MASTER OF JUDICIAL STUDIES PROGRAM 2025-2027 PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

Jacquelyn D. Austin Judge, U.S. District Court, District of South Carolina Greenville, South Carolina



Judge Austin attended the University of South Carolina, where she graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. She attended law school at the University of South Carolina School of Law and graduated with a Juris Doctor in 1996. While in law school, she was a member of the John Belton O'Neal Inn of Court and the National Moot Court Team. She received the Student Compleat Lawyer Award and served as Student Notes Editor on the *Environmental Law Journal*. Following law school, she clerked for the Honorable Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Upon completing her clerkship, she entered private practice for fourteen years, most recently as a Partner with the law firm Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP. She spent three years of private practice drafting and prosecuting United States and European patent applications, and eleven years in commercial litigation involving matters such as patent infringement litigation, trademark and copyright litigation, and cases involving racial discrimination, the Fair Housing Act, engineering design, product liability, real estate matters, and other contract disputes. In February 2011, she

was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of South Carolina. As a Magistrate Judge, she handled both a criminal and civil docket for the district, as well as cases from the civil violations bureau (CVB Court) and drug court proceedings in Greenville. Her civil docket included employment disputes involving race, sex, FMLA, and disability discrimination; contract, consumer credit, product liability, patent litigation and insurance disputes; and prisoner civil rights and prison conditions litigation. Her criminal docket included the review of search warrant applications and arrest warrants for probable cause; the handling of bond hearings for those arrested by our federal agencies and/or indicted by our Grand Jury; bond violation hearings and hearings to determine whether post-incarceration defendants have violated the conditions of their supervised release; receiving guilty pleas for individuals facing misdemeanor offenses, and conducting felony guilty plea hearings, providing a recommended disposition to the District Judge. She also presided over drug court proceedings in Greenville, which are part of a districtwide, pretrial diversionary court called the BRIDGE Program. On January 30, 2024, she was sworn in as a United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina. Her civil docket will encompass matters in Greenville, Columbia and Florence South Carolina, and her criminal docket will encompass matters in Greenville South Carolina.

Alison S. Bachus

Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Arizona

Phoenix, Arizona



Alison S. Bachus serves as a United States Magistrate Judge in Phoenix, Arizona. Before her appointment to the federal bench in 2023, Judge Bachus served as a state court judge on the Maricopa County, Arizona, bench from 2015 to 2023. While a Superior Court Judge, Judge Bachus presided over civil, juvenile, and family court matters and served in court leadership. Judge Bachus began her legal career as a law clerk for then-Chief U.S. District Judge Stephen M. McNamee, and she practiced law at the U.S. Department of Justice. She first served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney from 2006 to 2013, and then as senior counsel for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Arizona from 2013 to 2015. Judge Bachus currently serves on the national board of the Federal Bar Association and the FBA's Judiciary Division, the Magistrate Judges Education Committee for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the board of the Law College Association of the University of Arizona's Rogers College of Law. She is proud to co-

chair the U.S. District Court's civics outreach initiatives in Phoenix, and she is also active with the Federal Magistrate Judges Association and the National Association of Women Judges. Before joining the bench, she served as a lawyer representative for the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and president of FBA's Phoenix Chapter. Judge Bachus earned her B.A. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her J.D. from the University of Arizona Rogers College of Law.

Stephen R. Bough Judge, U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri

Kansas City, Missouri



Judge Stephen R. Bough attended Missouri State University and the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law, where he served as the Editor-in-Chief of the UMKC Law Review. After clerking for United States District Judge Scott O. Wright, he entered private practice, including owning his own litigation law firm. He was appointed to the bench in the Western District of Missouri in 2014. He has been elected as the 8th Circuit representative to the Federal Judges Association, has served as a transferee judge on an MDL case, regularly takes special appointments outside of his district, and remains active in producing scholarly writing.

