

## **RAUL AYALA**



Raul Ayala is the Collaborative Courts Supervising Attorney for the Federal Public Defender's Office in the Central District of California. As such, he has been assigned as the lead Deputy Federal Public Defender for each of the four Conviction and Sentence Alternatives (CASA) Program courts. In addition, he is a team member of the Substance Abuse Treatment and Reentry (STAR) Program, the district's post-conviction reentry drug court. Raul has been part of both programs since 2011, and also serves as the office supervisor for its developing Social Support Unit. Raul has remained active in various bar associations, having served as President of the Mexican American Bar Association of Los Angeles County (1991) and on the board of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. He previously sat on the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs, and is now on the board of the Institute for Well-Being in Law (IWIL). He currently serves as co-chair of the Hispanic National Bar Association Attorney Wellness Committee.

## **TY BROWN**



Ty Brown is an attorney-preneur. He is the CEO of Nuttall, Brown & Coutts d/b/a ZAF, a legal-tech firm dedicated to creating more affordable and more accessible legal solutions for accident victims with personal injury claims. ZAF is poised to implement legal services business models that have never been offered in the personal injury space and was among the first entities approved in the Utah sandbox. This approval paved the way for ZAF to raise significant capital from outside investors, including non-lawyer venture capital partners. As a result, ZAF is one of the first law firms in the world with non-lawyer ownership. Over the last ten years, Ty has founded six different businesses, including a technology-assisted dispute resolution company and a booming warehouse software company. As a personal injury lawyer, Ty has successfully resolved many catastrophic, multi-million dollar cases.

## **JULIE CAVANAUGH-BILL**



Julie Cavanaugh-Bill is the Managing Member of the Cavanaugh-Bill Law Offices in Elko. She serves as the President-Elect of the State Bar of Nevada and brings to the law practice in Northern Nevada over twenty years of Native American and indigenous rights experience. Prior to gaining her admission to practice in Nevada, Julie served as Director of the Land Recognition Program for the Western Shoshone Defense Project (WSDP) for six years and before that she practiced in Minnesota with the law firm of Winthrop & Weinstine, P.C., where she served as in-house counsel to the Prairie Island Indian Community, Mdewakanton Sioux. Her experience ranges from intergovernmental relations to active involvement in tribal, federal and international litigation and filings both as legal counsel and staff director. She has worked on two separate U.S. Supreme Court cases involving Native American jurisdictional and resource rights issues and has written several articles and guidebooks on indigenous rights, corporate engagement and human rights lawyering. Julie now handles not only tribal law cases, but a plethora of child welfare and social justice casework out of her law offices in rural Nevada.

## **JODI CLEESATTLE**



Jodi Cleesattle (she/her/hers) is a Supervising Deputy Attorney General in the Employment and Administrative Mandate Section of the California Department of Justice in its San Diego office. She previously was a partner with a Washington, D.C.-based national law firm and, prior to her legal career, was a newspaper reporter and magazine editor. Jodi is president-elect of California Women Lawyers and vice president of the Tom Homann LGBTQ+ Law Association, and she is active in numerous other bar associations. She was named the 2021 Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year by the California Lawyers Association. She is co-author of *Losing Our [Best] Minds: Addressing the Attrition Crisis of Women Lawyers in a Post-Pandemic World*, published by the California Lawyers Association. Jodi received her B.A. in Communications, cum laude, from American University in Washington, D.C., and received her J.D., summa cum laude, from American University's Washington College of Law.

## **SONJA EBRON**



Sonja Ebron is a PhD electrical engineer and former college professor with a background in utilities and artificial intelligence. She has represented herself in court numerous times. As CEO at Courtroom5, Sonja has made it her personal mission to empower people to represent themselves effectively in court. She serves on the board of Responsive Law, a national advocacy organization focused on the rights of legal consumers, and on the Leaders Council of the Legal Services Corporation, the nation's primary funding source for legal aid programs. She is a founding member of the Justice Technology Association, a trade organization for direct-to-consumer legal tech companies and nonprofits. Sonja is a native of Durham and lives in the suburbs with her wife and Courtroom5 co-founder Debra Slone.

