PENDER & COWARD
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW



SHAREHOLDER

RICHARD H. MATTHEWS

Phone / Fax: (757) 490-6256
rmatthew@pendercoward.com

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law, 1976

University of Richmond, 1974, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

ADMISSIONS

Virginia Supreme Court, 1976

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 1977

United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, 1995

United States Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1977

United States Supreme Court, 1980

OVERVIEW

Rick Matthews is a firm shareholder focusing his practice in the areas of litigation, banking and financial institutions, business legal services, and labor and employment law.

Rick serves as lead counsel in many of the firm's complex civil matters, both commercial and tort. He routinely advises financial institutions, businesses and governmental institutions on legal matters having potential litigation ramifications. He also supervises transactional work for such clients.

He served as Assistant City Attorney for Virginia Beach from 1978 to 1983 and served as Pender & Coward's CEO from 1999-2019.

Rick frequently lectures and judges competitions at Regent University School of Law.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES & TRANSACTIONS

Represented regional banks in a number of multi-million dollar cases involving participation agreements, lender liability defense and creditor's rights.

Represented multiple school boards and municipalities in million dollar tort and civil rights cases.

Represented ownership of golf course in multiple cases involving utilization of fly ash in construction of facility, involving hundreds of plaintiffs and millions of dollars in claims, contract disputes between participants and indemnity claims.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Virginia Beach Bar Association
- Norfolk-Portsmouth Bar Association
- Chesapeake Bar Association
- Virginia Bar Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- James Kent Inn of Court, Past President
- Hampton Roads University of Richmond Alumni Association, Past President
- University of Richmond Law School Association, Past Director
- Sigma Chi Lifetime Member
- Pack 53 Chesapeake Boy Scout Association, Former Cub Master
- Greenbrier Athletic Association, Former Vice President and Director
- Greenbrier Panthers AAU/USSSA Baseball Program, Co-founder

HONORS & AWARDS

- Best Lawyers in America, Banking & Finance Law, 2024-2027, Employment Law - Management 2025-2027
- Virginia's Legal Elite, Labor/Employment, 2016-2025
- Coastal Virginia's Top Lawyers, Labor and Employment/Legacy, 2016-2026