



2023
EDWARD J. FINNEGAN
ELIZABETH D. WHITING
AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

PHYLLIS A. ERRICO

THE LGA EDWARD J. FINNEGAN ELIZABETH D. WHITING AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE recognizes an individual in the Commonwealth of Virginia who has made significant contributions to local government law or the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. The 2023 recipient, **PHYLLIS A. ERRICO**, epitomizes excellence in service.

PHYLLIS HAS DEVOTED HER CAREER TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Prior to becoming General Counsel for the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), Phyllis served as: VACo's Director of Legal Services, Henrico Senior Assistant County Attorney, Hanover Assistant County Attorney, and Assistant Attorney General for Virginia. She served as President of the National Association of Civil County Attorneys, Board Member and Chair of the Virginia State Bar Local Government Section, and as Virginia Council of School Attorneys' Board Member and President.

SHE EXPERTLY SERVES AS GENERAL COUNSEL for VACo, which represents 95 local governments that vary in size, population, and philosophy. She works with the Virginia Municipal League during General Assembly sessions to address bills and actions that impact local governments. Her assistance and perception are valued by VACo, legislators, and LGA. She has earned the respect of her friends, colleagues, and clients.

HER DEDICATION TO LGA includes serving on several committees and as a perennial conference speaker on legislative updates. She has received the prestigious Erwin Special Projects Award twice – for VACo's 8th Edition of the *Virginia County Supervisors Manual* and as a member of the COVID-19 Committee.

PHYLLIS HAS SHARED HER KNOWLEDGE AND TIME beyond VACo and LGA. Phyllis received her degrees from the University of Richmond School of Law and Lehigh University, where she served on the Board of Trustees. She was an adjunct Professor for Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia. She holds the designation of Certified Association Executive from the American Society of Association of Executives. Phyllis served as the Virginia Society of Association of Executives President and received its 2022 Award of Excellence for Association Staff.

SHE IS A WONDERFUL FAMILY MEMBER, FRIEND, AND AN AVID BASEBALL FAN; she might have been a major league baseball umpire if not a lawyer.

PHYLLIS IS KIND and GENEROUS PERSONALLY, AND SETS THE STANDARD FOR HONOR, INTEGRITY, AND ETHICS PROFESSIONALLY. During her distinguished career, she has served LGA with the commitment and enthusiasm exhibited by Ed Finnegan and Liz Whiting. Phyllis has enhanced and promoted local government law as a profession and the LGA as a premier legal organization. She is dedicated to advocating for localities and to strengthening localities' legal authority to best serve and protect their residents and visitors.

THEREFORE, as a commendation of her professional achievements in and dedication to local government law, the legal profession, and her community, the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc., on the 6th day of October 2023, is pleased to honor and bestow the **2023 EDWARD J. FINNEGAN ELIZABETH D. WHITING AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE UPON PHYLLIS A. ERRICO.**