

History



Like many local law firms, Bean, Kinney & Korman began as a modest group of young attorneys looking to build their professional practices near the local courthouse. Among them was David B. Kinney, who in 1959 joined together with three other lawyers to start an enterprise that has grown and prospered for 60 years to become one of the area's leading law firms.

Along the way, a law student named James W. Korman was hired as a clerk and later as an associate attorney, and a 1970s merger brought to the firm one of Northern Virginia's premier attorneys (and later president of the Virginia Bar Association), L. Lee Bean. During these first two decades, the firm built a typical general practice, representing local individuals and businesses in real estate transactions, litigation, wills, divorces and corporate matters.

The late 1980s and early 1990s brought an influx of new attorneys and business opportunities to the firm, laying the foundation for its banking, land use and creditor bankruptcy representation practices. In 1991, Bean, Kinney and Korman was adopted as the firm's permanent name, marking the firm's determination to grow beyond a collection of local-practice attorneys and pursue a strategy of building a more multi-disciplinary firm responsive to the increasingly complex challenges faced by its clients and prospective clients.

Lee Bean and Dave Kinney have left their legacy of professionalism with the firm, but Jim Korman continues to carry on that tradition here every day.

We have grown from a few offices in a small office building constructed by Dave Kinney in the early 1960s to our current space in Arlington, a LEED gold-certified property. While it took almost 40 years to reach 20 lawyers, the firm has more than doubled in size in the years since. We have continued to execute our strategy of expanding to meet the dynamic legal needs of a wider client base by adding practice capabilities in employment matters, taxation, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property and licensing, internet defamation and government contracting, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to address the ever-changing business and personal environment of our clients. The most important things are the accomplishments and service of the professionals who have been integral to the firm. The firm's lawyers have been leaders in the community and the profession, including:

1968 – Thomas R. Monroe joins the firm as the first African-American partner in a non-minority law firm in Virginia. Appointed to the bench as Arlington County's first African-American judge in 1972 and served on all three Arlington Courts.

1970 – David B. Kinney serves as President of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association.

1980 – L. Lee Bean serves as President of the Virginia Bar Association.

1981 – James W. Korman serves as President of the Arlington Bar Association.

1985 – Benjamin N.A. Kendrick appointed as an Arlington Circuit Court judge.

1985 – Jonathan C. Kinney serves as Chair of the Arlington Housing Commission.

1997 – Carol Schrier-Polak serves as Chair of the Fairfax Bar Association.

1999 – Jennifer A. Brust serves as President of the Arlington Bar Association.

2000 – James W. Korman serves as President of the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

2004 – Timothy R. Hughes serves as Chair of the Virginia State Bar's Construction Law & Public Contracts Section.

2005 – Carol Schrier-Polak serves as President of the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

2007 – James R. Schroll serves as Chair of the Virginia State Bar's Bankruptcy Section.

2010 – Philip M. Keating serves as Chair of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

2010 – Jonathan C. Kinney serves as President of the Clarendon Alliance.

2014 – Timothy R. Hughes serves as Chair of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

2015 – Timothy R. Hughes serves as Chair of the Leadership Center for Excellence.

2017 - Jonathan C. Kinney serves as President of the Arlington County Retirement Board.

Continually expanding our capabilities, we serve clients within the metropolitan Washington, D.C. region and other jurisdictions throughout the country as well as some international clients, in matters ranging from simple wills to multi-million dollar financings and from defending intellectual property rights to handling complex litigation. But in everything we do, we never lose sight of the steadfast values upon which the firm was founded.