Danielle Katharina Douglas Judge, Superior Court of California, Contra Costa County Martinez, California



Danielle Douglas is a judge for the Superior Court of California, Contra Costa County. She is the first person in her family to attend college and the only person to have attended graduate school. Judge Douglas is currently the supervising judge of the civil department. Judge Douglas' prior assignments include family, criminal and the Superior Court's Appellate Panel. She has served pro tem on the California Appellate Court, First District. In 2020, Judge Douglas was selected as trial judge of the year by the Alameda-Contra Costa Trial Lawyers' Association. Judge Douglas has served on the executive board of the California Judges' Association. Judge Douglas is an instructor for new judges teaching ethics, evidence, jury selection, and bias elimination. This year will be the first time she serves as a seminar leader at B.E. Witkin Judicial College of California. During her time on the bench, she has presided over 60 jury trials to verdict. Prior to becoming a judge, she served as a prosecuting attorney for both the County of Contra Costa and

the County of San Francisco. As a prosecuting attorney she has tried over 50 jury trials to verdict. Judge Douglas graduated from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1999.

Adam Joseph Espinosa Judge, 2nd Judicial District, Denver District Court Denver, Colorado



Judge Adam J. Espinosa is a Denver District Court Judge, an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Denver, and former Denver County Court Judge. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Espinosa served as a trial attorney for the Colorado Supreme Court Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel and as a deputy district attorney in several Colorado counties. Judge Espinosa earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and his law degree from Washburn University. Judge Espinosa is active in the community, having served in leadership positions on numerous local, state, and national boards including, the Access to Justice Commission, the ABA Standing Committee on Client Protection, the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, and the Denver Language School. He leads his own Dream Team of lawyers and judges that work with underrepresented youth in our community to mentor and encourage them to know their rights and join the legal profession. Judge Espinosa is a frequent lecturer and author for the several bar associations, law schools, and other groups on various legal, ethical, and professional

responsibility topics. He is also a proud graduate of the 2014 COBALT class and of 2021 Leadership Denver program. He is also the recipient of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association's 2024 Judicial Excellence Award and the Denver Bar Association's 2022 Judicial Excellence Award. Judge Espinosa has dedicated his legal career to public service, public safety, and access to justice. He is committed to serving the people of Denver and to the improvement of our courts.

André Michael Espinosa Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

Newark, New Jersey



André M. Espinosa has served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the District of New Jersey since March 2021. Before his appointment, he spent thirteen years as a federal prosecutor, specializing in complex, white-collar matters and child exploitation crimes. He worked in private practice at Reed Smith, in Princeton, and at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, & Garrison, in New York City, until joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey. He also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern and Eastern Districts of California. He prosecuted notable cases including a tax equity investment fraud scheme involving approximately \$1 billion in losses, in which he led seizures of more than \$120 million in assets from the defendants for the benefit of their victims—the largest criminal forfeiture in the history of the district. He received various local and national commendations, including the National Association of Former U.S. Attorney's Exceptional Service Award. As an advocate, he tried a dozen civil and

criminal cases before juries in federal courts in New York City, Newark, San Diego, and Sacramento, and argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Since taking the bench, he has decided hundreds of disputes and presided, by consent, over jury and bench trials in civil actions concerning a variety of federal and state claims. Judge Espinosa graduated from Rutgers School of Law, and earned a master's degree from Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Public Policy, in conjunction with the Eagleton Institute for Politics, where he was a Henry J. Raimondo Legislative Fellow. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas. He clerked for U.S. District Judge Freda L. Wolfson, in the District of New Jersey, Justice Roberto A. Rivera-Soto of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and Judge Anthony J. Parrillo of the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division. He is an active member of the John C. Lifland American Inn of Court, which focuses on intellectual property law. In the more distant past, Judge Espinosa climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in 2006, and helped film, write, and produce a documentary on widowed refugees at a permanent settlement camp in Uganda, in 1998. He was raised in a military family. He has visited forty-eight U.S. states, and traveled to cities on four continents. Judge Espinosa is married to Shawnda M. Grady, a talented litigator, and they have three terrific daughters.

