

## NEWSROOM

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## CAPTAINS IN THE COURTS

## ALUMS EXCEL AS ATTORNEYS NATIONWIDE.

by [Jim Hanchett](#) | December 2, 2021*Above: William M. Palmer**Read time: about 1 min*

Christopher Newport graduates are making headlines in the legal profession because the university's [pre-law program](#) is a pathway to success in law school and in law firms and public service.

Pre-law students can choose any major. They receive a range of special assistance preparing for rewarding careers and the LSAT law school aptitude test. That can include academic advising, internships in the courts and with law firms, networking opportunities, and participation in the Phi Delta Alpha pre-law fraternity.

Here are examples of recent accomplishments by Christopher Newport graduates:

- William M. Palmer '16 has joined the Norfolk law firm Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. as a member of the firm's Labor & Employment Practice Group. His focus includes counseling employers on how best to avoid employment litigation. Palmer earned his law degree from Regent University and clerked with a U.S. District Court judge and with two Norfolk Circuit Court judges.
- Michael Pierce '06 has joined the Richmond/Virginia Beach law firm O'Hagan Meyer. Pierce has expertise in labor and employment law and commercial litigation. He also clerked with federal and state court judges.
- Candice Harlow '10 is an attorney with the Charleston, West Virginia firm Jackson Kelly. She was chosen to be a

member of the 2021 Fellows and Pathfinders programs, participating in landmark programs created by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity to identify, train, and advance the next generation of leaders in the legal profession. Harlow practices in the area of health care litigation and often represents health care providers in medical negligence cases.

- Katie McFadden Freeman '15 has joined the Richmond firm Renfro & Renfro. Her focus is workers' compensation and personal injury. At Christopher Newport, she was a member of both Phi Delta Alpha and the [President's Leadership Program](#).
- Adam Konta '01 has been named a 2021 Super Lawyer by the Super Lawyer ratings service. He is a senior partner at the New York City firm Konta, Georges & Buza specializing in criminal defense and civil law. In addition to his work in the courtroom, Konta offers commentary on the Law and Crime Trial Network.
- Tara McCook '02 was one of the featured presenters at the Virginia Bar Association summer conference. She manages the tax curriculum at the Mobile, Alabama firm CohnReznick LLP. It is one of the largest accounting, tax and business advisory firms in the U.S. She designs tax technical and professional skills training for the firm's tax department. She also was a member of Phi Delta Alpha at Christopher Newport.

Dr. Jonathan White is the director of the pre-law program. He is a nationally prominent author and historian and his expertise includes constitutional and legal history. For more information visit [cnu.edu/prelaw](https://cnu.edu/prelaw).

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