

AMERICAN INNS of COURT

JAMES KENT INN OF COURT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025

VOL. 1, NO. 1

INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

The James Kent American Inn of Court finishes the 2024-2025 inn year with the addition of our annual newsletter. This year, we are pleased to use this new platform to recap a great year of fellowship, service, and learning.

PLATINUM STATUS

Under the leadership of past-president Jenny Eaton (2023-2024), the James Kent Inn of Court maintained its platinum status and lapel pins were informally presented.

INN KICK-OFF

The James Kent Inn of Court kicked off the 2024-2025 inn year with a social event at the Blue Moon Taphouse on August 28, 2024.



Students, professors, lawyers, and judges attended the meeting and became acquainted or reacquainted with each other. Judge Lannetti offered a moving toast to remind us of the mission

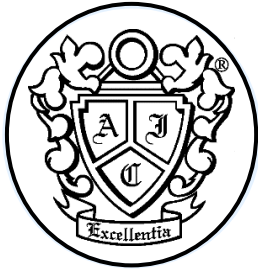
of the Inns of Court and our commitment to civility.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

We held our first regular meeting on September 24, 2024. The Blue Moon Taphouse was our venue once again, but in a quieter setting better suited for learning. After a time of fellowship, Pupilage Group 1, led by Chris Hollinger, Michelle Parker, and Judge Rob MacDonald, presented.



The program, titled *Establishing and Terminating Representation Interaction with Represented/Unrepresented Parties*, was well received and led to robust conversation during the meeting.



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OCTOBER MEETING

October brought our Inn back to Norfolk. After a time of gathering, it was time for a presentation *Co-piloting with AI*.



Pupilage Group 2 was led by Abby Gump and Joy Malbon-Giffin. They, along with student members provided valuable

insight on the use of AI in the legal profession. Lively discussion ensued across generations of practitioners in the room.

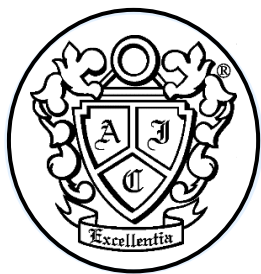


NOVEMBER SERVICE MEETING

Keeping the tradition established by Jenny Eaton last year, members celebrated James Kent's annual Inn Service Day at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia in Norfolk, VA. Members packed 437 boxes of food for the local community. Sorting food and packing boxes proved a great environment for comradery and connection-building. The organization expressed gratitude to members for the time spent serving. It was a rewarding experience for everyone.

HOLIDAY SOCIAL

The James Kent Inn of Court celebrated its annual holiday meeting at Woods Rogers Law Firm on December 11, 2024. Our hosts opened their boardroom for members to gather, feast, and play our annual trivia game.



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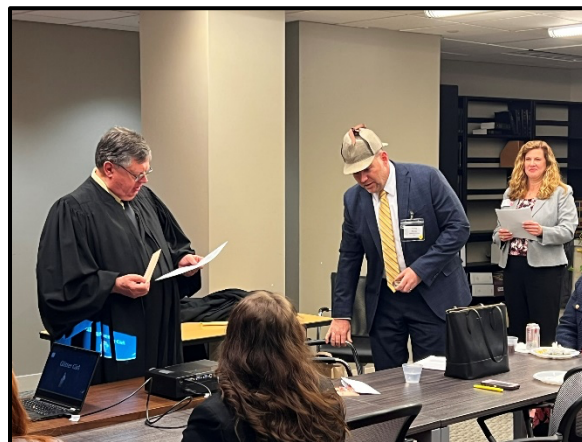
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JANUARY MEETING

On January 28, 2025, the Inn returned to Woods Rogers for Pupilage Group 5's CLE presentation



On the Basis of Sex. Though the presenters were lean in numbers, Josh Barbosa and student member Elijah Fox provided a thorough look at Title IX in educational settings. Scholars among the members chimed in during the meeting to offer additional information on the topic.



group presented an informative and entertaining program on *Contempt of Court*. Led by Judge Gordon Vincent and Dean Van Essendelft, Group 6 displayed bonified acting chops to educate the room. Shout-outs to actors Greg Klein and Amy Chudzinski going above and beyond in their commitment to the roles.

FEBRUARY MEETING

On February 19, 2025, Pupilage Group 6 took us back down memory lane with a traditional Inn of Court format.

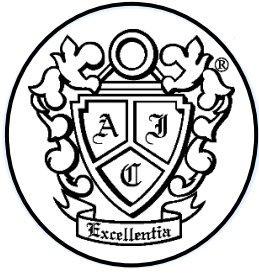
Through the use of skits, the



ANNUAL BANQUET

For our annual meeting, inn members met at Founders Inn on March 25, 2025.





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The James Kent Inn welcomed Lonnie (Chip) Nunley, Partner at *Hunton*, as our keynote. Chip shared with each of us the importance of civility and professionalism in our esteemed profession.

The evening continued with honors for



our student members and our amazing student administrator Tucker Blythe.

Woods Rogers was celebrated as our 2025 Distinguished Service Award recipients, for the firm's unbridled commitment and support for our inn this year. The award was accepted



by Thomas Chappell and Jenny Eaton.



We were fortunate to have Dean Lingo give the invocation for this meeting before he parted from Regent Law School.

Our new officers and President, Michelle Parker, were also sworn in at the

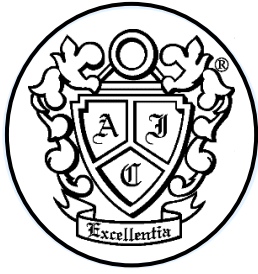
meeting.

JOINT MEETING 2025

We hosted our joint meeting with I'Anson Hoffman Inn of Court on April 23, 2025 at the Norfolk Yacht Club.

We were honored to have Chief Justice S. Bernard Goodwyn speak to us on the rule of law and the important responsibility we have to uphold it as members of the legal profession. The Chief Justice, who retires this year, reminded us of the imbalance created in our





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justice system when lawyers are missing from either side. He further spoke about the commitment we must all have to pro bono work and access to justice.

Ample opportunity to fellowship and network was provided at the start of the meeting. With about 60 members and guests gathered from across the profession,



students and new attorneys were able to meet and mingle with judges, scholars, and attorneys from all over the region. Student members had an opportunity to meet and speak with Chief Justice Goodwyn. It was a rewarding and inspiring meeting for all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The James Kent Inn of Court has an updated website. Check it out [here](#).

We are proud to announce that each of our programs received CLE credits and we are on track for Platinum Status again this year. Thank you to all of the presenting pupillage groups for your hard work!

Until next year...