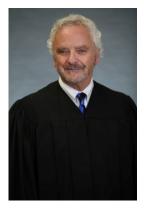
Daniel Alan Friedman Judge, Appellate Court of Maryland Towson, Maryland



Dan Friedman was appointed to the Appellate Court of Maryland in 2014. Prior to becoming an appellate judge, Dan was Counsel to the Maryland General Assembly in the Office of the Attorney General. Before his work with the General Assembly, he was in private practice with Miles & Stockbridge and, later, with Saul Ewing. He also previously worked as Chief of Litigation for the City of Baltimore. Dan enjoys writing about and teaching the Maryland Constitution. He is the author of *The Maryland State Constitution: A Reference Guide* and several articles on Maryland constitutional law and history. He is also a lecturer and adjunct faculty member at the University of Maryland School of law, where he has taught federal and state constitutional law, torts, and appellate advocacy. Dan is a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law and served as a judicial law clerk to Judge John Carroll Byrnes of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and Justice Robert L. Karwacki of the Supreme Court of Maryland.

Anthony Rex Gabbert Chief Judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District

Kansas City, Missouri



Anthony Rex Gabbert is the Chief Judge of the Missouri Court of Appeals-Western District. He received his B.A. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and J.D. from Mississippi College School of Law. Prior to being appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals in 2013, Judge Gabbert was in private practice; served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Clay County, Missouri, 1987-1991; Prosecuting Attorney for the City of Gladstone, Missouri 1991-1992; and Municipal Judge, City of North Kansas City 1993-1994. In 1994, Judge Gabbert was first appointed to the state bench as Associate Circuit Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit of Missouri 1994-2004; and as Circuit Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit of Missouri 2004-2013, serving as Presiding Judge 2008-2010. During his time on the circuit bench, Judge Gabbert established the court's first drug court program, a specialty court for treatment of substance abuse individuals in non-violent felonies. He is a member of the Missouri Bar, Clay County Bar Association (Past Secretary-Treasurer) Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association and the Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal. Judge Gabbert has served

as the Circuit Judge Member of the Executive Council of the State of Missouri Judiciary, Member of the Missouri Supreme Court Legislative Steering Committee, Sixth Congressional District Member of the 1993 Special United States Attorney and United States Marshall Congressional Selection Commission, Member of the Board of Trustees of North Kansas City Hospital (Past Secretary of the Board); and Member of the Clay-Platte-Ray Mental Health Tax Levy Board. Judge Gabbert has been both an adjunct professor and assistant professor for over thirty years in graduate and undergraduate law related courses at several universities, including Mid America Nazarene University, Park University, Penn Valley Community College, and Rockhurst University. He formerly taught at Ottawa University and William Jewell College. Judge Gabbert is the recipient of several awards, including Professor of the Year for William Jewell College, Tri County Mental Health Services Annual Achievement Award and as an Inductee in the North Kansas City High School Hall of Fame. In 2023, Judge Gabbert was the recipient of the Missouri Bar Theodore M. McMillian Judicial Excellence Award. In 2024, Judge Gabbert was the recipient of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association Hon. Joseph E. Stevens, Jr. Aspire to Excellence Award. He is the father of two grown daughters, Hannah Shaw of Kansas City, Missouri and Sam Gabbert of Paris, France.

Caroline Helen Gentry Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio *Dayton, Ohio*



Judge Caroline Gentry serves as a Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. She is a graduate of Kalamazoo College (B.A. 1992) and Yale Law School (J.D. 1995), where she was a senior editor of the Yale Law Journal. After completing a two-year clerkship with United States District Judge Walter Rice, she entered into private practice as a civil litigator. For nearly twenty-five years, Judge Gentry practiced in the areas of complex commercial litigation, class actions, ERISA litigation, employment law, and election law. In 2011, Judge Gentry received the Lloyd O'Hara Public Interest Law Award from Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. and Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. for her work in a federal voting rights case. Judge Gentry was appointed as a Magistrate Judge in February 2022. She currently serves on the Magistrate Judge Advisory Group (MJAG) for the Administrative Office of the Courts. Judge Gentry is a past President of the Dayton Bar Association and has served on several other non-profit boards. Since 2016, she has taught

drone and aviation law classes at Sinclair Community College, where she is completing an Associate Degree of Applied Science in Unmanned Aerial Systems.

