



## I'ANSON-HOFFMAN INN OF COURT NEWSLETTER

2025

*VOL. 36, NO. 1*

### NEXT MEETING

**End of Year Banquet  
May 21, 2025**

**William & Mary Law School  
5:30 p.m.**

Hello Inn Members! As we near the end of our 2024-2025 Inn year, it's time to look back at another successful year in I'Anson-Hoffman. Be sure to attend our final meeting of the year in May at the W&M Law School. While we are disappointed not to meet in the Wren Building this year, we will still have an amazing gathering, where the Honorable Mary Jane Hall will offer remarks in honor of her retirement from the bench.



Look at this very recent photo of our esteemed speaker!

Without further ado, let's get to recapping some of our meetings from this year:

### FALL SOCIAL

On September 21, 2024, we gathered at VP Christy Murphy's home to bring in the new Inn year. The Inn had several new members in attendance, including 4 student members.



Christy's home was lovely, and the catering was on point!



New President C. Wiley Grandy welcomed everyone to another year in the richly historic I'Anson-Hoffman Inn of Court.

### OCTOBER MEETING RECAP

#### FOODBANK SUCCESS!

This year the Inn collected money for the Peninsula Foodbank, which provides food for 158,000 families annually. The Inn collected an impressive **\$2,815**, which will provide **8,445** meals across Hampton Roads. Thanks to all who donated for your generosity, and special thanks to Barry Dorans for leading the way with the largest donation.



On October 16, 2024, the Inn held its first meeting of the year. As is custom, we met at the William & Mary Law School. After a brief orientation for our new members, we were treated to an interesting



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presentation by Professor Nicole Buonocore Porter on the varying ways in which courts across the country interpret the definition of “disability” under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. Her research suggests courts inconsistently apply the updated ADA definition of “disability.” She discussed her methodologies and there was a spirited discussion about the nature of her research and its implications.

*Brandenburg* and *International Shoe* cases, USERRA and FLSA provisions, and much more.

As usual, the members of competing pupillage groups engaged in a lively competition. Disappointingly, no group correctly guessed the inaugural president of the I’Anson-Hoffman Inn of Court (William T. Prince) or the year of our founding (1987). Nevertheless, Pupillage Group 3 ran away with the points in regular Jeopardy to take the crown as reigning Jeopardy champs!

### NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

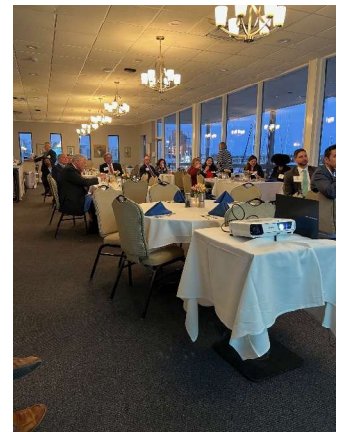


On November 20, 2024, the Inn met at the Norfolk Yacht Club for its second meeting of the year. Pupillage Group 2 presented with its traditional Jeopardy game, and as expected, they did not disappoint. The game featured software with accompanying musical tracks (including playful jeers for incorrect answers). This year featured the following categories: 1) The SCOTUS with the Mostest, 2) 1L of a Year, 3) Courtroom Quotables, 4) Criminal Minds, 5) Labor Pains, and 6) That Pesky Lease! The questions encompassed a broad array of topics, including the law of necessity, Vinny Gambini quotes, VRLTA provisions,

### JANUARY MEETING RECAP

The January meeting seemed cursed from the outset, with two cancellations and rescheduling attempts (one due to the venue, the other due to snowy weather). Finally, on March 19, 2025, the Inn met at the Hampton Yacht Club for a fantastic meeting. Pupillage Group 4 took the stage

and challenged the Inn with a series of tricky multiple choice questions. The Group chose questions from the following areas of law: Civil & Transactional Law, Family Law, VRLTA, Construction Civil Procedure, and Criminal (*Brady*, *Miranda*, 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment). As always, the questions sparked healthy discussions and debate on the topics.



## FEBRUARY MEETING RECAP

The February meeting also appeared to be slightly cursed, where the second snowstorm of the season required another cancellation. When inclement weather arrived on March 4, it appeared we might have to cancel a second time, but fortunately, the weather cleared quickly enough for many members to attend. Pupillage Group 6 put on a phenomenal presentation titled *Good Intentions are Not Enough: Timeless patterns of misconduct*. The group posed several hypotheticals touching on the following ethics-driven topics: Marketing & Fees, Zeal in Representation, and Candor to the Tribunal.



The program was well-received by the Inn and prompted lengthy discussions. Group 6 submitted the program for CLE credit and received approval for an ethics CLE credit. We plan to upload the materials to the program library so that other Inns can benefit from them.

## APRIL MEETING RECAP

Our April 23, 2025 meeting was our annual joint meeting with the James Kent Inn of Court. We were honored to have the retiring Chief Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court as our speaker for this

joint meeting. He spoke to us all on the rule of law and on access to justice. He reminded us that our bar cards represent not just a license, but also a solemn oath – and we should all use our skills to assist those in need with legal issues. Pro bono work is necessary for society to have balance and provide justice to all.



We enjoyed our social time at the beginning of the meeting with

members of the James Kent Inn of Court. The social hour allowed us to catch up with members of the other Inn, discuss our careers, and share mentorship opportunities. This was a good blend of judges from all levels of Virginia courts, as well as members who have been practicing few years to many years. It is the melding of judges, attorneys and students that provides so much value to the Inn.



**Until Next Time,  
Andrew Gordon - 2025**