

# Biographies - 2014 Boards of Visitors Orientation

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## Secretary Ric Brown

Ric Brown is a native of Arlington County, Virginia. He received a B.A. in Economics from the College of William and Mary and a Master of Commerce Degree from the University of Richmond.

Ric entered state service in 1971 as an Economist with the Division of State Planning and Community Affairs. While employed by this agency, he served as staff to numerous legislative and executive study commissions including: the Revenue Resources and Economic Study Commission, the National and Dulles Airports Acquisition Study Commission, and Governor Holton's Task Force on Financing the Standards of Quality in Public Education.

In 1976, Ric moved to the newly created Department of Planning and Budget (DPB). Initially, he was employed as a policy analyst dealing with educational matters. He later transferred to the Research Section where he focused his attention on special studies relating to state/local issues and taxation.

Ric was promoted in 1986 to Budget Manager for the Commerce and Resources Section within DPB. In this capacity, he coordinated the development of the Governor's budget recommendations to the General Assembly for the Economic Development and Natural Resources' agencies.

In 1987, Ric took over the managerial duties of Budget Operations; and in 1990 he was promoted to the position of Deputy Director for Budgeting within DPB. On June 1, 2001, Governor Gilmore appointed him as Acting Director of DPB. He was reappointed as Director by Governors Warner and Kaine. As the Director of DPB, Ric was responsible for both external (other agency) and internal (within DPB) budget development and execution procedures as well as for the development and publication of the Governor's Budget Bill and Budget Document.

Ric Brown was first appointed Secretary of Finance by Governor Kaine in August of 2008 and has subsequently been reappointed by Governors McDonnell and Governor McAuliffe.

Secretary Brown is a past President of the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO). He is also a three-time past President of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Area Association for Retarded Citizens and still continues to serve on the Board of that organization.

Among the awards that Secretary Brown has received are the Gloria Timmer Award for exceptional achievements and career accomplishments from NASBO in 2002 and the Lifetime Public Achievement Award from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs of Virginia Commonwealth University for excellence in Virginia Government in 2005.

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## Delegate Kirk Cox

Delegate Kirk Cox was first elected from the 66th District to the House of Delegates in 1989. The 66th House District includes all of Colonial Heights and 14 precincts in Southern/Western Chesterfield County.

On December 5, 2010, the House Republican Caucus elected Kirk to serve as the House Majority Leader, the second-highest leadership position in the House of Delegates.

In addition to his new role as Majority Leader, Kirk serves as the Vice Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee's Higher Education Subcommittee, and a Budget Conferee. He sits on two additional Appropriations Subcommittees: Economic Development, Agriculture, and Natural Resources; and Elementary and Secondary Education. He serves with other senior lawmakers on the Rules and Joint Rules Committees and is a member of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission. Delegate Cox attended James Madison University where he received a B.S. in both Political Science and General Social Science.

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## **Maria J.K. Everett**

Maria J.K. Everett is the executive director of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council, a legislative agency, created in July 2000. Since its inception, the FOIA Council has rendered more than 20,000 informal opinions and more than 250 written opinions on the application/interpretation of the Freedom of Information Act.

Ms. Everett, a senior attorney with the Division of Legislative Services, also serves as counsel to the House Committee on General Laws, a position she has held since 1990. She earned a B.S. degree from Virginia Tech and a J.D. degree from the George Mason University School of Law.

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## **Ron Forehand**

Ron Forehand is Chief of the Education Section of the Office of Attorney General. The Education Section employs 41 lawyers who provide legal advice to all of the Commonwealth's public institutions of higher education. In addition to coordination of Section efforts, Ron personally works with all Boards of Visitors on issues related to the board's relationship with the president, including presidential searches, contractual issues related to the presidents, and significant board-president conflicts.

A lifelong public servant, Ron has been Education Section Chief for 17 of his 20 years with the Office of Attorney General. Prior to that, he was with the Alabama Attorney General's Office for 15 years. Ron is a graduate of the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) School of Law.

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## **M. Elizabeth Griffin**

Elizabeth Griffin is Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Education Section of the Office of the Attorney General.

