

2009

## William & Mary Law School Announces the Appointment of Dean Davison M. Douglas

William & Mary Law School

---

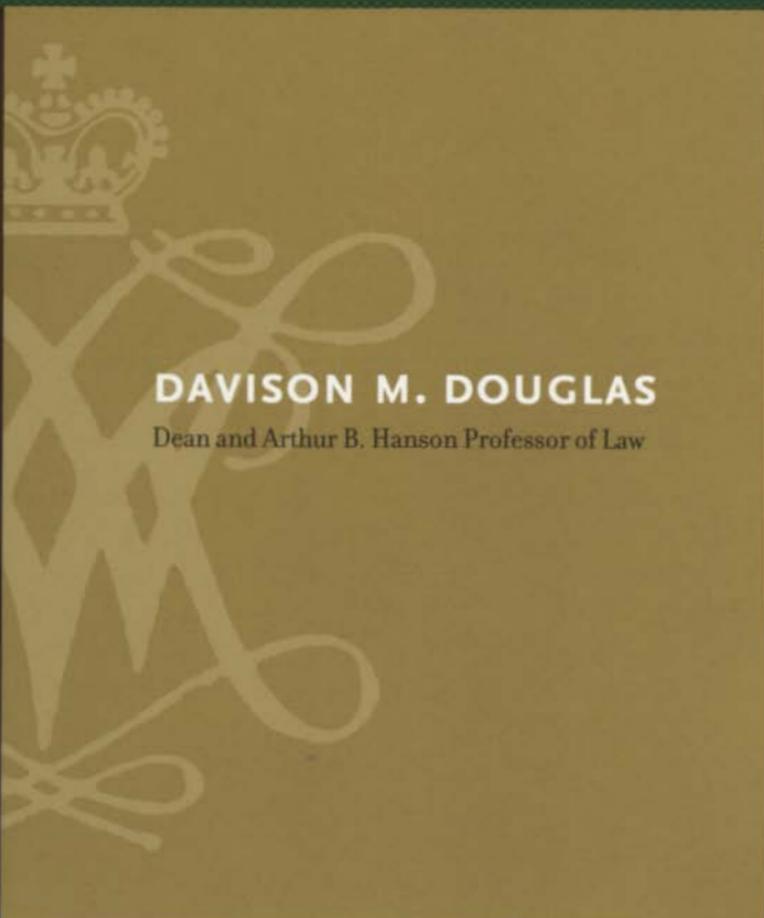
### Repository Citation

William & Mary Law School, "William & Mary Law School Announces the Appointment of Dean Davison M. Douglas" (2009).  
*2009–present: Davison M. Douglas*. 4.  
<https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/dmdouglas/4>



## WILLIAM & MARY LAW SCHOOL

*Announces the appointment of*  
**DEAN DAVISON M. DOUGLAS**



**DAVISON M. DOUGLAS**

Dean and Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law

## BIOGRAPHY

For nearly two decades, Davison M. Douglas has served the William & Mary Law School as an acclaimed teacher, distinguished scholar, student mentor, and faculty leader. On July 1, he added dean to that list.

Douglas joined the William & Mary law faculty in 1990 and has held a number of leadership positions at the Law School. From 1997 until 2004 he was director of William & Mary's nationally acclaimed Institute of Bill of Rights Law. In 2005, he founded the Law School's Election Law Program, which he directed until 2008.

A *summa cum laude* graduate of Princeton University, Douglas received a law degree, a Ph.D. in history, and a master's degree in religion from Yale University. Prior to coming to William & Mary, he served as a law clerk for Judge Walter R. Mansfield of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and practiced employment law as a partner in a Raleigh, North Carolina, law firm.

One of the nation's leading constitutional historians, Douglas is the author or editor of seven books, including *Jim Crow Moves North: The Battle Over Northern School Segregation, 1865-1954* (Cambridge, 2005), *Redefining Equality* (Oxford, 1998), and *Reading, Writing & Race: The Desegregation of the Charlotte Schools* (UNC, 1995). He has also published articles in several of

the nation's leading law reviews, including those at Michigan, Northwestern, Texas, UCLA, and William & Mary. Douglas has lectured on American constitutional law and history at universities throughout the United States, Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe.

He served as the Goldberg Distinguished Visiting Professor at Cornell Law School in 2007. He has also served as a visiting professor at the law schools of the University of Iowa, Emory University, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Auckland.

In 2002, Douglas was one of 11 professors from all colleges and universities in Virginia to receive an Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council for Higher Education. He also has received the Walter L. Williams, Jr. Award five times as William & Mary Law School's outstanding teacher. In 2009, he was one of the inaugural recipients of a Plumeri Award for Faculty Excellence from the College of William & Mary.

As dean, Douglas has taken leadership of the nation's oldest law school, founded in 1779. Among William & Mary's first law students was John Marshall, later Chief Justice of the United States. Today, the Law School is home to more than 600 law students and a faculty roster that includes some of the nation's top legal scholars.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**

William & Mary holds a special place in legal education as the nation's oldest law school. We are privileged to have a distinguished faculty who excel both as teachers and scholars, impressive and energetic students, and a highly accomplished alumni body with a strong commitment to the ideal of service. I am deeply honored to have been chosen dean and look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence at William & Mary.

The College of William & Mary

Law School

P.O. Box 8795

Williamsburg, VA

23187-8795



[law.wm.edu](http://law.wm.edu)