

Donald Vish is a member of the Kentucky and Florida Bars (1971, 1972; retired 2016), an elected life member of the American Law Institute, a Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation (District of Columbia chapter) and the Louisville and Kentucky Bar Foundations. He graduated with honors from the Brandeis School of Law (1970) (Distinguished Alumni, 2011) and Bellarmine University (English 1968) where he is included among an honor roll of Distinguished Graduates. His published legal writing credits include *The American Law of Mining 2nd* (Matthew Bender, 1983) (contributing author); *Coal Law and Regulation*, a five volume treatise (Matthew Bender, 1983-1993) (co-editor and contributing author); and *Kentucky Election Law* (University of Kentucky 1993) (contributing author); "Poetic Justice: Law & Literature" American Bar Association published 2014. He is a published poet whose work is included in the **Kentucky Anthology: 200 years of Writing in the Bluegrass State** (University of Kentucky Press, 2006, Wade Hall editor). His essays calling for elimination of the death penalty have appeared in the Lexington Herald Leader, The Courier Journal, Louisville Bar Briefs and the Frankfort State Journal. In 2010 the Kentucky Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers gave him its Bill of Rights Enforcer Award in recognition of his anti-death penalty work. His essays on civility have appeared in the Kentucky Bench and Bar (2009) and The Courier Journal, and he has lectured on the subject at various bar association meetings. His social advocacy photography has won several awards for the Middleton Reutlinger law firm which used the photography in public service ads published in Business First.

He was associate solicitor, United States Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. in the administration of George H. W. Bush (1989-1991). His mining treatise was cited by the Kentucky Supreme Court in the landmark case of *Akers v Baldwin* (1987) reconsidering Kentucky's notorious broad form deed. He is a director emeritus of the Energy & Mineral Law Foundation which he helped found in 1979.

He was a board member of the Louisville Bar Association (LBA) (2009) and served on the LBA Committee on Judicial Integrity and Independence until 2016.

Between 1979 and 1984 he taught mining and mineral law at the University of Kentucky College of Law as an adjunct professor. He was an adjunct professor at Brandeis School of Law where he has taught law and literature and law and social policy (2010 through 2012).

He is currently executive director and board member of the J & L Foundation, a philanthropy focused on peace, racial harmony and child welfare issues (2008 through present). He served as director of advocacy, education and outreach for the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (2009 through 2012) and of counsel to the firm of Middleton Reutlinger (retired 6-30-16). He served as president of the Donors Forum of Metro Louisville, an association comprised of philanthropic grant making philanthropies, a board member of the Center for Non-Profit Excellence (2010- present as emeritus director) and the Kentucky School of Art (2010-2013).

He is the former chair of the Sayre School in Lexington, a former member of the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance and a former commissioner of the Louisville & Jefferson County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Prepared July 2011

Revised October 30, 2018