

## Blaire H. O'Brien

Partner | Richmond

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Blaire is a native Virginian who brings extensive courtroom and governmental experience to her representation of public and private entities and their employees in litigation throughout the Commonwealth. She began her career as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable James P. Jones of the United State District Court for the Western District of Virginia. She then spent nearly five years as a prosecutor, trying dozens of cases to both the bench and to juries, before joining the Civil Trial Unit of the Commonwealth's Office of the Attorney General. As an Assistant Attorney General, Blaire represented state agencies, such as law enforcement agencies and state universities, and their employees in a wide range of disputes, including Constitutional violations under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, intentional torts, premises liability, and negligence. Blaire brings this experience to her representation of government and private entities.



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### Professional Activities & Honors

- Metro Women's Bar Association – Board of Directors, Member
  - Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee Chair
  - Awards Chair
- Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys
- Defense Research Institute
- Richmond Bar Association
- Henrico County Bar Association
- Hanover County Bar Association
- Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference
  - Admission & Orientation Ceremony Co-Chair
  - Recipient of 2020 Young Lawyers Conference Significant Service Award
- Lewis F. Powell, Jr. Inn of Court
- Virginia Business Legal Elite (2022 – 2024)
  - Civil Litigation
  - Young Lawyer
- Virginia Super Lawyers – Rising Stars
  - Civil Litigation – Defense (2022)

### Education

- University of Virginia, B.A., *with high distinction* (2009)
  - Phi Beta Kappa
- University of Virginia School of Law, J.D. (2012)
  - Dean's Merit Scholarship

- *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law* – Articles Review Board
- *Virginia Journal of Criminal Law* – Editorial Board
- The Raven Society – Vice President

#### **Bar & Court Admissions**

- Virginia State Bar
- Supreme Court of Virginia
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia
- District of Arizona
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit