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## **Immediate Release**

### **Virginia Bar Association Names McGhee as Executive Director**

**Richmond, VA (May 3, 2011)** . . . The Virginia Bar Association (VBA) has named Yvonne C. McGhee as its new executive director to lead Virginia's largest voluntary bar association of 5,000 lawyers and judges. Beginning June 2011, McGhee will serve as the executive director of the VBA under the direction of its officers and Board of Governors. She will be responsible for executing the Board's new strategic plan and supervising the seven-member staff at the Richmond office.

Since 2000 McGhee has served as executive director of the Fairfax Bar Association and Fairfax Law Foundation in Fairfax, VA serving over 2000 members in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Previously, she served as *Pro Se* programs director for the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Trial Court Administrator's Office in Charlotte, NC. She also worked as program director for the Fairfax Bar Association and as managing attorney for Baker, Brown & Dixon in Austin, TX.

McGhee is a graduate of the T.C. Williams School of Law of the University of Richmond. She received her bachelor of arts degree in history and political science from King College in Bristol, TN. She recently earned the Certified Association Executive designation from the American Society of Association Executives and currently serves as vice president of the National Association of Bar Executives.

According to VBA president Pia Trigiani, "During the last four months the 11-member executive search committee composed of past presidents, members of the judiciary, current board members, and members of the VBA's Young Lawyers Division joined me in a nationwide search seeking a highly skilled, experienced and talented individual committed to taking the VBA to new heights." The executive search was conducted by Dr. George Conway of the Washington, D.C. office of Heidrick & Struggles International.

"Yvonne McGhee possesses a unique and impressive background that combines legal experience and association management with a record of success in membership expansion, program development, legislative advocacy, board relations and volunteer recruitment and support," said Trigiani.

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## **VBA Executive Director/Add 2**

McGhee succeeds Guy K. Tower who has served as executive director for the last six years and who earlier had advised the VBA of his plans to retire. “Guy has been our compass, maintaining the focus and direction of the VBA. He has been the face of the Virginia lawyer in the halls of the Capitol and has been an effective spokesman. We will miss his leadership greatly,” added Trigiani.

### **About the Virginia Bar Association**

The Virginia Bar Association, the state’s oldest and largest voluntary bar association, is the independent voice of the Virginia lawyer, advancing the highest ideals of the profession through advocacy and volunteer service.

### **About Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc.**

Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc is the leadership advisory firm providing senior-level executive search and leadership consulting services. Operating for nearly 60 years, Heidrick & Struggles’ leadership experts operate from principal business centers in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia Pacific. For more information about Heidrick & Struggles, visit [www.heidrick.com](http://www.heidrick.com).

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