PRESS RELEASE – June 14, 2021

The Court of Appeals of Virginia Announces the Appointment of A. John Vollino as the Clerk of the Court, Effective September 1, 2021

The Judges of the Court of Appeals of Virginia have appointed A. John Vollino as the Clerk of the Court, effective September 1, 2021. Mr. Vollino will succeed Cynthia L. McCoy, who has served as the Clerk since December 1995 and will retire effective September 1, 2021.

Mr. Vollino has served as the Chief Deputy Clerk since April 1996. Previously, he served as a Tax Policy Analyst for the Virginia Department of Taxation and worked as an attorney in private practice.

Chief Judge Marla Decker said, “John Vollino’s twenty-five years of experience as Chief Deputy Clerk, his leadership, and his vision are exactly what the Court needs at this moment in its history. The expansion of the Court’s jurisdiction and the institution of appeals of right for defendants in criminal cases involves significant changes in the operation of the Clerk’s Office, which is known for its consumer-friendly atmosphere, innovation, and adaptability. The Court is confident that Mr. Vollino is the perfect person to lead the Clerk’s Office during this important period of transition in a manner that retains the well-deserved reputation of that office.”

Mr. Vollino received his undergraduate degree from Boston College and his law degree from the College of William and Mary.

About the Court of Appeals of Virginia: The Court of Appeals of Virginia currently provides appellate review of final decisions of the circuit courts in domestic relations matters, appeals from decisions of an administrative agency, traffic infractions and criminal cases. It also hears appeals of final decisions of the Virginia Workers’ Compensation Commission. The Court of Appeals has original jurisdiction to issue writs of mandamus, prohibition, and habeas corpus in any case over which the Court would have appellate jurisdiction, and writs of actual innocence (based on non-biological evidence). Except in those cases where the decision of the Court of
Appeals is final by operation of law, any party aggrieved by a decision of the Court of Appeals may petition the Supreme Court for an appeal.

Virginia Acts of Assembly, Chapter 489, passed during the 2021 Special Session I, increases the number of judges on the Court of Appeals from 11 to 17, effective July 1, 2021. This legislation also expands the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals, effective January 1, 2022, providing an appeal of right in every civil case and an appeal of right for defendants in criminal cases.

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