

## MESSAGE FROM THE VSCA PRESIDENT

10 July 2020

My Fellow VSCA Members:

Due to the ongoing and ever-changing nature of COVID-19 pandemic the Board of Directors have voted unanimously to cancel the Annual VSCA 2020 golf tournament, Leadership Conference and annual business meeting out of an abundance of caution and respect for the health of the members. As far as I am aware this is the first time in the history of the organization that neither a Leadership Conference nor annual business meeting will be held.

Additionally, the Board of Directors passed a unanimous motion asking all current officers to continue serving in their roles for another year. I have accepted their call which gives me the honor of being only the second person who will serve consecutive terms as President of the Virginia State Claims Association. The first president, W. Robert Anderson, served consecutive terms in 1966 and 1967. I do not take the Board's request, and stated confidence in me to continue executing these duties, lightly.

To that end I am pleased to report that I have reached out to the Holiday Inn & Conference Center in Fredericksburg, the site of the now-cancelled Leadership Conference and business meeting. While they understand the Board's decision, and are similarly disappointed, they have enthusiastically agreed to host the 2021 Annual Leadership Conference and Business Meeting starting with our reception on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. Additionally, Pendleton Golf Club, where we were to hold our golf tournament this year, has agreed to host the tournament in 2021 on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

The VSCA Board of Directors have also awarded this year's scholarships to the following recipients. I congratulate each of them and their understandably proud parents.

**Benjamin Hiter, son of Margaret Hiter, who is attending Hampden-Sydney College**

**Andrew Pilcher, son of Diane and Jeffrey Pilcher, who will be attending James Madison University**

**Allyse Williams, daughter of Gregg Williams, who is attending East Carolina University**

During this time of continued uncertainty, it is understandable to have questions. While the Board of Directors provide updates to their local associations, local meetings have not been possible due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Be assured that your local association is feverishly planning on having in-person meetings as soon as they are able, under stated laws and protocols prevailing now and those going forward. It is the comradery of seeing each other face-to-face that offers each chapter a welcome difference in a world where most interaction is over a computer or cell phone.

Until such time that we can meet again I encourage anyone with questions or comments to contact either their Director or myself. You can reach me by e-mail at [gbarkleyarm@yahoo.com](mailto:gbarkleyarm@yahoo.com) and I will be happy to respond.

I thank you each for your ongoing support of your local association and the Virginia State Claims Association and look forward to seeing all of you in Fredericksburg in 2021!

Sincerely,

**Gregg A. Barkley, ARM**

**President, Virginia State Claims Association**