



Steven C. Yeakel, CAE

Steve Yeakel is a native east coaster who has successfully completed a transition back to Virginia following almost 30 years in the Big Sky Country of Montana.

He became President & CEO of the Virginia Association of Community Banks on January 1, 2013, following an eleven-month stint as Executive Vice President.

Steve's professional life began in organizational politics, with work in numerous campaigns and political operations throughout Virginia, and later in Nevada and Montana. In 1988, he directed a successful campaign for Governor in Montana, and served Governor Stan Stephens as the Chief of Staff for two years and Director of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning for the remainder of the Stephens Administration.

He then created a consulting business in Helena centered in association management and government affairs. Over 20 years, he served more than a dozen small-business and human services clients, including community bankers, funeral directors, and maternal & child health advocates. He was also the first paid CSE for the Montana Society of Association Executives. He gained accreditation as a Certified Association Executive in 1998.

Steve is a Pennsylvania native who moved to Lexington, VA, in 1971. He earned an undergraduate degree in Politics from Washington & Lee University. He and his wife are empty-nested but are deeply invested in the lives of their three adult children.