

2008 Virginia Appellate Summit

On Thursday, August 28, the Appellate Practice Subcommittee held a summit meeting for appellate practitioners. The gathering featured four hours of free CLE presentations on a variety of topics of interest to the appellate lawyer. Attendees got to hear, among other topics, analysis of the finality doctrine, with a discussion of the severable interests rule; a report on the status of the Appellate Rules Advisory Committee, which is recommending significant changes to Virginia's appellate rules of procedure; a discussion from the outgoing and incoming Solicitors General of the Commonwealth, plus another experienced appellate practitioner, on the best uses of moot courts to prepare for oral arguments; and the inside story (from a Supreme Court justice and a Court of Appeals judge) on the kinds of things that especially effective appellate lawyers do.

The program was very well attended and very well received, generating universally positive comments. We also got several good ideas for how to improve things in the (likely) event the subcommittee determines to offer the program again in the future.