

VBA NEWS RELEASE

The Virginia Bar Association, Suite 1120, 701 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 644-0041 • Fax (804) 644-0052 • thevba@vba.org • www.vba.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Guy Tower/Kim Kovac (804) 644-0041

Deeds, McDonnell Accept Invitation to Debate on July 25 at VBA Summer Meeting; Smolla to serve as Moderator

The Virginia Bar Association (VBA), the state's oldest and largest voluntary organization of lawyers and judges, has announced that Virginia gubernatorial candidates Creigh Deeds and Bob McDonnell have accepted invitations from the Association to debate at the VBA's 119th Annual Summer Meeting at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, July 25, at The Homestead in Hot Springs, Virginia. The debate will be moderated by Dean Rodney Smolla of Washington & Lee School of Law.

This event continues a decades-long VBA tradition of hosting an early debate in statewide political contests at the Association's annual summer meeting, the most recent being a face-off between former Virginia governors, Mark Warner and Jim Gilmore in their 2008 U.S. Senate race. The most recent VBA debate between candidates for Governor took place in 2005 between then Lieutenant Governor Tim Kaine and Attorney General Jerry Kilgore.

VBA debates are conducted before Association members and guests attending the summer meeting and are open to the public at no charge. The Virginia Bar Association is a nonpartisan organization that does not endorse, support or oppose candidates for political office.

Details of the debate format when formalized and additional information will be posted when available on the VBA website at <http://www.vba.org>.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS/NEWS ORGANIZATIONS: The VBA anticipates and welcomes significant media coverage of the debate. In order to accommodate as many news organizations and individual journalists as possible, the Association requests that you contact VBA Communications Coordinator Kim Kovac at (804) 644-0041 or kimkovac@vba.org as soon as practicable to advise her of your coverage plans, equipment needs, etc. The Association reserves the right to limit the amount of space provided to each media outlet, and, if necessary, to issue press credentials on a first-come, first-served basis.

THE MISSION OF THE VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION

The Virginia Bar Association is a voluntary organization of Virginia lawyers committed to serving the public and legal profession by promoting the highest standard of integrity, professionalism, and excellence in the legal profession; working to improve the law and the administration of justice; and advancing collegial relations among lawyers