

# VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN VALLEY LAWYERS ALLIANCE

The Virginia Mountain Valley Lawyers Alliance (VMVLA) is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit professional association dedicated to serving the needs of attorneys practicing in the Mountain/Valley Region of Virginia. We are a Specialty Bar Association with 1,450 attorneys and counting.

We aim to foster regional attorney engagement and provide significant professional education opportunities that serve attorneys throughout the Mountain/Valley Region of Virginia, whose practices are uniquely positioned to serve clients beyond the state's major urban areas.

Our offerings include live CLE programs (both remote and in-person), bar association member events, and community support projects throughout the year.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*"Our mission for Virginia lawyers in the Mountain/Valley Region, across the Commonwealth, and throughout the world is: To provide accessible and affordable legal education; to enhance the collegial, ethical, and inclusive practice of law; and to support access to justice, address unmet legal needs, and promote the Rule of Law."*

## GET IN TOUCH

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📍 P.O. Box 21652, Roanoke, VA 24018  
🌐 <https://vmvla.org>  
✉ [info@vmvla.org](mailto:info@vmvla.org)  
📖 A 501(C)(6) Professional Association

## What We Do:

### (1) CLE Programs

The Virginia Mountain/Valley Lawyers' Alliance creates many Continuing Legal Education (CLE) opportunities for our Mountain Valley legal professionals. This reflects our commitment to continuing legal education and the importance of being up to date with the latest changes of the law.

### (2) Members Events

The Virginia Mountain/Valley Lawyers' Alliance host a series of professional, educational, service, and social events which promote collegiality among members and seek to serve the community.

### (3) Community Initiatives

We work towards transforming lives through the power of service and are supporting various charitable causes through VMVLA member donations and fundraising campaigns.

## Values-Driven Leadership

Leaders who accelerate positive and lasting change in their communities, focusing on strengthening civil institutions across Virginia and beyond.

### (1) VMVLA Officers

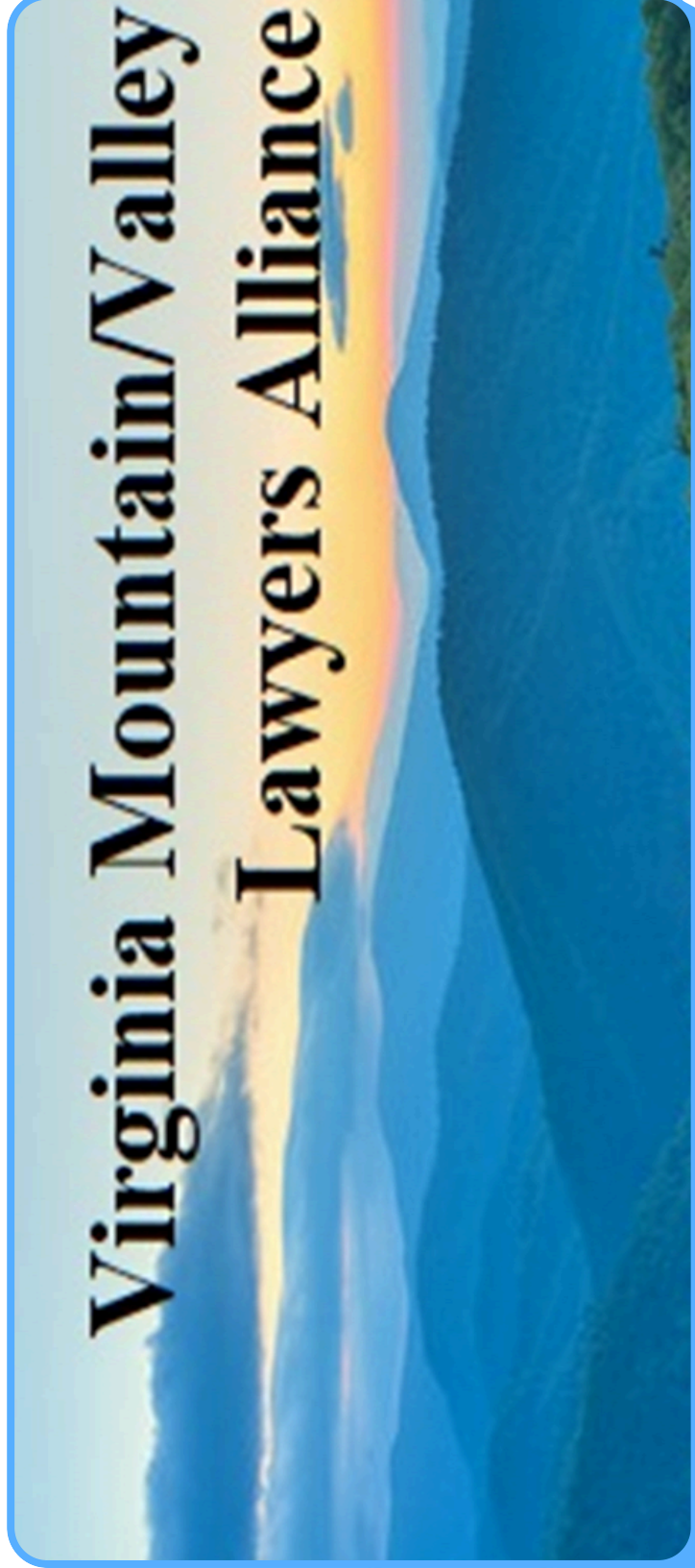
The elected officers of the Alliance include a President, President-Elect, Vice President, Judge Advocate, VAA Representative, Secretary, and a Virginia Associate Representative.

