



**First and last name:**

Richard Johnson

**VLS degree(s) and class year(s):**

JD'97

**What is your vision for VLS in the next five years?**

I chose to attend VLS 28 years ago for 3 main reasons. First, VLS has an outstanding reputation for preparing students to be attorneys. Second, VLS has a strong sense of community – small, friendly, and relaxed. Third, the faculty, staff, and students are all here to make a positive impact in the world. In 5 years, I want to ensure potential students are still choosing to attend VLGS for these same 3 reasons. I also would like to help VLGS by: (1) overseeing the implementation of our new strategic plan; (2) helping in the redesign of our curriculum and pedagogy in order to better prepare VLGS students for the 21st century workforce; and (3) assisting in leveraging emerging technology and methodologies.

**What skills do you bring to the VLSAA to accomplish these priorities?**

I was a Marine Corps Officer for 30 years and had the opportunity to lead a number of organizations from the Commanding Officer of a squadron of 350 personnel and a \$20M budget to the Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps Reserve with a staff of 500, over 100,000 personnel and a budget of \$450M. In addition, I managed an academic organization at Dartmouth College where I was responsible for 200 faculty and staff, a budget of \$35M, and 4 degree programs (PhD, MS, MPH, and MHCDS). In addition, I taught strategy development and execution at the US Naval War College. Currently, I am the CEO of a behavioral health technology company focused on reducing suicides in the US and around the world. These positions have honed my skills in planning and execution, handling personnel issues, developing and balancing budgets, working with faculty and staff, transitioning educational programs into new methods of delivery, developing new revenue sources, managing an advancement program, and working with college leadership.

**List and describe your alumni service.**

For the past 3 years, I have served as an Alumni Trustee to the VLGS Board of Trustees. Prior to this, I served 6 years on the VLS Alumni Association (VLSAA) board and served as the president of the VLSAA. In addition, I serve as one of the class of 1997 reunion coordinators and continue to give during the annual giving campaign. I also organize the

annual Class of 1997 fly fishing trip. While a Vermont Assistant General, I served as a judge for a number of VLS moot courts.

**List your activities as a VLS student.**

Vermont Law Review Notes Editor, Joint Degree candidate at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Rugby team

**List and describe any relevant professional and community activities.**

I am the Chair of the Dresden School Board and serve as of a member of the Hanover, NH and SAU school boards. I am the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy's class officer and reunion representative. I am the editor-in-chief of the US Marine and Navy Intruder Association magazine.

**Discuss whether you have the resources and ability to make the VLS Board of Trustees a priority over the next three years.**

I have the resources and ability to make the Board a priority over the next 3 years.