitions for appeal in the Virginia Supreme Court and Virginia Court of Appeals.
- Conducted legal research and prepared memoranda of law.
- Tried numerous cases as a third-year law student.

EDUCATION

Regent University School of Law, Virginia Beach, VA
Juris Doctor: 2005

- Academic Merit Scholarship
- Trial Advocacy Board
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Moot Court Participant

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
Bachelor of Science: 2001

- Dean's list
- Varsity athlete – football four-year letterwinner
- All Atlantic 10 Conference: Academic
- Football team's highest G.P.A., 2001
- Internship: Office of Intercollegiate Athletics
- Volunteer – Virginia Special Olympics (1998-2001)

LICENSES & COURT MEMBERSHIPS

Virginia State Bar
Supreme Court of Virginia
United States District Court, Eastern District of Virginia

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Virginia Super Lawyers: "Super Lawyer" 2016-2022
Virginia Super Lawyers: "Rising Star" 2009-2015
Legal Elite: "Business Litigation" 2016-2022
Legal Elite: "Under 40" 2011-2015
Coastal Virginia Magazine: Top Lawyers list 2017-2022
Avvo: "Superb" 10.0 rating

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Virginia State Bar Council

- Representative of the 2nd Judicial Circuit, *2017 to present*

Virginia Beach Bar Association

- Board of Directors, *2018-present (current President-elect)*
- Former Golf Committee Chair
- Former CLASS Program Chair
- Former Young Lawyers Committee Chair

Norfolk Portsmouth Bar Association - member

l'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court - past member

James Kent American Inn of Court - past member

Virginia Bar Association - member

American Bar Association - member

Virginia Trial Lawyers Association - member

Virginia Beach SPCA

- Member, Board of Directors, *2010-2021*
- Executive Committee Member and Vice-Chairperson, *2016-2020*
- Chair of Governance and Golf Tournament Committees

Beach Day School: First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach
Board of Directors, *2018-2021*

Cavalier Golf and Yacht Club: Member, Board of Directors,
2021-current