After graduating from Washington & Lee University in 1991, she received her J.D. at the University of Virginia School of Law in 1994. She initially worked for the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, followed by the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges. In 1999, Elizabeth entered active duty with the U.S. Army JAG Corps, serving at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina and continuing with reserve duty at the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville. She was in private practice in Richmond for over eight years, specializing in complex litigation and appellate matters, before joining the Office of the Attorney General.

Elizabeth is the founding chair of the Appellate Advocacy Section of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, the immediate past chair of the Health Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, and a member of the Appellate Practice Section Council of the Virginia Bar Association. She serves as an adjunct professor for the Appellate Advocacy course at the University of Richmond School of Law. In her position with the Office of the Attorney General, Elizabeth is counsel to Virginia Military Institute, the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, New College Institute, the Virginia Museum of Natural History, the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, and the Governor's Task Force on Combating Campus Sexual Violence.

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## Dorcas Helfant-Browning

Dorcas Helfant-Browning was appointed to the Virginia Community College State Board by Governor Tim Kaine in 2009 to serve the unexpired term of Constance Kincheloe. She was reappointed in 2011 by Gov. Bob McDonnell, and currently serves as the Board's Chair. A lifelong resident of the Tidewater area, Mrs. Helfant-Browning serves as principal broker and managing partner of Coldwell Banker Professional Realtors.

Mrs. Helfant-Browning served as President of the National Association of Realtors, the Virginia Association of Realtors, and the Hampton Roads Realtors Association. She is also a past chair of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

She served eight years, including three terms as chair, on the Tidewater Community College local board. During her years of civic service, she served on various governmental study groups at both the state and local levels.

Born and raised in Portsmouth, Mrs. Helfant-Browning currently resides with her family in Virginia Beach.

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## Secretary Anne Holton

Anne Holton is a life-long advocate for children and families in Virginia. After graduating with a B.A. from Princeton and a Harvard law degree, Holton worked as a legal aid lawyer serving low-income families. She served as a juvenile and domestic relations district court judge from 1998 until 2005 when her husband, Tim Kaine, was elected Governor of Virginia.

As Virginia's First Lady, Holton championed a successful initiative to secure permanent family connections for more foster youth. She later served as a consultant at the Annie E. Casey Foundation on foster care systems reform, with a focus on judiciary issues and preventing unnecessary out-of-home placements of youth due to complex behavioral issues.

In 2008 Anne Holton worked with the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education to establish the Great Expectations program, which works through campus coaches based on community college campuses to improve access to and success in higher education for Virginia's foster youth and alumni. She served as the Program's Director in 2013.

Holton attended public schools in Roanoke, Richmond, and Fairfax County, Virginia. With her family she helped integrate the Richmond Public Schools in 1970. She has been an active PTA member and volunteer at six Richmond public schools, where her children were educated. Holton served on the Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation Board 2010-2012 and on the Voices for Virginia Children Board 2010-2013. She also has served on the Advisory Board to Youth-Nex, the UVa Center to Promote Effective Youth Development at the Curry School of Education.

Holton is the recipient of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Life Award of Distinction and the Richmond YWCA Outstanding Woman in Law award in 2006 among other honors.

She and her husband (now U.S. Senator Tim Kaine) have three adult children and reside in Richmond, Virginia.

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## Samuel E. Jones

Samuel Jones earned a BA in Economics/Government and an MBA at the College of William and Mary. He has been with the College of William and Mary in a professional capacity for 27 years and has served in the capacity of Vice President since July 2001.

Vice President Jones administers the business affairs of the College and coordinates College activities with governmental entities. Mr. Jones is responsible for budget planning and execution, providing analysis and recommendations to the President and Provost regarding university resource allocation, and oversight of expenditures within College programs.

Before coming to William and Mary, Vice President Jones was with the Virginia Department of Taxation where he conducted economic forecasting and with the Virginia Department of Planning and Budget where he addressed statewide oversight of budget issues.

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## Richard D. Legon

Rick Legon is a graduate of the George Washington University, from which he also holds an MPA. He serves on the governing board of Spelman College and previously served on the governing boards of Virginia State University and the University of Charleston (West Virginia). He received an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Charleston in 2007.