## **JAZZ HAMPTON**



Jazz Hampton is a co-founder and the CEO and General Counsel at TurnSignl. TurnSignl is a Minnesota-based tech company that provides real-time legal guidance from an attorney to drivers, all while their camera records the interaction. Hampton has been featured on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt, MSNBC, CBS, NBC Top Story, and was recently named one of Minneapolis-St. Paul's 40 Under 40 for his work at TurnSignl and in the community, where he sits on the Board of Directors at the Academy of Holy Angels, Spare Key, and Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. He is also a member of the Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain's Philanthropic Advisory Council. Before joining TurnSignl, Hampton was the Director of Diversity and Inclusion and a practicing attorney at Foley & Mansfield, a national law firm with 150+ attorneys, as well as an adjunct professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, an Emerging Leader within Twin Cities Diversity in Practice, and the co-chair of DRI's Young Lawyer Diversity Committee.

## **JOAN W. HOWARTH**



Joan W. Howarth is the Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Boyd School of Law, UNLV, and Dean Emerita of the Michigan State University College of Law. She is the author of *Shaping the Bar: The Future of Attorney Licensing*. (Stanford University Press 2023) and many articles on lawyer licensing. She has served as a member of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners since 2020. Her other scholarship focuses on legal education; LGBT legal history; and capital punishment, especially as related to gender and sexuality. She is a leader in legal education through work with the Association of American Law Schools, the American Bar Association, the Collaboratory on Legal Education and Licensing for Practice, and the Society of American Law Teachers. Her courses include Constitutional Law, Torts, Capital Defense Clinic, and Low-Income Tax Clinic.

## **BILL LAWRENCE**



William (Bill) Lawrence leads a talented, dedicated and professional team at the San Diego History Center as President & CEO, having joined the San Diego History Center in 2015 as Chief Operating Officer. During his tenure, the 94-year-old institution has mounted exhibitions that focus on the San Diego region's diverse communities at its flagship Balboa Park Museum and Archive, as well as completed a reinterpretation and restoration of the iconic Serra Museum in Presidio Park. In addition, he advanced the operational model of "donation based" admissions, removing barriers to visitors who may otherwise not be able to afford to access museum offerings. Prior to joining the San Diego History Center, Bill had a 30+-year career in local broadcasting and attended San Diego State University with a BA in Journalism. He also serves as Secretary of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, a 28-member arts, culture, science and history non-profit collaborative in Balboa Park.



## **DANETTE MCKINLEY**



Danette Waller McKinley, PhD, is Director of Diversity, Fairness, and Inclusion Research for the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE). She is the staff lead for NCBE's Diversity and Inclusion Committee and coordinates, directs, and monitors the NCBE research agenda. Dr. McKinley has conducted research on the licensure and certification of health professionals for more than 30 years, and she was responsible for developing and implementing a research agenda that supports the missions, advocacy efforts, innovation endeavors, and thought leadership activities of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates and its Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research. Dr. McKinley received her BA from Williams College, her MA in educational research methodology from the University of Pittsburgh, and her PhD in educational psychology from Temple University.

