

S-VE Graduate of Distinction

Colonel Charles Allen

Class of 1972



Colonel Charles M. Allen, United States Army (Ret), graduated 2nd in his class with a B.S. in Structural Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1976. Colonel Allen served the United States in a number of capacities including as an airborne ranger, armored cavalry platoon leader, and headquarters company executive officer for 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. In 1979, Colonel Charles Allen attended Harvard Law School while still in the military and, upon completion of his Juris Doctorate in 1982, joined the Judge Advocates Corps. Colonel Allen would go on to hold many prestigious positions in the Judge Advocate Corps including serving in the Criminal Law Division and Tort Branch of JAG Headquarters in the Pentagon and as a Professor at the JAG School and a Military Academy Liaison Officer for West Point. He completed the Judge Advocates Advance Course and the Command and General Staff Course. The Colonel has been honored with numerous military awards including the Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit. Colonel Allen retired in September of 2004.

Colonel Allen is a founder and the Managing Shareholder of Goodman Allen Donnelly, a law firm in Richmond, VA. Mr. Allen has served as an adjunct professor of law at T.C. Williams Law School (University of Richmond) and Liberty University School of Law. He served as the Chair of the Virginia State Bar's Standing Committee on Professionalism and is a frequent lecturer on litigation techniques including the use of technology in litigation, as well as ethics and professional issues. Colonel Allen resides in Glen Allen, Virginia with his wife, Nancy. He has three children and two grandchildren. Colonel Allen serves on the board of CharacterWorks, a Christian Youth Theater, as well as in various positions at Gayton Baptist Church. He provides legal counsel pro bono for the poor and less fortunate of the community and for non-profit organizations, particularly faith-based entities.