

## Leanna C. Minix

Associate | Richmond

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Leanna focuses her practice on appellate practice, professional liability, local government, and employment matters. Born and raised in Southwest Virginia, Leanna brings trial and appellate litigation experience to her clients at Harman Claytor. After graduating from Washington and Lee Law School, Leanna served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable William P. Johnson, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. She returned to Richmond to join the Criminal Appeals Section of the Virginia Office of the Attorney General. In nearly four years as an Assistant Attorney General, Leanna argued dozens of cases in Virginia circuit courts, the Court of Appeals of Virginia, the Supreme Court of Virginia, and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. Leanna also defended cases in habeas corpus challenges brought by inmates in state and federal court.



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### Professional Activities & Honors

- Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys
  - Annual Meeting Planning Committee Member (2025)
- Defense Research Institute
- Richmond Bar Association
- Henrico County Bar Association
- Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association
- Virginia Business Legal Elite (2025)
  - Young Lawyer
- Virginia Super Lawyers – Rising Stars (2025)
  - Civil Litigation: Defense

### Publications

- Student Note, *Examining Rule 11(b)(1)(N) Error: Guilty Pleas, Appellate Waiver, and Dominguez Benitez*, 74 Wash. & Lee. L. Rev. 551 (2017)

### Reported Cases

- *Sanford v. Clarke*, 52 F.4th 582 (4th Cir. 2022)
- *Pena Pinedo v. Commonwealth*, 300 Va. 116, 860 S.E.2d 53 (2021)
- *Shahan v. Commonwealth*, 76 Va. App. 246, 880 S.E.2d 858 (2022)
- *Haefele v. Commonwealth*, 75 Va. App. 591, 878 S.E.2d 422 (2022)
- *Brown v. Commonwealth*, 75 Va. App. 388, 877 S.E.2d 156 (2022)

- *Pulley v. Commonwealth*, 74 Va. App. 104, 866 S.E.2d 600 (2021)
- *McCarthy v. Commonwealth*, 73 Va. App. 630, 864 S.E.2d 577 (2021)
- *Brooks v. Commonwealth*, 73 Va. App. 133, 856 S.E.2d 599 (2021)

## **Education**

- Davidson College, B.A. (2012)
- Washington and Lee University School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude* (2017)
  - Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Circle
  - Executive Editor, *Washington and Lee Law Review*
  - Head Fellow, Kirgis Fellow Program
  - Washington and Lee Law Council Law Review Award for Outstanding Student Note (2016)

## **Bar & Court Admissions**

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