Jefferson Glenn Griffin Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals

Raleigh, North Carolina



Judge Griffin was born and raised on a farm in Red Oak, NC, in Nash County. He graduated from Northern Nash High School where he was captain of the football team. Judge Griffin graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2003. After graduating from UNC, Judge Griffin earned his United States Coast Guard Captain's license and worked as a charter fisherman on the North Carolina coast. In 2008, Judge Griffin graduated from North Carolina Central School of Law. He began practicing law in Kinston, NC, focusing in civil litigation and criminal defense. In 2010, Judge Griffin joined the Wake County District Attorney's Office where he prosecuted cases from infractions to murder over a five-year period. In 2015, Jefferson was appointed by Governor McCrory to be a District Court Judge in Wake County. Judge Griffin was elected to a four-year term in the 2016 general election to retain his seat on the District Court bench in Wake County. He served there until his election to the North Carolina Court of Appeals. Judge Griffin is a certified

North Carolina Superior Court Mediator. Judge Griffin also serves as a Major in the North Carolina Army National Guard. Judge Griffin is currently the Senior Defense Counsel for North Carolina. He was previously assigned to the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT), known as "Old Hickory." He served as the National Security Law Judge Advocate. Judge Griffin was mobilized and deployed to the Middle East with the 30th ABCT in 2019-2020 in support of Operation Spartan Shield and Operation Inherent Resolve. Judge Griffin is an avid hunter, fisherman, and lover of the outdoors. He served on the Board of Directors of the Raleigh Kiwanis Club and the Board of Directors of the Wake County Bar Association. He also served as the president of Lenoir County Bar Association. He and his wife, Katye, are members at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Raleigh, NC. They have two children, Jay and Annie.

Diana Hagen Justice, Utah Supreme Court Salt Lake City, Utah



Justice Diana Hagen was appointed to the Utah Supreme Court in March 2022 by Governor Spencer J. Cox. Prior to her appointment, Justice Hagen served on the Utah Court of Appeals for nearly five years. She received her law degree Order of the Coif from the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in 1998, where she was a member of the National Moot Court Team and the Utah Law review editorial board. Following law school, she served as a law clerk for United States District Court Judge Tena Campbell and then began her practice at the law firm now known as Parr, Brown, Gee & Loveless. In 2001, she joined the appellate section of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah and later became the Appellate Chief, a position she held for nearly ten years before being promoted to First Assistant United States Attorney. Justice Hagen has served as president of Women Lawyers of Utah, the David K. Watkiss-Sutherland II Inn of Court, the Salt Lake County Bar Association, and the Utah Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. She also spent many years as an adjunct professor at

the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, where she taught appellate practice and coached intercollegiate moot court teams. She was recognized with a Utah Philanthropy Day Heart & Hands Award in 2014 for her volunteer work with Girl Scouts of Utah, named the S.J. Quinney College of Law's 2015 Alumna of the Year, and awarded the FBA Utah Chapter's Distinguished Service Award in 2017. Justice Hagen currently acts as the judicial liaison to the Supreme Court's Office of Legal Services Innovation and serves on the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of Utah.

Benjamin Philip Hursh Bankruptcy Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Montana Butte. Montana

Judge Benjamin Hursh was appointed as a bankruptcy judge in 2017. Prior to joining the court, he was a partner with Crowley Fleck PLLP and co-chair of the Creditor's Rights and Bankruptcy practice group. Other professional activities included: Chair of the Bankruptcy Court's Local Rules Committee, 2014-2016; Member of the Organizing Committee for the Bankruptcy Section's Annual Seminar, 2013-2016; and Chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Montana Bar Association, 2011-2012. He obtained his J.D. in 2003 from the University of Montana School of Law, and his B.A. in history from Montana State University. He maintains memberships in the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges American Bankruptcy Institute, American Bar Association, and the State Bars of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

Sandra Jenkins Judge, State of Louisiana Court of Appeal, Fourth Circuit New Orleans, Louisiana



