

Senior  
Statesmen of  
Virginia

www.seniorstatesmen.org



The mission of SSV, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and advocacy organization, is to enable seniors to identify and articulate their viewpoints on the issues affecting all citizens of Virginia, to encourage knowledge of and active participation in the legislative process of government, and to disseminate information about the social, governmental, and educational



# Senior Statesmen of Virginia

The next meeting of the Senior Statesmen of Virginia will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. via ZOOM

## Criminal Justice Reform- A Dialogue



Our January program will feature the Commonwealth's Attorneys from Albemarle and Charlottesville, **James Hingeley** and **Joe Platania**. We will discuss the recent changes in law as passed by the 2020 General Assembly and some of the proposals being put forward for the upcoming Session. **Jeff Gould**, president, Senior Statesmen of Virginia.

The program will be held via **Zoom**. Preregistration is required in order to participate. **Here is the link to register for the meeting:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_LtkvVGcDTgOUZDRQ25qnMQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LtkvVGcDTgOUZDRQ25qnMQ)

The link is also posted on SSV's website: [www.seniorstatesmen.org](http://www.seniorstatesmen.org)

Audience members will be muted and their video turned off during the program, but able to submit questions via the Zoom "Q&A feature."

**James Hingeley** took office January 1, 2020, as the elected Commonwealth's Attorney for Albemarle County and is a member of Virginia Progressive Prosecutors for Justice. He served as public defender for Albemarle County and Charlottesville from 1998 to 2016, and was public defender for Lynchburg, Virginia, from 1991 to 1998. From 1978 to 1991 he was in private practice in Charlottesville. After graduation from UVA Law School in 1976, he completed a two-year judicial clerkship for the West Virginia Supreme Court. Hingeley is a 1969 graduate of Harvard.



In 2005, Hingeley was named a fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation, and in 2008 he was named a Wasserstein Public Interest Fellow at the Harvard Law School. In 2014 he received the Virginia Bar Association's Roger D. Groot *Pro Bono Publico* Service Award, and in 2017 he received UVA Law School's Shaping Justice Award for Lifetime Achievement in Public Service. Hingeley has served as president of the Virginia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Virginia Fair Trial Project. He served on the Board of Governors of the Virginia Bar Association and was a member of the Virginia State Bar Criminal Law Section Board of Governors. In 2013 he was elected to Bar Council, the governing board of the Virginia State Bar, representing the 16th Judicial Circuit. In 2016, Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed Hingeley to a three-year term as a member of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission.

**Joe Platania** graduated from Washington and Lee School of Law in 1998 and started his legal career at the Virginia Resource Center where he represented Virginia inmates that had been sentenced to death.



He came to Charlottesville in 1999 as one of the original attorneys at the then newly opened Charlottesville-Albemarle Public Defenders Office. Platania joined the Charlottesville Commonwealth Attorney's Office in 2003 and was elected Commonwealth's Attorney in 2017. He was a cross-designated special assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia from 2008-2017. In addition to his duties as Commonwealth's Attorney, Platania currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Virginia State Bar's Criminal Law Section and is the board president of the Charlottesville Albemarle Drug Treatment Court. He is the vice-chair of the 7th District Disciplinary Committee of the Virginia State Bar and is the director of the Prosecution Clinic at the University of Virginia School of Law. Platania is also a member of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference which is an organization that seeks to improve criminal justice in Virginia by assembling selected legal professionals and stakeholders in the field of criminal law to study and discuss issues of interest, to gather information, and, when substantial consensus can be reached, to propose legislation or rule changes to effect reform of criminal law and criminal procedure.

The program will be moderated by SSV President **Jeff Gould**.