## **ANDREW MORSE**



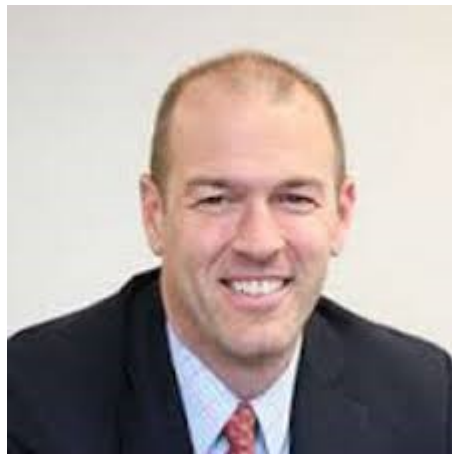
Andrew M. Morse serves as a mediator, arbitrator and trial lawyer. He serves on the firm's SnowTrial™ Consulting group. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Andrew defends governments and their employees - especially police departments and officers - against complaints involving deprivation of civil rights. He created and led the bipartisan working group that drafted the Reenacted 2004 Governmental Immunity Act, which clarified this law following a Utah Supreme Court case that had restricted governmental immunity. Andrew is a highly experienced trial lawyer. For 39 years, he has tried plaintiffs' and defendants' wrongful death and catastrophic injury cases. He has tried excessive force claims resulting in death and serious bodily injury. He is a State Bar Commissioner for the Third District. He is also the co-chair of the Utah State Bar Well-Being Committee.

## **JOHN MUDD**



John Mudd is the Executive Director and General Counsel of the State Bar of Montana. Prior to arriving at the bar in 2018, he was the Director of Development for the University of Montana School of Law and was employed in government and private practice. John is a graduate of the Catholic University of America and received his law degree from the University of Montana School of Law.

## **CHRIS NEWBOLD**



Chris L. Newbold is Executive Vice President of ALPS Malpractice Insurance. As EVP, Chris oversees ALPS business development team, sales strategy and is ALPS' chief liaison into the bar association community, where ALPS is endorsed by more state bars than any other carrier regardless of size. Externally within legal circles, Chris is recognized nationally based on his strategic planning facilitation work to bar associations and bar foundations and his leadership in the lawyer well-being movement. On well-being, Chris has been at the epicenter of discussion both strategically and as an advocate. As co-author of the movement launching 2016 report *The Path to Lawyer Well-Being: Practical Recommendations for Positive Change*, his leadership as co-chair of the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, his participation on the ABA's Working Group to Advance Well-Being in the Legal Profession and his role as co-host of *The Path to Well-Being in Law* podcast, Chris has been at the forefront of a movement intent on creating a culture shift in the legal profession, and advancing personal and professional satisfaction in all sectors of legal life. In January 2023, Chris became the President of the Institute for Well-Being in Law, an organization he helped form in 2020.

## **JOANNA PERINI-ABBOTT**



Joanna Perini-Abbott (Jo) is a principal at Angeli Law Group and is transitioning to be the Director of the Lewis & Clark Law School Advocacy Center. She began her career as a federal public defender and then transitioned to a large law firm practicing civil litigation and white collar criminal defense. She is also still active in taking appointed public defense cases from the federal courts. She was on the Board of Bar Examiners for 6 years and was vice chair and chair through 2020 and 2021 as the COVID pandemic hit. In 2021 she was the chair to the Alternatives to the Exam Task Force in 2021. Following approval by the Oregon Supreme Court in concept of the two proposed additional pathways to licensure, Jo was appointed as chair of the Licensing Pathways Development Committee tasked with building the specifics of the two additional pathways.

## **JOHN PHELPS**



John Phelps is the owner and founder of Pathfinder Executive Consulting, LLC, a small veteran-owned business focused on helping organizations achieve success. Before establishing his own consulting firm, John served as Chief Executive Officer of the State Bar of Arizona for ten years. John has been a member of the Arizona Bar since 1986. Before returning to Arizona to take his position with the State Bar, John served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) in Washington, D.C. Prior to his service in Washington, John served as Chief Operating Officer of the Grand Canyon Chapter of the American Red Cross in Phoenix, Arizona. He also previously served as Deputy Director of the Arizona Office of Homeland Security in the Office of the Governor of Arizona. John served nearly 25 years in the U.S. Army, retiring from active duty as a Colonel in 2003.