Judge Sandra Cabrina Jenkins was elected to the Louisiana Court of Appeal, 4th Circuit on November 6, 2012. Judge Jenkins is a 1989 graduate of Southern University Law Center, JD; a 1984 graduate of Louisiana State University, B.A., Political Science; and a 1987 graduate of Southern University Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, MPA. In 2015 she received her Master of Divinity from McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta, Georgia. In 2013, Judge Jenkins completed the Louisiana Supreme Court's Judicial Leadership Institute. Judge Jenkins also completed the New York University School of Law's Institute for Appellate Judges and the George Mason University School of Law Economics Institute for Judges. She completed the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (NORLI) Class of 2022. Judge Jenkins is a former Assistant District Attorney for the Parish of Orleans and a former Staff Attorney, Court of Appeal, 4th Circuit. Prior to her election to the bench, she was a solo practitioner specializing in criminal defense and appellate practice. Judge Jenkins was a CJA panel attorney for the U.S. District Court Eastern District of

Louisiana. In the fall of 2010, Judge Jenkins joined the faculty of Xavier University of Louisiana, Department of Political Science, as an Assistant Professor teaching pre-law courses. Throughout her professional career, Judge Jenkins has volunteered her services with community projects and organizations. As an attorney, she served as a H.E.L.P. volunteer which is an organization that offers pro bono services to the homeless population and Veterans in the City of New Orleans. She is a former CASA, Teen Court, and Junior Achievement volunteer. Judge Jenkins serves in leadership rolls on various committees of national, state, and local bar associations. She is a member of Louisiana Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission's Accessibility Committee. Judge Jenkins has served on innumerable legal education panels for both the bench and the bar. She is a Judicial Education Faculty Member for the Louisiana Supreme Court's Domestic Violence LPOR program and serves as a Board member for Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc., (assistance with Mental Health, Wellness and Substance Use Disorders for members of the legal profession). Judge Jenkins serves as an officer in many organizations. She is Parliamentarian for the Fourth and Fifth Circuit Judges Association, Secretary for the Louisiana Judicial Council/National Bar Association and serves as a member of the Board of Governors for the American Judges Association. She is a representative for her court to the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement. As a Minister, Sandra intentionally blends her profession, ministry and community. She is a former member of the Board of Directors for Operation Restoration, an organization supporting women and girls impacted by incarceration. In 2018, she was appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards to Louisiana Women's Incarceration Task Force. She participates in Judges in the Classroom, and the annual Law Day and Constitution Day. Sandra facilitates a daily mid-day community prayer-line and annual women's respite and retreat weekends. In 2015, she created Judge Jenkins Law Camps. The Law Camps are an educational tool to encourage community dialogue. Her camps include: Justice without Bias. This camp invites dialogue on social justice issues. Law-Body-and-Soul camp explores the relationship between law and spirituality. Civility of Civics camps educate on the basic precepts of the role of government, the rule of law, and our civic responsibilities as citizens. Additionally, Judge Jenkins participates in annual Law Day activities at local schools. Judge Jenkins is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana

where she attended Redemptorist High School. She is the third child of Nellie Wilson Jenkins and the late Granderson Jenkins, III. She has two older sisters and two younger brothers.

Olena Kibenko Judge, Supreme Court of Ukraine

Klov Palace, Kyiv



Olena Kibenko is a Judge of the Supreme Court of Ukraine. From 2017 to 2021, she served in the Grand Chamber, and since 2021 she has served in the Cassation Commercial Court of the Supreme Court. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she had a distinguished career in both academia and private legal practice, with a focus on commercial, corporate, and international private law. From 2002 to 2011, she was a Senior Partner at the leading Ukrainian law firm Inyurpolis. She later co-founded and served as Managing Partner of her own firm, Kibenko, Onika & Partners. Alongside her legal practice, she dedicated more than two decades to academia: first at the Yaroslav the Wise National Law Academy of Ukraine (1994–2011), where she taught in the Department of Business Law and International Private Law, and later at V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (2011–2017), where she taught in the Department of Civil Law. Judge Kibenko is the author of more than 160

