

The **Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities** is pleased to announce **Irving M. Blank** and **Rudene Mercer Haynes** have received the 2021 Richmond Humanitarian Awards. The awards honors individuals and organizations for making significant humanitarian contributions to the Richmond community.

Blank is a partner at **Blank & Marcus, LLC**. Throughout his career, he has devoted his energy and resources to service to the legal community, the Jewish community, and the community at large. He has served as president of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Law Foundation, as well as on the boards of many local, state, and national organizations including Jewish Family Services, the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Virginia Continuing Legal Education, Virginia Holocaust Museum, and the Virginia Israel Advisory Board. Blank has been appointed by seven different governors of Virginia to numerous boards and commissions.



Blank

Haynes is a partner at **Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP** and a member of the firm's executive committee. Outside of her legal practice, she is passionate about ending health disparities and racial inequities. In 2020, Haynes co-created "Facts & Faith Fridays," a series of calls with the Black faith community to provide accurate information on COVID-19. Dr. Anthony Fauci and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden have joined the discussions, and the White House cited the initiative as a model to be replicated across the country. Haynes is secretary of the Board of Directors for the YWCA of Richmond; a member of the Children's Museum of Richmond Board of Trustees; a member of the VCU Massey Cancer Center Advisory Board; and a member of SisterFund, Richmond's Black women giving circle managed by the Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond.



Haynes

The Supreme Court of Virginia has appointed **Muriel-Theresa Pitney** as the clerk of the court. Pitney has served as chief deputy clerk since January 2019 and acting clerk of the court since April, 2021. She has also been a staff attorney for the Court of Appeals of Virginia, an attorney in private practice, and a policy analyst for the Department of Criminal Justice Services. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and her law degree from the University of Richmond School of Law.



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Jest Is For All

by Arnie Glick



"My estate plan is simple. I want to leave everything, in equal shares, to all the good girls and boys in the world."