



2023 Regional Seminar | June 16

The Virginian Hotel | Lynchburg

Seminar Program

Friday, June 16

8:30 a.m. | Check In & Continental Breakfast

9 to 10:15 a.m. | Bankruptcy 101 (1.25 MCLE)

Moderator: David L. Collins, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of Roanoke

Speakers:

David L. Collins, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of Roanoke

Jeffrey "Jeff" Scharf, Partner, Taxing Authority Consulting Services, P.C. (TACS)

Lori D. Thompson, Member | Chair, DEI Committee, Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC

This session will present need-to-knows about bankruptcy for the local government practitioner, including Chapter 7, 11, and 13 Bankruptcies. Speakers will provide a general overview of each type of bankruptcy, the various bankruptcy court pleadings typically sent to creditors as part of each type, and best practices in responding to such pleadings. Additional instructions and practical tips for filing proofs of claim, automatic stay provisions and exceptions, and addressing repeat filers will be provided.

10:15 to 11:15 a.m. | The Technology Trap: Understanding Risks to Well-Being and Ethical Compliance in the Legal Profession (1.0 Ethics MCLE)

Moderator: Meredith H. Jacobi, Deputy City Attorney, City of Hampton

Speakers:

Meredith H. Jacobi, Deputy City Attorney, City of Hampton

Brian Moore, Southwest Virginia Program Manager, Virginia Judges & Lawyers Assistance Program

In today's legal profession, technology is essential for efficiency and productivity. However, it can also adversely impact lawyer well-being and ethical compliance. To combat risks to well-being posed by technology, such as stress and burnout caused by technology overload, it is important to implement strategies to mitigate and prevent them. This presentation will provide insights into the technology trap and offer advice for maintaining well-being and ethical compliance in the age of legal technology.

11:15 to 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Law Enforcement Hot Topics (1.5 MCLE)

Moderator: Michelle W. Clayton, County Attorney, County of Northampton

Speakers:

Leah D. Han, Assistant County Attorney, Hanover County

Timothy J. Longo, Sr., Associate Vice President for Safety and Security and Chief of Police, University of Virginia

Dana G. Schrad, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police



Seminar Program

Friday, June 16 (continued)

The session will be divided into two parts. Mr. Longo will speak on potential litigation concerns related to Use of Force by local LEO, including areas of policy, training, supervision, the decision to use force, the investigative process, and the litigation process that oftentimes results from a law enforcement use of force incident, particularly those incidents that result in death. Ms. Han will discuss LEO Decertification and Internal Affairs Records issues providing the relevant code sections, the process in practice, the role of LEA and DCJS, and FOIA implications for IA records.

1 to 2 p.m. | Lunch

2 to 3:15 p.m. | Short-Term Rentals: Long Term Consequences (1.25 MCLE)

Moderator: Kelley Kemp, Assistant County Attorney, County of Orange, County of Powhatan, County of Greene, Town of Amherst

Speaker: Andrew R. McRoberts, Sands Anderson, PC, Town Attorney, Town of Irvington, County Attorney, Counties of Richmond and Nottoway

This session will focus on short-term rentals, specifically in smaller jurisdictions. Currently counties, cities, and towns all handle short-term rentals very differently. Some localities have no regulations, meaning you need no zoning or building permits to host guests for a fee. Some localities require a special use permit and place various conditions on these rentals. Recently there have been several challenges by property owners to zoning regulations placed on short-term rentals, arguing that short-term rentals cannot be regulated because they fall under the umbrella of agritourism. The speaker will review the Attorney General's Opinion and how it could limit the ability to regulate short term rentals, discuss regulations/conditions that may work for localities and explore other options such as short-term rental registries, and show how small localities can enforce its zoning code and tax code.

3:15 to 3:30 p.m. | Break

3:30 to 4:30 p.m. | Managing the Unmanageable: The Unique Position of Local Government Attorneys as Advisors (1.0 Ethics MCLE)

Moderator: Meredith H. Jacobi, Deputy City Attorney, City of Hampton

Speakers:

Walter E. Erwin, III, (Retired) City Attorney, City of Lynchburg

Michelle W. Clayton, County Attorney, County of Northampton

This presentation focuses on unique ethical issues that confront local government attorneys and their clients. As representatives of their governing bodies, local government attorneys must frequently give legal advice to individual public officers, public employees, and citizens which can pose unique challenges. This session will offer real-life examples and suggestions on how a local government attorney can ethically deal with the challenges of their role that may not be obtained by reading the statutes and interpretive authorities.

4:30 p.m. | Adjourn