publications on corporate and commercial law, contract law, and judicial reform. Her notable books include *Corporate Governance* (2007), *Company Law: Comparative Study of EU Acquis and Ukrainian Legislation* (2006), *European Company Law at the Stage of Fundamental Reforms* (2005), *Business Law of Ukraine* (2005), *Company Law of Great Britain* (2003), *International Private Law* (2003), and *Company Law of Ukraine* (2001). She led the Supreme Court's Management and Communications Working Group (2017–2021) and coordinated its Strategic Development Group (2021–2022). She specializes in the digitalization of justice and was a member of the expert group in the EBRD project on online courts. A strong advocate of plain language in legal writing, Judge Kibenko has administered an open Facebook group on judicial writing for over five years and frequently delivers public lectures on the subject. Judge Kibenko devotes significant time and energy to advancing judicial reform in Ukraine. She currently serves on the Advisory Board for the project *The Dynamics of the Judiciary in Ukraine*, implemented by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL). Together with other judicial experts involved in the project, she co-authored the concept paper *"Proposals for Strengthening the Capacity of the Ukrainian Judiciary in the Short- and Long-Term Perspectives"(2024).* Beyond the courtroom, Judge Kibenko is also known as a passionate marathon runner. She has completed five of the six Abbott World Marathon Majors— Berlin, London, New York, Chicago, and Tokyo. She has been married to Yurii Kibenko for 30 years, and they have a daughter, Valeriia.

Sandra Klein

Bankruptcy Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California

Los Angeles, California



Judge Sandra R. Klein was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in 2011. Before taking the bench, Judge Klein worked for the U.S. Department of Justice for 13 years, including as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney prosecuting bankruptcy fraud and other white-collar crimes, and as the Acting Deputy Director of the U.S. Trustee Program's Office of Criminal Enforcement, which assisted with bankruptcy fraud investigations and prosecutions across the country. She served as a litigation associate with O'Melveny & Myers LLP and began her legal career as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Lourdes G. Baird, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, and to the Honorable Arthur L. Alarcón, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Judge Klein is dedicated to public service. She has served as chairperson of her court's Community Outreach Committee since its inception in 2013, and as a member of the Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community Outreach Committee from 2015 to 2024.

member and immediate past co-chairperson of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, past chairperson of the NCBJ Public Outreach Committee, and she is a member of the American Bar Association National Conference of Federal Trial Court Judges Executive Committee, a member of the Federal Bar Association, Los Angeles Chapter Board of Directors, a member of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, a member of the Loyola Law School Board of Governors, and a community member of the Girl Scouts

of Greater Los Angeles Property Committee. From 2010 to 2020, she was a member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (WLALA) Board of Governors. Judge Klein is a co-founder and co-leader of a Girl Scout troop for girls experiencing homelessness, and she created and implemented the Girl Scout Justice Patch Program to teach girls about legal history, legislation, justice, and the role of lawyers and judges in the community. Judge Klein has received numerous awards, including a 2021 and 2024 NCBJ President's Award for Exceptional Service; the 2019 Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Woman of Distinction Award; the 2018 NCBJ Public Outreach Award; and the 2018 WLALA Distinguished Service Award. Judge Klein received her bachelor's degree in music education, *magna cum laude*, from the University of Massachusetts Lowell (formerly the University of Lowell); her JD, *magna cum laude*, Order of the Coif, from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles; and her MBA, with honors, from UCLA's Anderson School of Management.

Lisa Marie Lorish Judge, Virginia Court of Appeals Richmond, Virginia



Judge Lisa Lorish joined the Virginia Court of Appeals in 2021. Before joining the Court of Appeals, she served as an assistant federal public defender and the appellate specialist for the Western District of Virginia, representing indigent clients charged with federal crimes that range from petty offenses to capital murder. Prior to that, she was a commercial litigator with Sullivan & Cromwell and McGuireWoods. Judge Lorish has taught as an adjunct at the University of Virginia School of Law for nearly a decade, most recently teaching a course called State Constitutionalism. She is also a member of the board of directors of the Fountain Fund, a nonprofit that provides low-interest loans to formerly incarcerated individuals. Judge Lorish graduated from Princeton University in 2003 and from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2008. She lives in Charlottesville, Virginia, with her husband, Philip, and their three children who conveniently attend three different schools.

