

City of Virginia Beach  
Human Rights Commission Members  
Rev. 9/11

**Fay B. Silverman**

Chairperson Fay B. Silverman was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2003 and currently serves as chair.

Commissioner Silverman is vice president of Tidewater Mortgage Corporation. She also serves on the board of the Simon Family Jewish Community Center and the Virginia Housing Development Authority Lender Advisory Council.

In addition, she is the Immediate Past President of the Virginia Mortgage Lenders Association.

**Favorite Quote:**

“There are those who look at things the way they are and ask why...I dream of things that never were and ask why not?” –Robert F. Kennedy

**Father James Parke**

Commissioner Parke was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2008 and currently serves as vice-chair.

Father Jim is a retired Pastor of the Church of the Ascension and the Roman Catholic co-pastor at the Church of the Holy Apostles, a Roman Catholic/Episcopal Church (only one in the world), both in Virginia Beach.

**Favorite Quote:**

The Lord says that I have come that you might have life and life to its fullest. (John 10:10)

**William C. Rice**

Commissioner William C. Rice was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2009 and currently serves as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair. Commissioner Rice has over forty years of law enforcement experience in New York City and Virginia. He is Vice president for Recruitment & Retention for the Hampton Roads Committee of 200+Men. In addition, he serves as the President of the Old Dominion University Credit Union.

**Beatriz Amberman**

Commissioner Amberman was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2010. She has devoted more than 25 years of her professional career to serving as a cultural and civic ambassador.

As the founder, director and choreographer of Hampton Roads premier Mexican Dance Company, the Hispanic Folk Ballet, she has used the arts to promote better understanding of Mexican culture through dance and music.

Beatriz founded the Hispanic Community Dialogue Organization in Hampton Roads, to inspire and promote civic participation and constructive conversation about important issues impacting the community. In addition, she has been a local radio broadcaster for the past 17 years.

**Vivian E. Blaize**

Commissioner Vivian E. Blaize was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in April of 2010 and currently serves as a Board Member.

Commissioner Blaize is President and CEO of Blaize Events & Media, Inc. She also serves on the board of the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations.

**Favorite Quote:**

"Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far." -Teddy Roosevelt

**Rev. E. Ray Cox, Sr.**

Commissioner Cox was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2007.

**Greg D. Goldfarb**

Appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in March 2008, Greg Goldfarb is a Hampton Roads native with a professional background in journalism, advertising, public relations and publishing. He holds a B.A. degree in English from Old Dominion University.

**Favorite Quote:**

"Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friends and foes alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans, born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those Human Rights to which this nation has always been committed and to which we are committed today, at home and around the world." - John F. Kennedy

**William A. Hearst**

Appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2009, Mr. Hearst is a Hampton Roads native with a professional background in retail merchandising. Mr. Hearst is currently the president of the Helen G. Gifford Foundation.

He is an avid volunteer who serves on a variety of committees, boards and commissions such as; Virginia Marine Science Museum Foundation Board of

Trustee, CHKD Child Abuse Program Advisory Board, Virginia Beach Beaches & Waterways Commission.

**Gene J. Hou**

Commissioner Gene J. Hou was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2010.

Commissioner Hou is a professor at Old Dominion University. He also serves on the advisory board of the Tidewater Chinese School and is a member of the Norfolk Chinese Baptist Church.

**Geraldine K. Hunt**

Commissioner Hunt was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2010. Mrs. Hunt is a retired instructor from Norfolk State University. She has served as the Executive Director of four privately funded non-profit organizations for a period of 17 years. She holds a B.A. degree from Norfolk State University and M.P.A in Public Administration from Golden Gate University. Additionally, she serves on United Way Allocation Panel and has served as a consultant to several organizations.

**Mohammad A. Karim, Ph.D.**

Commissioner Karim was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2011.

Commissioner Karim is vice president for research of Old Dominion University, the North American Editor of "Optics and Laser Technology," and an author/editor of 18 text/reference books, and of over 375 research papers. He is an elected fellow of SPIE, OSA, IEEE, the Institute of Physics, the Institution of Engineering & Technology, and Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, and serves on the board of Virginia Conference for Community and Justice.

**L. W. "Duff" Kliwer, Jr.**

Commissioner Kliwer was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2011.

Commissioner Kliwer Principal of Cox, Kliwer & Company, P.C., earned his Bachelor of Architecture degree at the University of Virginia and his Masters in Environmental Planning at the Bartlett School of Environmental Studies in London England.

He is a native of Newport News, VA and has practiced architecture and interior design in Virginia and throughout the United States for over 30 years. Twenty-five percent of this portfolio has been for developers receiving funding from public sources through avenues such as HUD, HOPE IV, Virginia Housing and Development Authority (VHDA) or another similar state entity. He also serves on

the Design Review Committees for the Virginia Beach Resort Advisory Commission and is involved in many other community projects.

**Mike Makela**

Mike Makela was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in July 2011 and currently serves on the commission..

Commissioner Makela has lived in Virginia Beach for 14 years and is actively involved in the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater.

**Favorite Quote:**

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler." – Albert Einstein

**Dr. Agnes H. Moon**

Commissioner Moon was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in November 2010.

Agnes H. Moon is a retired physician, has worked as the professor and Director of Residency Training Program of Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Eastern VA Medical School in Norfolk, Virginia. She has also served as Director of Rehabilitation Unit of Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. She is interested in senior health issues and wellness.

**Teresa J. Stanley**

Teresa J. Stanley was appointed to the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission in 2011.

Commissioner Stanley is the South Hampton Roads community organizer for Virginia Organizing, a grassroots multi issue social justice organization. She also serves on the board of Volunteers of America, the planning board of BEACH (Bringing an End to all City Homelessness), Tidewater Sowers of Justice and a member of the Interfaith Alliance at the Beach.

**Favorite Quote:**

"An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere" - Martin Luther King Jr.