

**KIERAN S. POULOS, ESQUIRE
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BY EMAIL AT EBOOTH@PZLAW.COM

Edwin S. Booth, Esquire
President
Virginia Beach Bar Association
2425 Nimmo Parkway, Building 10, Room 0049
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

**RE: Nomination of the Honorable Paul D. Merullo for the Judicial Vacancy in
Virginia Beach Circuit Court**

Dear Mr. Booth,

In my capacity as a member of the Virginia Beach Bar Association (VBBA), I am honored to nominate the Honorable Paul D. Merullo for the judicial vacancy on the Virginia Beach Circuit Court. I submit the following information in accordance with the Bylaws of the VBBA:

1. **Date and place of birth:** April 28, 1969, Somerville, MA.
2. **Collegiate degree and date:** B.A., Old Dominion University, 1991.
Law school degree and date: J.D., William and Mary School of Law, 2000.
3. **Present place of residence:** 1412 Creek Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.
Inclusive dates of membership in the Virginia State Bar: 2000 - present.
4. **Number of years of active practice and location thereof:** 2000-2014: Associate attorney and later law partner at Shuttleworth, Ruloff, Swain, Haddad & Morecock, P.C., Virginia Beach, VA. **Areas of practice:** Plaintiff's personal injury, including accidents, products liability, medical malpractice, plus miscellaneous civil litigation and criminal and traffic law. Appeared in many Virginia state and federal courts for motions, bench trials, and jury trials. **Prior judicial experience:** 2014-2022 Judge, Virginia Beach General District Court, presiding over civil, criminal, and traffic court.
5. **Membership and activities in national, state, and local bar associations:** 2000-present: Virginia Beach Bar Association. Early 2000's: I'Anson Hoffman Inn of Court. Early 2000's: VBBA "CLASS" program (assisting unrepresented persons seeking protective orders). Approximately 2009-2014: Virginia State Bar attorney fee dispute resolution committee.
6. Judge Merullo has neither been publicly reprimanded nor has his license to practice law been suspended or revoked in proceedings initiated by a Virginia State Bar Ethics Committee (formerly District Committee) or by similar bar agencies in the other states in which the candidate may have practiced law.

7. **The position for which the candidate seeks recommendation:** Judge Merullo seeks recommendation for the Virginia Beach Circuit Court.

I have known Judge Merullo for over 25 years as a friend and colleague, and I could write pages about his extraordinary integrity, character, training, ability, and experience. However, in an effort to keep it brief, I asked him to provide the following single paragraph biography statement:

My first job after law school at William & Mary was with Shuttleworth, Ruloff & Giordano, P.C., where I benefitted from the mentorship of Tom Shuttleworth, Steve Swain, Bob Haddad, Bob Morecock, and Larry Woodward. Initially, I built my experience and confidence by covering depositions and hearings for my law partners. Over time, I generated my own clients and caseload and became a law partner in 2010. In private practice, I appeared in many Virginia state and federal courts for hearings, bench trials, and jury trials. I loved being a trial lawyer, and I aspired to be a career trial lawyer. However, when the opportunity arose to apply for and be appointed to the Virginia Beach General District Court, I chose a career of public service in the judiciary, a choice I am glad I made. I remained at that same law practice from 2000 until I was appointed to the Virginia Beach General District Court in 2014. Now, my colleagues and I take great pride in extending courtesy, respect, and fairness to all lawyers and litigants.

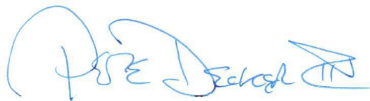
Please contact me directly if you require additional information. Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,



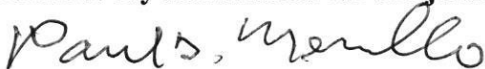
Kieran S. Poulos, Esquire

I second the nomination of the Honorable Paul D. Merullo for the judicial vacancy on the Virginia Beach Circuit Court:



Peter G. Decker, III, Esquire
Member, VBBA
The Decker Law Firm
109 East Main Street, Suite 200
Norfolk, VA 23510

I consent to my nomination for the judicial vacancy on the Virginia Beach Circuit Court:



Judge Paul D. Merullo