Wes Reber Porter Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii



Judge Wes Reber Porter currently serves as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii. Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Porter worked at the U.S. Department of Justice as a Senior Trial Counsel in the Criminal Division's Fraud Section, where he specialized in investigating and prosecuting Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations, securities fraud, and other complex white-collar crimes. He also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii. Earlier in his career, Judge Porter was a Judge Advocate General (JAG) officer in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps and a reservist with the Air Force and Air National Guard. In addition to his legal career, Judge Porter has a deep commitment to education. He served as a tenured law professor in San Francisco and as the President and CEO of a private secondary school in Honolulu. Judge Porter continues to teach courses in evidence, criminal law and procedure, and trial advocacy as a visiting professor at

both the University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law and Santa Clara University School of Law. He is also a commissioner for Hawaii's Commission on Promoting the Advancement of Civics Education (PACE), a board member of an educational non-profit, an editor for the Federal Courts Law Review, and an author on topics related to injustices in the criminal justice system. Judge Porter enjoys playing golf, watching basketball and volleyball, and spending time with his wife and two sons.

Bruce Edward Reinhart Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

West Palm Beach, Florida



Bruce Reinhart was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Florida in March 2018. Immediately prior to taking the bench, Judge Reinhart was in private practice for 10 years, both as a solo practitioner and as the co-chair of the white collar crime practice group of a national firm. His practice focused on white collar criminal defense and complex civil litigation. Before that, he was a federal prosecutor for 19 years. From 1996-2008, he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in West Palm Beach. Between 1997 to 2002 he served as a Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney. From 1988-1996, he was a Trial Attorney in the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., having entered the Department through the Attorney General's Honors Program. His last two years in Washington were spent on a detail to the Office of the Undersecretary for Law Enforcement at the Department of the Treasury. He was an inaugural member of the Palm Beach County Ethics Commission and served as President of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Federal Bar Association

in 2006-07. He began his legal career as the law clerk to the Honorable Norma L. Shapiro on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Judge Reinhart earned a degree in civil engineering *cum laude* from Princeton University in 1984. He earned his J.D. degree *cum laude* in 1987 from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he served as Special Projects Editor of the Law Review and had his student note published. He is the proud husband of Palm Beach Circuit Judge Carolyn Bell. They have two adult sons.

Vinston Miller Rozier, Jr Judge, North Carolina Superior Court, Wake County Raleigh, North Carolina



Vince Rozier, Jr. is a North Carolina Resident Superior Court Judge for the 10th Judicial District (Wake County, North Carolina). Through his years as a prosecutor, District Court Judge, and Superior Court judge, he has embraced the role of public servant. A native of Tar Heel, North Carolina, Judge Rozier is the son of Rev. Vinston Rozier, Sr., and Lynne Rozier, a retired schoolteacher. His parents instilled in him the importance of faith, family, community, and education. Growing up, he spent time farming with his grandparents and working in tobacco fields from the age of 12 until his senior year in high school. After graduating as valedictorian of his high school class, Vince Rozier received a full academic scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At UNC, Vince Rozier served as Speaker Pro Tempore in the Student Congress and led various student groups. He became a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and was even voted upon by his peers as Mr. UNC for homecoming. He later earned his law degree from NC Central University School of Law where he also served as a student leader. In 2006, at the age of

29, following his work as a prosecutor, he became the youngest District Court judge in Wake County history. During his nearly 11 years as a District Court Judge, he served in Family Court, Juvenile Court, Drug Court, and Criminal Court. He also led the effort to create a diversion program that allowed officers and schools to implement consequences for minor offenses without students having to come into the court system. Judge Rozier also participated in a program through the State Department to the country of Jordan. In 2017, Judge Rozier was appointed to the Superior Court, the highest trial court in North Carolina. He was subsequently elected the following year. As a Superior Court judge, he has presided over several cases involving issues impacting the entire state. These cases involved Voter ID, inmates in prison during COVID-19, and money owed to school systems and teachers across the state. Judge Rozier has served on various boards that serve abused women, vulnerable youth, and other groups throughout the community. He and his wife have created a program to house women in shelters or the woods. Judge Rozier is a co-founder of Wake County's Youth Law Day. He was even present to speak during a truce that was called by Bloods and Crips gang members. Judge Rozier has several awards and recognitions for his service and time dedicated to his community. Judge Rozier is married to Attorney Dekhasta Becton Rozier. He is the published author of multiple books and serves as an elder, presenter, and youth teacher at his church.