Legon began his tenure as the fourth president of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) in 2006. Working with the AGB Board of Directors, staff and members, He led AGB through a strategic planning process that focused on the increasing challenges confronting institutional governance and that resulted in enhancing board accountability. AGB's 2007 Task Force on the Presidency framed AGB's call for a new collaborative governance framework, "Integral Leadership." Much of the AGB agenda on board accountability was an outgrowth of the Task Force's work. Several AGB policy statements, carrying the imprimatur of the association's Board of Directors, were issued that addressed the heightened expectations around issues of board performance and engagement, and fiduciary responsibilities.

Rick frequently addresses meetings of national higher education associations, testifies on behalf of this country's unique form of citizen governance, and has led over 100 retreats for boards of public and private institutions as well as institutionally-related foundations.

He has written extensively on the growing challenges and responsibilities facing board governance with a focus on board structure, fund-raising, and institution leadership. Rick was also instrumental in shaping AGB's initiatives in AGB's work with the boards of public institution-related foundations, and served as the editor of AGB's monograph, *Margin of Excellence: The New Work of Higher Education Foundations*.

During his tenure, AGB has led on issues related to institution cost, education quality oversight, and board leadership. Currently, Rick is leading the association's renewed efforts to address the complex challenges associated with board oversight of intercollegiate athletics, an issue that AGB has paid special attention to in recent years. In addition, he has led the national effort to amend the recent SEC proposed rule related to municipal advisors; and was active in the association's efforts to work with the IRS during the framing of the recently changed Form 990— including spearheading a collaborative effort with The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) to monitor the IRS Compliance Survey of 2008-2009.

Under Rick's leadership, AGB has recently finalized a new strategic plan for the association. Vision 2016 provides an aggressive agenda for AGB that is focused on service, expanded outreach and program development, research, and advocacy.

Rick and his wife, Fran, make their home in Fairfax, VA; they are the proud grand-parents of one granddaughter.

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## Governor Terry McAuliffe

Terence “Terry” McAuliffe is the 72nd Governor of Virginia. He is a successful businessman, entrepreneur, and dad who has lived in Virginia for more than 20 years. He served as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 2001 to 2005, was co-chairman of President Bill Clinton’s 1996 re-election campaign, and was chairman of Hillary Clinton’s 2008 presidential campaign.

In politics and business, McAuliffe has worked with people from all walks of life and different political backgrounds. Since becoming Governor, he has focused on working in a bipartisan way to help grow Virginia’s economy, expand access to health care, and increase educational opportunities for students.

Governor McAuliffe is also dedicated to ensuring that Virginia is open and welcoming to all. That is why on his first day in office, he signed Executive Order Number 1, which prohibits discrimination in state government based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Terry and his wife Dorothy were married in 1988. They’ve attended St. Luke Catholic Church for two decades and have been involved in every sport, activity, and competition imaginable with their five children Dori, Jack, Mary, Sally, and Peter.

The Governor attended Catholic University and Georgetown Law School.

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## Tim Oksman

Tim Oksman is Opinions Counsel to Virginia Attorney General Mark R. Herring. He is also the Attorney General’s designee on the Code Commission of Virginia and the Freedom of Information Act Advisory Council.

He previously served as Portsmouth City Attorney, Richmond City Attorney, and Assistant County Attorney for Henrico, as well as being in private practice with Mark Rubin and John Gibney for more than a decade.

Mr. Oksman is a graduate of Hobart College, New York University, and the University of Virginia School of Law. He also served his country as a combat reporter/photographer for the 20th Engineer Brigade in Vietnam.

Tim is married and has two grown children, both of whom, he is happy to report, are gainfully employed.

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## Deborah Petrine

Deborah Martin Petrine is President and Chief Executive Officer of Commonwealth Care of Roanoke Inc. (CCR), a company she founded in 2001 and which now owns and operates twelve long-term-care facilities in Virginia. In 2009, she also became President of Longleaf Senior Living LLC, which managed 32 assisted living facilities in North Carolina.

