

**WILLIAM & MARY  
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MASTER  
OF LEGAL STUDIES IN LAW DEGREE**

**WHEREAS**, the Faculty of the William & Mary (“the university”) Law School proposes to offer a graduate program that will confer a Master of Legal Studies (M.L.S.) in Law degree starting in August 2024;

**WHEREAS**, this graduate program has been developed by faculty members in the Law School and is supported by the Law School’s senior administration;

**WHEREAS**, the proposal has received approval from the Law School Faculty on May 12, 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed program is designed for non-law professionals who want to gain an understanding of the U.S. legal system to improve their performance in law-related job responsibilities, understand industry legal challenges, and expand their career opportunities. The program consists of a core of general law courses for non-lawyers followed by courses in specific concentrations to provide students with greater specialization and expertise. The program will launch with two concentrations: compliance and finance, with additional concentrations planned for the future. Graduates will have a working knowledge of the foundations of law and basic legal concepts, and they will understand and navigate laws and regulations that apply to their operations and industry. Graduates will understand when and how to interact with legal counsel to manage legal risks; and,

**WHEREAS**, this program will utilize the core competencies of the Faculty of the Law School, who have the expertise to teach and shepherd this program successfully;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That upon recommendation of the President and the Provost, the William & Mary Board of Visitors approves the creation of a Master of Legal Studies in Law program, which will be taught and administered by the Faculty of the Law School; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the university will create this new program in compliance with all requirements of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).