**Enabling Conservation:**

**A Tour of Virginia's Conservation Easement Act and Open-Space Land Act**

***Course Agenda***

* Introduction of panelists, instructions for attorneys in audience who wish to claim CLE credit, and other housekeeping matters: 5 minutes
* PowerPoint Presentation explaining nuts and bolts of Virginia’s Open-Space Land Act (OSLA) and Conservation Easement Act (VCEA) with analysis of how the legislation has been interpreted and applied through caselaw and AG’s opinions, explanation of the history surrounding the public policies that led to the creation of the legislation, and comparisons to similar conservation enabling acts in other states: Kerry Hutcherson 45-60 minutes
* Panel discussion and interactive Q&A with audience focusing on unique, controversial, and significant aspects of the OSLA and VCEA: moderated by Kerry Hutcherson and discussed by all panelists with questions and comments from audience 30-45 minutes
* Wrap-up and distribute CLE forms and information for obtaining written materials

***Table of Contents for Written Materials***

* PowerPoint Presentation in PDF format
* Full text of OSLA and VCEA from Code of Virginia
* *Historic Alexandria Found. v. City of Alexandria*, 858 S.E.2d 199 (2021)
* *U.S. v. Blackman*, 613 S.E.2d 442, 270 Va. 68 (2005)
* 2012 WL 4044318 (Va.A.G.)
* 2013 WL 5410703 (Va.A.G.)
* 1993 Va. Op. Atty. Gen. 7 (Va.A.G.), 1993 Va. Rep. Atty. Gen. 7, 1993 WL 537733
* 1981-82 Va. Op. Atty. Gen. 270 (Va.A.G.), 1981-82 Va. Rep. Atty. Gen. 270, 1981 WL 141244
* 1984-85 Va. Op. Atty. Gen. 249 (Va.A.G.), 1984-85 Va. Rep. Atty. Gen. 249, 1984 WL 184541
* 1995 Va. Op. Atty. Gen. 39 (Va.A.G.), 1995 Va. Rep. Atty. Gen. 39, 1995 WL 228369

***Panelists (Faculty) Names and Credentials***

* **Kerry Hutcherson, Esquire: Rudy, Coyner & Associates, PLLC** Kerry is a land use and real estate attorney, and he represents developers, small business owners, landlords and tenants, farmers, and non-profit land trusts and conservation organizations. Kerry has a law degree from the University of Richmond, a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a bachelor’s degree from Virginia Tech. From 2005 to 2015, Kerry worked for the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, first as an intern and then as staff counsel, on hundreds of conservation transactions and conservation easement enforcement matters. Since joining Rudy, Coyner & Associates, PLLC, Kerry has expanded his practice and clientele on a variety of land-related legal matters, usually transactional in nature. He plays a variety of musical instruments and lives in Hanover County with his wife, two boys, and a bunch of chickens.
* **Parker Agelasto, Executive Director, Capital Region Land Conservancy** Parker Agelasto has served as the Executive Director of the Capital Region Land Conservancy since 2015. He serves on the board of Virginia’s United Land Trusts, has an MBA from UVA’s Darden School of Business, a Master of Arts in Art History, also from UVA, and a BA from Bates College. He has developed collaborative relationships with elected officials and planning staff across the Richmond region to better coordinate strategic land conservation. His experience with land conservation is also personal; his family owns a 200 acre property in Nelson County along the Rockfish River that is protected under a conservation easement. Parker lives in the City of Richmond with his wife and two children.
* **Alison Teetor, Conservation Specialist, Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority** Alison received a B.S. Degree in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University, May 1982. She was employed by Colorado Division of Wildlife 1982-1983, Virginia Tech from 1983 to 1985 as wildlife technician, National Park Service 1985-1990 as Forestry and GIS technician, and 1991 to 2021 Natural Resource Planner/GIS specialist for Clarke County. Her responsibilities included staffing the Conservation Easement Authority from 2005-2021. She retired from her full-time position in December 2021. Alison is currently working part-time for the Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority.
* **Martha Little, Deputy Director, Virginia Outdoors Foundation** Martha Little serves as a Deputy Director at the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. She has been with VOF since 2006 and oversees the stewardship and enforcement of over 4800 open space easements on approximately 900,000 acres. Her work has expanded to include VOF’s grant programs and other conservation efforts. Martha has a bachelor’s degree in Political and Social Thought from the University of Virginia and a Master’s degree in Urban and Environmental Planning also from UVa. Martha has served in other planning positions in Virginia including as Chief of Planning for the Chesapeake Local Assistance Department, and as a planner at HRPDC and the City of Portsmouth. Martha resides in Weems Virginia and enjoys Masters swimming, sailing, and other outdoor pursuits.