

# SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
KARL R. HADE

**ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY &  
LEGAL COUNSEL**  
ALISA W. PADDEN

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## **PRESS RELEASE – January 13, 2026**

### **Executive Secretary announces Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel and Director of Legislative and Public Relations Selections**

Karl R. Hade, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, is pleased to announce the selection of Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel and Director of Legislative and Public Relations.

#### **Alisa W. Padden Selected as Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel**

Alisa W. Padden has been selected as Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel, effective November 10, 2025.

Alisa most recently served as Director of Legislative and Public Relations in the Office of the Executive Secretary, a position she has held since 2021. Prior to that role, Alisa served as a Staff Attorney in the Department of Legal Research. She is a graduate of James Madison University and earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Richmond.

The Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel provides legal advice and support to the Executive Secretary on matters involving the Office of the Executive Secretary or the administration of the courts and other offices within the Judicial Branch.

#### **Brandy S. Singleton Selected as Director of Legislative and Public Relations**

Brandy S. Singleton has been selected as Director of Legislative and Public Relations in the Office of the Executive Secretary, effective November 25, 2025.

Brandy has served the Office of the Executive Secretary for nearly twenty years, most recently as a Senior Staff Attorney in the Department of Legal Research, where she developed legal memoranda for trial court judges, monitored and analyzed proposed legislation, and presented the judiciary's positions before committees of the General Assembly. She holds a Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, and a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from the University of Richmond.

The Department of Legislative and Public Relations manages legislative matters and handles media and public relations for Virginia's Judicial System. The Department provides staff support for the development of legislative proposals recommended by the Judicial Conferences of Virginia and represents Virginia's Judicial System on legislative matters before the General Assembly. The Department is responsible for responding to inquiries from the press and the general public, including requests for records and information.

The Office of the Executive Secretary is the administrative office of the courts in the Commonwealth. The Office of the Executive Secretary provides training and education to all judicial branch employees, legal research assistance to judges, and fiscal, human resources, and information technology services to the courts and magistrate offices.