Richard H. Doummar Joel G. Kinney



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November 23, 2022

Virginia Beach Bar association Attn: Ed Booth, President ebooth@pzlaw.com

RE: Nomination of Judge Philip C. Hollowell for the judicial vacancy on the Virginia Beach Circuit Court

Dear President Booth,

Pursuant to Article XI of the bylaws of the Virginia Beach Bar Association and as a member in good standing, it is my pleasure to nominate Judge Philip C. Hollowell as a judge for the Circuit Court of Virginia Beach.

Judge Hollowell is a Virginia native, born in Richmond, Virginia in 1967. He graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Judge Hollowell then graduated from Regent University School of Law in 1998. Judge Hollowell began his legal career serving as an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney in Virginia Beach from 1999-2000. He then joined the Office of the Attorney General in Richmond for where he served nearly three years. While at the Office of the Attorney General, Judge Hollowell practiced civil litigation relating to the Department of Corrections in many district courts and circuit courts throughout the state. Judge Hollowell also defended Department of Corrections employees in Federal Court in lawsuits under 42 USC §1983. Judge Hollowell then rejoined the Virginia Beach Commonwealth Attorney's office and became a Deputy Commonwealth Attorney supervising a team of trial attorneys and successfully prosecuted major felony offenses including three Capital murder cases.

Judge Hollowell was elected by the Virginia General assembly to a six-year term as a Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judge in 2014. He was re-elected by the Virginia General Assembly to another six-year term commencing on December 1, 2020.

Judge Hollowell currently sits on the Supreme Court's District Court Education Committee and the Supreme Court's Access to Justice Committee. Judge Hollowell also sits on the Virginia Beach Community Criminal Justice Board. During his time as a judge, he has presided over thousands of cases dealing with child custody and visitation, CPS cases, domestic assault and battery of family members, crimes committed against children and cases involving juvenile delinquency.

Before July 1, 2022, Judge Hollowell was the Chief Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for four years. Judge Hollowell was successful in several major areas of court administration. He led efforts to hire a new Clerk of Court after the long-tenured Clerk of Court retired.

He successfully led the court throughout the difficulty of Covid-19 crisis, including securing funding from the city of Virginia Beach to outfit the courtrooms with electronic A/V equipment to facilitate remote hearings. Also, Chief Judge Hollowell successfully petitioned the city of Virginia Beach to supplement the salaries of the court's Deputy Clerks for the very first time in history. These accomplishments were achieved while leading one of the busiest courts in state. He is well regarded for his knowledge of the law, evidence and procedure. Most importantly, Judge Hollowell has a great demeanor on the bench. Judge Hollowell ensures that each party can put forward their case in the manner according to the law of the Commonwealth.

Judge Hollowell has never been reprimanded nor had his license to practice law suspended or revoked by the Virginia State Bar nor has he had any ethical issues before the Judicial Inquiry and review Commission.

Judge Hollowell lives in Virginia Beach and has raised his family here. His wife, Dr. Kelly Hollowell is a patent attorney and the Managing Partner of Hollowell Patent Group, LLC. His son, Philip Hollowell, II is a junior at Christopher Newport University majoring in Neuroscience. His daughter, Tia Hollowell, has Down Syndrome and attends Frank W. Cox High School and is a varsity cheerleader.

Judge Hollowell has always had the desire to help people and serve his community. Judge Hollowell is highly qualified to be a judge of the Virginia Beach Circuit Court and we wholeheartedly nominate him for the position.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Doummar

Nomination seconded by:

Colin Stolle

Virginia Beach Commonwealth's Attorney

Nominee:

Philip C. Hollowell

Judge

Biographical Information:

I was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia where I lived until I moved to Virginia Beach to attend law school. Prior to attending law school, I was an Assistant Tennis Professional at Willow Oaks Country Club in Richmond. I was also a Realtor for Century Real Estate, Inc. I worked at several restaurants all through my teenage and undergraduate years where I learned the importance of customer service and having a good attitude. My wife, Kelly, and I have been active members in several area churches over the years. While I am prohibited from fundraising activities, we continue to support several charitable foundations and Kelly is on the Board at Pete Decker's Children's Charity. During my tenure at the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, I participated in many community education activities. They included gun and internet safety lectures as well as Options, Choices and Consequences which targets high school students to help them understand the very serious issues involved with drinking and driving. I also volunteered my time as a judge to this worthwhile program.