

Speaking Engagements | April 9, 2026 | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ET

Local Government Association of Virginia Spring Conference: Evolving Standards: Investigating Misconduct Allegations & Discrimination Claims in Today's Public Schools

Renaissance Portsmouth - Norfolk Waterfront
425 Water Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

SPEAKERS

[Erin M. Harrigan](#) | [Dascher Pasco](#)

Troutman Pepper Locke is pleased to sponsor the upcoming Local Government Attorneys of Virginia Spring Conference.

Erin Harrigan and Dascher Pasco will participate in the panel, “Evolving Standards: Investigating Misconduct Allegations & Discrimination Claims in Today’s Public Schools.” Dascher will moderate the discussion, and Erin will be joined by Christine Smith, school division counsel at Arlington Public Schools, and Sona Rewari, partner at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP.

The panel will address how Virginia’s public school systems are navigating a new era of misconduct allegations and discrimination claims from students and families, often reflecting broader social divisions in our communities. Panelists will examine emerging trends in K–12 investigations, including shifts in federal and state guidance, evolving expectations around Title IX and civil rights enforcement, trauma-informed and student-centered approaches, the role of social media and digital evidence, and best practices for conducting fair, timely, and defensible investigations that support litigation. They will also offer practical strategies to help districts respond effectively to complaints, reduce legal risk, and foster safe, inclusive learning environments.

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