

2025

A. ROBERT CHERIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DEPUTY OR ASSISTANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY

Elizabeth S. Chupik

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS OF VIRGINIA proudly honors ELIZABETH S. CHUPIK with the A. ROBERT CHERIN AWARD for her exemplary public service and unwavering commitment to the highest ethical and professional principles, a commitment which enhances the image of local government attorneys in the Commonwealth.

ELIZABETH HAS DEMONSTRATED DISTINGUISHED SERVICE in the City of Virginia Beach Attorney's Office. In the span of her 18 years with the City, Elizabeth has mastered eminent domain law and has distinguished herself as one of the premier practitioners in the Commonwealth in the practice area, a critical aspect to every municipal government. She has shared her knowledge and mentored fellow attorneys in Virginia Beach and across the state in eminent domain and relocation matters. She has carefully monitored new developments in trial tactics, trial outcomes and local court orders, proposed legislation affecting the practice of eminent domain, and she has led the charge to disseminate information, lobby against problematic bills, share appraisal and expert witness resources, and assist other localities and VDOT in their condemnation challenges.

ELIZABETH IS ALSO A MEMBER of the City Attorney's First Amendment Team, addressing critical issues regarding the interplay between city regulation and the constitutional right to freedom of speech, and she assisted her office's Litigation Team with planning and zoning related litigation matters.

ELIZABETH HAS DEDICATED HER ENTIRE CAREER to public service. After graduating from the College of William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law in 1992, she clerked for the Honorable James E. Bradberry in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Virginia. From 1993 to 2000, Elizabeth served as an Assistant and Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Norfolk and as an adjunct professor of law at William & Mary Law School, where she taught legal research and writing, ethics, and trial advocacy. She currently serves as an adjunct professor for William & Mary Law School, teaching a Lawyering Skills Program. She has served the people of Virginia and her local government as a local government attorney for almost 30 years.

ELIZABETH'S SERVICE TO THE LGA, along with her service to her current and previous localities, has unquestionably enhanced the image of local government attorneys in the Commonwealth. Through this service Elizabeth has consistently demonstrated a personal commitment to the highest ethical and professional principles and a tireless work ethic. Through her diligence, curiosity, desire to protect the taxpayers, and her relationship-building skills, she has been a mentor and a guide to those around her, with deep knowledge of eminent domain law.

BEYOND HER LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES, Elizabeth gives freely of her time to good causes. She was a long-time Board Member of Champions for Children (formerly Prevent Child Abuse). She is a Board Member for Women United, a division of the United Way, and as a member of the Friends of the Norfolk Public Library Board leading their Strategic Planning Committee. She also led the 2021 fundraiser for CASA's "Go Blue for the Kids" campaign and served as her children's Girl Scout leader.

THEREFORE, in recognition of her numerous achievements, her laudable service to our profession, and her admirable character, the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. on this 25th day of April 2025, enthusiastically, proudly, and gratefully bestows the 2025 A. ROBERT CHERIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DEPUTY OR ASSISTANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY UPON ELIZABETH S. CHUPIK.