### (2) VMVLA Committees

Our committees drive systemic change to create an impact across sectors and community issues. Our members are dedicated to delivering value and giving back to the profession and the public.

### (3) VMVLA is committed to creating positive and sustainable change through:

- ✓ Legal education
- ✓ Pro bono legal services for indigent and underrepresented communities
- ✓ Community service projects
- ✓ Charitable donations supporting access to justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion



Virginia Mountain/Valley  
Lawyers Alliance



# Have Law, will travel....


## Globalization & Legal Impact

People once dismissed global issues with phrases like, "That has as little to do with my life as the price of tea in China." Today, global commerce and international legal issues impact our daily lives—from trade regulations to food safety and product liability.

## VMVLA's Global Engagement Priorities

In an increasingly globalized world, legal challenges extend beyond borders. Our networking initiatives and CLE programs connect Virginia attorneys with international legal experts to discuss emerging legal issues affecting diverse practice areas—including the legal challenges of space law! On that note, here are our priorities for international engagement!

### (1) Networking & Collaboration

 Expanding our reach through collaboration with internationally practicing attorneys and VMVLA members.

### (2) International Educational Opportunities

VMVLA offers various professional development opportunities that touch upon international themes. Our meetings also may incorporate international themes as our Spring Meeting is close to the international Law Day!

 **Annual Meeting** – First Weekend in October

 **Spring Meeting** – First Weekend in May close to International Law Day!

### (3) Timely Updates and Communication

 Regular CLE Sessions, Blog Updates & Virtual Events that touch upon various elements of international law.

# MEET OUR 2024-2025 VMVLA BOARD

## President Dr. Ilise Feitshans

Georgetown University Law Center  
Living in France near Geneva, Switzerland and  
Haddonfield, New Jersey

## President-Elect John Koehler

Virginia Mountain/Valley Lawyers Alliance,  
Roanoke, Virginia

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Shirkey Law Offices, Roanoke, Virginia

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Leighton Legal Group, Bloomington, Illinois

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Midlothian, Virginia

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Office of the Virginia Attorney General  
Mt. Solon, Virginia

## Virginia Attorneys Abroad Representative:

Drew Willison

Oldaker & Willison  
Silver Spring, Maryland


## LEGAL NOTICE


The VMVLA is a 501(C)(6) not-for-profit professional organization and a Specialty Bar Association member of the Virginia State Bar's Conference of Local and Specialty Bar Associations.


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## Resources:

### Networking & Collaboration:

 Connecting lawyers and law students worldwide to foster global legal insights and collaboration.

 **Legal Resources:** Access primary and secondary legal materials, including statutes, court opinions, and legal guides.

 **VMVLA Attorney Directory:** A public directory of VMVLA attorneys, including bios, practice areas, and contact information.

 **Better Know a Circuit:** A guide to the courts in the Mountain/Valley Region.

 **CLE Videos:** Seminar videos for informational purposes