Petrine earned her bachelor’s in business administration from Virginia Tech in 1978 and served on the advisory board for the Management Department of Virginia Tech’s Pamplin College of Business. She also served on the advisory board for the Virginia Tech Center for Gerontology.

In 2005, Petrine received the Virginia Health Care Association’s James G. Dutton Award for lifetime achievement in the long-term-care field in the Commonwealth. She is the recipient of the Pamplin College 2011 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

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## President Michael Rao

Michael Rao, Ph.D., became the fifth president of Virginia Commonwealth University and the VCU Health System in 2009 and has continued to cement VCU's place among the nation's premier urban, public research universities. Under the Quest for Distinction strategic plan, Rao is piloting strategic efforts focused on academic quality, student success and research that foster regional economic development and improve lives.

As president of VCU and the VCU Health System, Rao leads a national research university with a leading academic medical center that is the largest employer in the Richmond area — with about 20,000 employees — and the sixth largest in Virginia. Rao is responsible for one of the nation's most comprehensive academic health centers, which is ranked among the best hospitals in the country and, in July 2013, was named a No. 1 hospital in Virginia by U.S. News & World Report for the second year in a row. VCU's community impact, both economic and cultural, continues to grow and is evident in many ways, including the university's renowned athletics program, a surging School of Engineering and, coming soon, the landmark Institute for Contemporary Art.

Rao has been in higher education administration for more than 20 years, beginning in California in 1992, when he became president of Mission College and was, for a time, the youngest college president in the nation. He went on to serve as Chancellor of Montana State University-Northern and President of Central Michigan University.

Rao holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of South Florida and a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Florida. He and his wife, Monica, a watercolorist and graphic designer, have two sons.

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## Secretary Nancy Rodrigues

In December 2013, Nancy Rodrigues was appointed the Secretary of Administration by Governor Terry McAuliffe. With an impressive record of more than 30 years in public service, Ms. Rodrigues has a wealth of executive expertise and strategic planning experience.

Managing her own consulting firm, Opening Doors to Government Business and Growth, Ms. Rodrigues worked with clients serving in leadership roles providing government relations services and developing growth strategy plans to assist numerous organizations and government agencies. Dedicated and committed, she has developed a reputation for hard work, discipline in achieving goals, and has a high level of energy. Having an engaging personality, Ms. Rodrigues has attracted many supporters from both sides of the aisle.

Extremely knowledgeable in state government, Ms. Rodrigues served as the Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections from 2007 to 2011, overseeing the largest election in Virginia history in 2008. For nearly a decade, she served as Executive Director of DRIVE SMART® Virginia, a nonprofit organization.

Ms. Rodrigues has received numerous prestigious honors during her career, including such awards as the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Bridge Builder Award. Fluent in Portuguese and with functional Spanish, Ms. Rodrigues also has specialized experience in Hispanic outreach. She graduated with honors from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where she received a Bachelors of Arts in political science. She attended graduate school at the College of William & Mary.

She is married to Michael Abley and lives on a farm in Surry County with two spoiled cats and a pampered dog.

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## Leonard W. Sandridge, Jr.

In July 2011, Leonard retired as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating officer of the University of Virginia, having served the university for 44 years. In that role he headed the non-academic support areas of the University, including the operations of the Medical Center and athletics. From July 2011 until January 2014, he served as Special Advisor to the President of the University of Virginia.

Leonard joined the UVA in 1967 as a member of the internal audit staff and held various administrative and finance positions prior to being named executive vice president in 1993. In 1999, he was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

A native of Crozet, Virginia, Leonard served in the U.S. Army from 1964 to 1966, and from 1966 to 1984 he was an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve. Leonard serves on the boards of the University of Richmond, Spider Management Company LLC, Charlottesville Free Clinic, and Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. Since July 2012, he has served as a senior advisor to the UVA Board of Visitors. He was appointed by Governor McAuliffe to the Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments in January 2014.

Leonard received his B.S. from the University of Richmond in 1964 and his M.S. from the University of Virginia in 1974. He and his wife, Jerry, have two sons and four grandchildren.

