

# COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA

## CHIEF JUDGE

MARLA GRAFF DECKER

## JUDGES

RANDOLPH A. BEALES  
MARY GRACE O'BRIEN  
RICHARD Y. ATLEE, JR.  
MARY B. MALVEAUX  
CLIFFORD L. ATHEY, JR.  
JUNIUS P. FULTON, III  
DANIEL E. ORTIZ  
DORIS HENDERSON CAUSEY  
FRANK K. FRIEDMAN  
VERNIDA R. CHANEY



109 NORTH EIGHTH STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2321  
(804) 371-8428 (V/TDD)

## JUDGES

STUART A. RAPHAEL  
LISA M. LORISH  
DOMINIQUE A. CALLINS  
KIMBERLEY SLAYTON WHITE  
STEVEN C. FRUCCI  
DAVID BERNHARD

## SENIOR JUDGES

ROSEMARIE ANNUNZIATA  
JEAN HARRISON CLEMENTS  
WILLIAM G. PETTY  
ROBERT J. HUMPHREYS

Press Release – March 6, 2025

## THE COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA ISSUES GUIDE TO ASSIST SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS

The Court of Appeals has issued a Self-Represented Litigant Guide to assist litigants who do not have an attorney to represent them in their appeals. In most civil cases, in particular, litigants who cannot afford an attorney do not have a right to appointed counsel and many represent themselves. The Self-Represented Litigant Guide includes information about each stage of an appeal and contains links to relevant rules and forms.

“This is an important resource and another step forward in the Court’s continuing efforts to ensure access to justice,” said Chief Judge Marla Graff Decker.

This new guide is available on the Court of Appeals’ website at the following URL: <https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/cav/home>, and hard copies are available in the Clerk’s Office and the Virginia State Law Library. While the guide contains helpful information, it may not be cited as an authority before the Court of Appeals. The Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia remain the authoritative source of information and rules concerning the appellate process in Virginia.

The Court of Appeals of Virginia was established January 1, 1985. It is an intermediate appellate court created to increase the appellate capacity of the court system and expedite appellate review. The Court of Appeals has authority to hear appeals as a matter of right from most final judgments, orders, or decrees of a circuit court.

Media Contact: Alisa W. Padden, Director of Legislative and Public Relations, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, (804) 786-6455.