Nicole Jo Starr Judge, Second Judicial District Court, Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota



Judge Nicole Starr was appointed to serve as a district court judge on the Second Judicial District of the State of Minnesota by Governor Mark Dayton in 2015. She was elected in 2016 and reelected in 2022. Judge Starr served as the presiding judge of the criminal and treatment court divisions of the Second Judicial District. Judge Starr serves on the Statewide Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Counsel, statewide judicial committees regarding treatment courts and children's justice, and multiple bar associations. Judge Starr designed and continues to teach a Race and the Law seminar for the University of Minnesota Law School and Mitchell Hamline School of Law. Prior to her appointment, Judge Starr worked as an Assistant Public Defender for the Second Judicial District, where her focus was forensic litigation. She clerked for Justice Zakeria Yacoob in the Constitutional Court of South Africa and for the Honorable Katherian Roe in the Fourth Judicial District of Minnesota. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School.

David Austin Tapp Judge, United States Court of Federal Claims Washington, DC



David Austin Tapp is a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. He is also a retired state court judge, having served as a general and special jurisdiction judge of the Kentucky Court of Justice. He holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, a Master of Science from Chaminade University of Honolulu, and a Bachelor of Arts from Morehead State University. Judge Tapp is a frequent presenter and author on a wide variety of civil and criminal issues including court culture, judicial stress, court-targeted acts of violence, evidence, electronically stored information, and civil and criminal procedure. He previously served as a law enforcement officer, prosecutor, and private counsel in a variety of civil and criminal matters. Judge Tapp's efforts regarding justice-related issues have been well-recognized. In 2011, he received the "All Rise" Award from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals for his efforts related to funding issues for substance abuse treatment courts. His drug court team also became one of only

15 drug courts at the time (out of 2,700 worldwide) to receive the NADCP's Community Transformation Award for his team's continuing efforts to provide meaningful substance abuse treatment. Judge Tapp was also the lead judge for Kentucky's efforts to explore the use of extended-release injectable naltrexone as part of a comprehensive opiate treatment strategy. Judge Tapp previously served as a policy advisor to the 2020 RX Drug and Heroin Abuse Summit, the nation's largest conference addressing opioid-related issues. Until his confirmation, he served on the U.S. Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention which reports to the President and Congress through the U.S. Department of Justice and provides advice regarding programming and intervention strategies for the nation's justice-involved children. Judge Tapp also previously served as Chairperson of Kentucky's Circuit Judges Education Committee where he directed the continuing education of all general jurisdiction and family court judges. He also acted as Kentucky's Co-Chairperson of the Judicial Child Fatality Task Force focusing on issues surrounding fatal and near-fatal events involving children within the judicial and child protective system, and as a member of Kentucky's Circuinal Justice Policy Assessment Council, a statewide group tasked with evaluation of the Commonwealth's justice practices.

Viran Molisa Trief Justice, Supreme Court of the Republic of Vanuatu

Port Vila, Republic of Vanuatu



Viran Molisa Trief was appointed in July 2019 as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Vanuatu. She is the first Ni-Vanuatu woman and only the second woman to be appointed as a Judge of the Vanuatu Supreme Court. She serves in both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal of Vanuatu, hearing both civil and criminal cases. She currently chairs the Law Council Disciplinary Committee which hears complaints against legal practitioners. Immediately prior to her judicial appointment, Justice Trief served as the first female Ni-Vanuatu team leader of an Australian bilateral development program in Vanuatu – as Program Coordinator (Justice) of the Vanuatu Australia Policing and Justice Program. Justice Trief's legal career includes 16 years' service in the Vanuatu State Law Office (now Office of the Attorney General). She served as the Solicitor General of the Republic of Vanuatu from 2009 to 2016, the first woman to be appointed

to that position. She studied at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand (LLB and BTSM) and at the Australian National University (Master of Public Policy; winner of the Raymond Apthorpe Master Degree Prize). When not working, she enjoys Zumba classes, gardening and reading. She and her husband have three children.