

# *Colonial Williamsburg*

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The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
P.O. Box 1776  
Williamsburg, Va. 23187-1776  
[colonialwilliamsburg.org](http://colonialwilliamsburg.org)

## **Colonial Williamsburg Hires Industry Veteran Diane E. Branch, Esq. as its Vice President of Real Estate**



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WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (June 3, 2021) – The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is pleased to announce the June 6 arrival of Diane E. Branch, Esq. to serve as the foundation’s vice president of real estate. Branch will manage a portfolio of nearly 400 parcels, representing more than 1,900 acres of developed and undeveloped land in the city of Williamsburg, James and York counties.

“It’s an honor to come to such a prestigious organization as The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and find ways to fuel its educational mission by using our real estate portfolio while maintaining the character and charm for which Greater Williamsburg is known,” Branch said.

Branch most recently was awarded a grant sponsored by Columbia University. This proposal attempts to broaden and deepen the understanding of racial inequities in real estate that impact the Black community. She has served as a senior vice president at Jones Lang LaSalle,

responsible for leasing transactions for Fortune 500 clients. As an associate vice president at Howard University, Branch led the campus master plan process, which determined the real estate development of all land owned by the university. She was responsible for developing the strategic plan for the university's first real estate office.

Before joining Howard University, Diane served as District of Columbia's project manager for The Gallery Place and Mandarin Hotel Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Bonds. She managed the District's issuance of more than \$150 Million in bond financing. These projects were the first TIF bond projects and were responsible for the early revitalization of downtown DC.

“Under Diane Branch’s leadership, we will continue to work closely with the city, our partners, and the Greater Williamsburg community to think beyond our traditional infrastructure to reimagine Williamsburg's shared spaces and maintain the traditions and history that shape our community,” said Colonial Williamsburg’s Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer Kevin Patrick.

Media contact: Ellen Morgan Peltz  
Colonial Williamsburg  
[epeltz@cwf.org](mailto:epeltz@cwf.org)  
757-220-7287

*The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia’s 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 600 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg’s educational programs and preservation initiatives.*

– CWF –

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