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Preface and Dedication

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PREFACE AND DEDICATION

It is therefore our business carefully to cultivate in our minds, to rear in the most perfect vigour and maturity, every sort of generous and honest feeling that belongs to our nature. To bring the dispositions that are lovely in private life into the service and conduct of the commonwealth; so as to be patriots, as not to forget we are gentlemen.

—EDMUND BURKE 1729–1797.

Open any history book, and Virginia can be found within its pages. Read the documents that founded our nation, and Virginia's signature is affixed to each. Visit virtually any American battlefield, and Virginia's sons and daughters have fallen there. Even as the ink lay drying on the Declaration of Independence, Virginians were bringing their passions and strengths to the service of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the newly formed United States of America. From Yorktown to Appomattox, Virginia soil served as the stage for many major turning points in American history. From George Washington to Woodrow Wilson, Virginians have helped to protect the safety and integrity of the Commonwealth and our nation. To some, these achievements appear to emanate from a boastful Virginia, but to those who know her well, they are a sign of her continued dedication to the goals of freedom and independence.

In discussing the goals of freedom and independence, we cannot continue further without recognizing the sacrifice and courage of our men and women in the armed forces. Men and women from all different parts of this country and from all different walks of life sacrificed their lives to defend the safety and security of the United States over the past year. Words cannot express the deep heartfelt gratitude we all possess for their efforts. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who

remain on the front line—the laws contained within this *Annual Survey* would be meaningless without your efforts.

The *University of Richmond Law Review* is honored to present the 2003 *Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. It is with great pride that this issue has been dedicated to the memory of John W. “Jack” Edmonds, III, who passed away earlier this year. Instrumental in formulating the current landscape of Virginia banking and finance law, his lifetime of service to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia is unparalleled. A native of the Eastern Shore, Jack Edmonds was a dedicated alumnus to the University of Richmond and the University of Richmond School of Law. The *University of Richmond Law Review* was fortunate to have his guidance and support during his thirty-two years of service as a member of our Advisory Board. Jack Edmonds left Virginia better than he found it, and will always be remembered as one of Virginia’s finest patriots and gentlemen. There are just some shoes that even Virginia will struggle to fill.

This eighteenth *Annual Survey of Virginia Law* honors the memory of Jack Edmonds and represents the continued efforts by the Governor of Virginia, the General Assembly of Virginia, and the Supreme Court of Virginia to maintain the integrity, safety, and freedom of the residents of this Commonwealth. Practitioners and legal professors throughout the Commonwealth have come together to provide a reliable survey of selected changes in Virginia law. Indeed, these practitioners and legal scholars, much like their predecessors, are taking Edmund Burke’s words to heart—bringing “the dispositions that are lovely in private life into the service and conduct of the commonwealth.” In addition to the fine slate of authors contributing to this year’s *Annual Survey*, the *Law Review* is pleased to once again include a Foreword by Justice Elizabeth B. Lacy of the Supreme Court of Virginia. These authors, and the members of each branch of Virginia’s government, continue to maintain Virginia’s fine reputation for patriotism and integrity.

The *Annual Survey* continues to be the *Law Review*’s largest and most widely read issue. That success comes, in no small part, from the tireless work of the authors and members of the *University of Richmond Law Review*. Their devotion and commitment under pressure is unparalleled and made the timely publication of this issue possible. I would like to personally thank each of the authors, the members of the *University of Richmond*

Law Review, Alex Burnett, and Cheryl Call for their support and dedication to the *2003 Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. My special debt of gratitude goes out to Glenice Coombs, whose guidance, wisdom, and sense of humor made the seemingly endless days possible. Lastly, I would like to thank my lovely wife Amanda for her devotion and support and whose understanding and compassion sustained me through the long journey to publication.

I am extremely pleased to serve as the *Annual Survey Editor* for the *2003 Annual Survey of Virginia Law*. Having the privilege of honoring a man like Jack Edmonds is a once in a lifetime privilege. Additionally, overseeing the publication of a book that represents the devotion and patriotism of so many Virginians is an unspeakable honor. I hope that you find the end product to be a useful and practical tool. Thank you for your continued patronage and readership.

Brent M. Timberlake
Annual Survey Editor
