



For more information, contact:  
Sam Kaufman at (804) 594-1911  
skaufman@owenowens.com

## **FOUNDING PARTNER JOE OWEN RECIPIENT OF VIRGINIA STATE BAR'S TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**

MIDLOTHIAN, VA (May 6, 2013) – The law firm of **Owen & Owens** is proud to announce that one of its founding partners, **W. Joseph Owen III**, was named the 2013 recipient of the Tradition of Excellence Award by the Virginia State Bar's General Practice Section. The Tradition of Excellence Award recognizes a lawyer who personifies the highest tradition of personal and professional excellence and who actively contributes to the community and heightens the image of general practice attorneys in Virginia. The award will be presented on June 15 during the Virginia State Bar's annual meeting in Virginia Beach.

**Joe Owen** is a successful trial lawyer representing individuals and businesses in civil and commercial litigation, criminal defense, personal injury, real estate, estate planning, corporate and construction law. Owen serves his community through his work as a leader in a number of organizations. He is state chair and member of the national board of trustees for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and locally for the FCA chapter at Armstrong High School in Richmond. He is also a member of the University of Richmond's Athletic Council. In addition, Owen is a founding member of North Star Community, which provides a Christ-centered approach to substance abuse recovery. He is also chairman of the Drug Court Foundation of Chesterfield/Colonial Heights and a speaker for the Strike Out Substance Abuse program. Owen created the Grayson Owen Firearm pledge in memory of his late son, and he is vice chair of the Chippenham Place Community Development Authority Board. In the past, Owen has been a member of the board of directors of Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys and past president of the Midlothian Rotary Club.

Owen has been honored over the years for his exemplary work in the legal community. In 2011 Owen was named one of the "Leaders in the Law" by *Virginia Lawyers Weekly*, recognizing him for his leadership in the legal profession and service to the community. He has been named to *Virginia Super Lawyers* in the General Litigation category since 2008 and is AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rated, Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

He received his law degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 1976 and his B.S. from the University of Richmond in 1972.

**About Owen & Owens**

From family law to personal and commercial representation, Owen & Owens focuses its practice on the premise that “Every Client Matters.” For more information, please visit [www.owenowens.com](http://www.owenowens.com).

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