

# Wanda Cooper

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## EDUCATION

**Regent University School of Law**, Virginia Beach, VA

Juris Doctor, May 2002

Licensed in Virginia and the Federal Eastern District of Virginia Courts

**Old Dominion University**, Norfolk, VA

B.A. in Political Science, Criminal Justice Minor, May 1997

## EXPERIENCE

**Virginia Judicial System**, Virginia Beach, VA

*Virginia Beach General District Court Judge, 2023-present*

- Preside over cases in the general district including traffic, criminal and civil matters.
- Oversee Mental Health Case Management Docket

**The Cooper Law Firm, P.C.**, Virginia Beach, VA

*Owner, January 2005- present*

- General practice law firm with an emphasis on traffic, criminal and family law
- General civil litigation in General District and Circuit Court
- Corporate/General Counsel to several companies
- Toll Enforcement

**Virginia Judicial System**, Virginia Beach, VA

*Substitute Judge, 2019-2023*

- Appointed to preside over cases in the general district and juvenile & domestic relations courts when sitting judge unable to appear.

**Norfolk State University**, Norfolk, VA

*Adjunct Professor, 2019-present*

- Professor of Business Law.
- Responsible for facilitating class instruction, develop and manage syllabus materials.
- Responsible for evaluation student performance and coordinating with department heard on course curriculum

**Virginia Indigent Defense Commission**, Chesapeake, VA

*Assistant Public Defender, 2006-2013*

- Responsible for the defense of indigent defendants charged with misdemeanor and felony offenses
- Conduct jail visits
- Conduct bond hearings

**Sona International Corp.**, Chesapeake, VA

*Corporate Attorney, January 2003- December 2004*

- Responsible for franchise registration and documentation
- Ensure compliance with all state and federal employment laws
- Responsible for employment law issues
- Drafted and reviewed miscellaneous legal contracts
- Researched state regulations pertaining to corporate practice of medicine
- Researched other legal issues as they arose
- Managed litigation and tasks handled by outside counsel

- Responsible for communicating technical legal issues to corporate officers

**Positive Changes, Virginia Beach, VA**

*Franchise Operations Manager, November 1998-May 2002*

- Responsible for franchise support of nationwide franchisees
- Conducted initial training for new franchisees
- Organized annual conferences
- Created company policies and procedures
- Supervised employees in local offices
- Conducted employee reviews

**Leban & Imbrogno, P.C., Virginia Beach, VA**

*Legal Secretary, August 1999-September 2001*

- Assist attorneys in General District and Circuit Courts filing Warrants in Debt, Garnishments, Interrogatories, Motions, and Orders.
- Prepared pleadings.
- Processed evidence for court.
- Spoke with debtors regarding delinquent accounts and set up payment arrangements.

**Harvey Coleman & Associates, Virginia Beach, VA**

*Legal Secretary, May 1998- March 1999*

- Accompany attorney in the General District Court.
- Filed Warrants in Debts, Garnishments, Interrogatories, Motions and Orders.
- Prepared pleadings.
- Processed evidence for court.
- Deposed potential witnesses for upcoming trials.
- Processed personal injury files.

## HONORS/AWARDS

Coastal Virginia Top Lawyer (2022)  
 Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation Servant Leadership Award (2018)  
 YWCA Woman of Distinction Award (2014)  
 City of Virginia Beach Minority Business of the Year Award (2011)  
 Partners In Education Award, Virginia Beach School System (2008)  
 Inside Business Women in Business Award (2007)  
 Voted Hampton Roads Top 40 Under 40 Business People (2006)  
 Silver Star Award – Hampton Roads Urban League (2006)

## BOARDS/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Criminal Justice Board (2023-present)  
 American Judges Association (2023-present)  
 Virginia Beach Bar Association  
 One Accord Church, member (2024-present)  
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated  
 Virginia Aquarium Foundation (2019)  
 Towne Bank Leadership Alliance (2011-2023)  
 Virginia State Bar, Federal District Court of the Eastern District of VA  
 Landstown High School PTSA, President (2018-2021)  
 Virginia State Bar 2<sup>nd</sup> District Disciplinary Committee, Secretary, Chair (2012-2019)  
 Green Run Collegiate School Board, (2015-2023)  
 Virginia Beach Library Foundation (2017-2023)  
 Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation, Secretary, Chair (2012-2019)