

For Immediate Release
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**PETER G. DECKER, III ELECTED CHAIR OF
VIRGINIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS**

CONTINUES HALF-CENTURY OF DECKER LAW FIRM PUBLIC SERVICE
Follows in Father's Footsteps on Corrections Board

The Virginia Board of Corrections elected Peter G. Decker, III chairman at its July 21, 2010 meeting in Richmond. Decker's election is yet another chapter in a 50-year public service record of the Decker Law Firm of Norfolk, Virginia.

Pete Decker III was appointed as a member of the Corrections Board by Gov Tim Kane, and re-appointed by Gov McDonnell. The Board members elected him chairman for a 4-year term. He is pleased to follow in his Dad's footsteps, and see many of the programs initiated by his father come to fruition in the intervening years.

The Board sets policy for the Virginia Department of Corrections. The Department oversees an annual budget in excess of \$1-billion and provides services for more than 30,500 inmates.

The Department of Corrections is the largest State Agency in Virginia, and consequently has taken significant budgetary hits in these economic times. The department is working to find efficient ways to maintain a system that on one hand protects the public, and on the other, provides for the supervision and rehabilitation of inmates and parolees.

Decker feels particularly fortunate to still enjoy the guidance of his father, who previously served in the Chairman's position, and has so many years' experience in civic and governmental affairs. Decker's father, Peter G. Decker, Jr., served on the Board of Corrections for nearly 12-years, and was Board Chairman for nearly seven years.

"Helping people is the most enjoyable and most important part of my work, whether in the courtroom or serving on a state board," Decker said. "I look forward as chairman to building the relationships I've created with my fellow board members over the last four years."

Decker focuses his practice on criminal, traffic, and personal injury. He regularly practices in the General District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations, and Circuit Courts of Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Hampton, and Newport News.

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Decker is heavily involved in local fund-raising efforts, and serves on the Board of Directors of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Southeastern Virginia. He is also the host of the annual March of Dimes Signature Chefs' Auction, and is a member of the Law & Disorderly Club, which raises money for local children's charities. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council 3548, the Order of AHEPA, Robert E. Lee Chapter, and is on the Board of Directors of the Sons and Daughters of Lebanon.

In addition to serving as a member of the Norfolk Police-Fire Trial Board, Decker is an Associate Member of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 28. He is on the Board of Directors of the Norfolk Drug Court Foundation and is on the Advisory Board for Heritage Bank in Norfolk. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Norfolk Sheriff's Foundation to benefit local charities. Decker is a member of both the Norfolk/Portsmouth and Virginia Beach Bar Associations, and serves on the Board of the Norfolk/Portsmouth Bar Association Foundation. He practices in all federal and state courts in the Hampton Roads region.

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