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## Secretary Levar Stoney

Levar Stoney served as the Deputy Director of the McAuliffe Gubernatorial Transition. He was the Deputy Campaign Manager of McAuliffe's 2013 campaign for Governor. In 2008, Stoney served as Executive Director of the Democratic Party of Virginia. At the time he was one of the youngest state Democratic party executive directors in the United States.

During his career, Stoney worked in various public and private sector capacities, including for State Senator R. Creigh Deeds and former Delegate C. Richard Cranwell.

Stoney received his undergraduate degree from James Madison University in 2004. In 2006, he completed the Virginia Commonwealth University Minority Political Leadership Institute's leadership development program. He is a native of Yorktown and is a product of the York County public schools. He and his wife reside in Richmond.

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## Senator Walter Stosch

Senator Walter Stosch currently represents nearly 200,000 residents in Virginia's 12th Senatorial District. First serving as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Senator Stosch was elected to the Senate of Virginia in 1991. He is the only CPA serving in the General Assembly.

Senator Stosch has been a leader on numerous issues impacting all Virginians. He led tax reform issues, including removal of taxation on Social Security and a deduction for college savings plans. He is a strong advocate for public education, including Virginia's private colleges and universities, many of which are nationally ranked. He was chief patron of Virginia's innovative Public-Private Partnership Act.

Senator Stosch is a lifelong resident of Virginia, born in Richmond County and currently residing in Henrico County. He was educated at University of Richmond where he earned a B.S. in Accounting and an M.B.A. He is married to the former Eleanor Herbert of Westmoreland County. They have raised both of their children in Henrico and also enjoy having 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild living here as well.

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## Ronald L. Tillett

Ron Tillett joined Raymond James in April 2012 following the firm's acquisition of Morgan Keegan and became the Head of the Mid-Atlantic Public Finance Practice in 2014. Since 2001, Mr. Tillett has focused on the asset management and underwriting needs of public clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic region and the United States. Mr. Tillett has extensive experience in all phases of governmental debt issuance, management, and the investment practices and policies of public clients. He works with state and local government clients throughout the United States and manages equity and fixed-income accounts in 27 states and the District of Columbia. Mr. Tillett serves on a variety of governmental, business, and charitable organizations including the following:

- Member, Board of Visitors, Christopher Newport University
- Chairman, Investment Advisory Committee of the Virginia College Savings Program
- Director, Union First Market Bankshares Corporation Board of Directors (UBSH)
- Member, Commonwealth of Virginia Debt Capacity Advisory Committee
- Trustee, Bon Secours Healthsource Virginia
- Member, Corporate Affiliate Advisory Board, National Association of State Treasurers
- Chairman, Commonwealth of Virginia Route 460 Funding Corporation

Prior to joining Morgan Keegan in 2001, Mr. Tillett served with four Virginia Governors and the Virginia General Assembly over a twenty-four year public service career. He served as Secretary of Finance in the cabinet of two Virginia Governors and served as State Treasurer with two other Virginia Governors. Prior to joining the executive branch of government in 1987, Mr. Tillett spent ten years with the Virginia General Assembly's House Appropriations Committee and the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

Mr. Tillett received a Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University and is a FINRA Registered General Securities Representative (Series 7), Registered Investment Banking Representative (Series 79), Registered Municipal Securities Representative, and a Registered Municipal Securities Principal (Series 53). In addition, he has successfully completed the Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (Series 63), and is a certified Bank Director through the International Bank Director Certification Program.

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## President Paul S. Tribble, Jr.

President Tribble earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampden-Sydney College and his law degree from Washington and Lee University. He served as a commonwealth's attorney of Essex County from 1974 to 1976. He represented the Commonwealth of Virginia in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1977 to 1983 and in the U.S. Senate from 1983 to 1989.

He was a member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations in 1988 and a teaching fellow at the Institute of Politics, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1989. He was appointed as President of Christopher Newport University (CNU) in 1996. Under his leadership applications to CNU have increased by more than 700 percent, the average SAT of entering freshmen has increased by 240 points, and the campus has been transformed by nearly \$1 billion in capital construction.

He is married to Rosemary Dunaway Tribble and has two children, Mary Katherine Tribble Peters and Paul S. Tribble III.