

---

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

### SCOTT A. HARRIS MORAN REEVES & CONN

#### FAVORITE THING ABOUT PRACTICING IN RICHMOND?

I moved from Norfolk/Va Beach in 2009, but Richmond is home. It's a sophisticated legal market without being overly rigid. There's a bedrock of respect here that you don't find everywhere. And even when we are fighting for our clients, there's a level of professional congeniality that makes our work more effective, and much more enjoyable.

#### WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

Moran Reeves Conn is a truly collaborative team. As a first-year associate, I'm often operating in a blur of what I don't know yet, but here, everyone is united in teaching and mentoring associates. I've been given substantive work since day one of my summer internship. The firm's commitment to investing in real experience ensures that we're positioned to succeed and thrive, both personally and professionally. More than any of that though, the most rewarding part is the culture. After the grind of law school, being at a firm that understands the importance of life outside these walls, especially family, means I never have to choose between being a present parent or partner and a dedicated attorney.



#### WHAT IS THE BEST ADVICE THAT YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?

"Do not self-select out of an opportunity." The world is full of people who will tell you no. Don't do it for them, do it for you. A close second is, "no one will care as much about your career as you will."

By any standard metric I should not be here. I was in the restaurant business for years before COVID pushed me to take a chance. When I floated the idea of law school by my wife, I fully expected her to say "no" (and she would have been justified), but she supported me completely. This amazing career would not be possible without daring to ask for something "ridiculous."

The same is true in your career. I took my first deposition while still in law school because I dared to ask for the opportunity.

If you ask for opportunity, or experience, or even just for coffee with the boss, most people will respect it and bring you in. The easiest way to set yourself apart is by showing up and trying to be better.

#### IF YOU COULD TELL YOUR LAW-STUDENT-SELF ONE THING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Don't wait for permission to be ambitious. Raise your hand, reach out, and show up. And don't forget to appreciate the people in your support system and recognize the sacrifices they make as well.

#### WHAT DOES YOUR PERFECT WEEKEND OFF LOOK LIKE?

If it's a swim meet weekend for my daughter: low times and no injuries.

Otherwise, I don't want to be found. Cutting grass, reading books, and playing video games with my kids.