## JOHNNIE BLAKENEY RAWLINSON



HONORABLE. JOHNNIE BLAKENEY RAWLINSON was the first woman and the first person of color to serve on the federal district court in Nevada. Judge Rawlinson was also the first African-American woman to sit on the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Rawlinson is a summa cum laude graduate of N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro, N.C. She also graduated With Distinction from McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific and received a Masters in Judicial Studies from Duke University in 2016. Judge Rawlinson is a member of the Just The Beginning Foundation, Federal Judges Association, State Bar of Nevada, California State Bar, National Bar Association, American Bar Association, American Law Institute, Duke University Board of Visitors, and an Honorary Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Judge Rawlinson has received the following honors and awards: Distinguished Service Award -Clark County Pro Bono Project, Black Women Lawyers of Northern California Recognition Award, Kappa Alpha Psi Outstanding Community Service Award, N.C. A&T State University Alumni Association Outstanding Professional Achievement Award, NOBLE Award, Martin Luther King Committee Drum Major of the Millennium Award, Nevada Attorney General Role Model Award, Links Achievement Award, Urban Chamber Outstanding Professional Achievement Award, McGeorge School of Law Alumna of the Year Award, International Legal Professional of the Year 2004, Green Bag Award for Excellence in Legal Writing, 2007 High Heels in High Places Trumpet Award, 2012 National Bar Association Women Lawyer's Division "Jurist of the Year Award," 2014 Las Vegas Chapter, National Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016 National Bar Association Judicial Division Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016 National Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award, 2020 Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys Justice Miriam Shearing Award, 2020 Women's Chamber of Commerce of Nevada, Hall of Fame Minority Lifetime Achievement Award Inductee, and 2022 Clark County Black Caucus Trailblazer Award.

## **LIANI J. REEVES**



Liani Reeves is a shareholder and President of Bullard Law, a boutique management-side labor and employment law firm in Portland. Liani works with employers on a wide range of issues, including as a litigator and as an outside investigator. Liani brings special expertise working with education and public sector clients. She served as General Counsel for the Office of the Oregon Governor, providing advice on a wide range of legal issues including employment, public transparency, First Amendment, government ethics, tribal and public safety policy matters. She also ran the Governor's judicial appointments process, assisting the Governor in appointing over 40 judges to Oregon's trial and appellate courts. Prior to the Governor's office, she spent almost a decade at the Oregon Department of Justice where her primary focus was employment litigation defense.

Liani devotes significant time to mentoring women and minorities in the legal community and to serving in Oregon's affinity bars. Liani is the former president of the Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association and former Co-Chair of the Oregon Minority Lawyers Association. She served as the 2020 President of the Oregon State Bar, the first Asian American and woman of color to hold that position.

## **SHANNON SHELDON**



Shannon Sheldon is a partner with Berdin Weil LLP and acts as general counsel to over 250 condominium and homeowner associations across the State of Hawai'i. In addition to her extensive association practice, Shannon is a licensed patent attorney and maintains an active intellectual property practice with over two decades of experience in conducting searches, prosecuting trademarks and copyrights, and assisting with infringement claims and defense. Shannon was President of the Hawai'i State Bar in 2022. In 2024, she will be the President of the Western States Bar Conference. Shannon was also the State Bar Director for Maui, President of the Maui County Bar Association, and Chair of Community Council of Maui. She also served on the HSBA Executive Committee, Hawai'i Justice Foundation, Committee on Judicial Administration, and Leadership Institute Committee.



## MARY SMITH



Mary Smith will be the first Native American woman to serve as ABA president when her term begins in August. Mary is an independent board member and former CEO of a \$6 billion national healthcare organization, the Indian Health Service. Over the course of her career, Mary has served at the highest levels of government. She served on the senior team of the Civil Division at the U.S. Department of Justice, was general counsel at the Illinois Department of Insurance and, earlier in her career, served in the White House as associate counsel to the president. In addition to her many leadership roles at the ABA, Mary served as president of the National Native American Bar Association, co-chair of the D.C. Bar's Litigation Section, and board member of the Chicago Bar Association.

## JULIE SOBOWALE



Julie Sobowale is a freelance journalist and lawyer focused on writing about legal tech and advocating for regulatory changes in the legal market. Her clients include the American Bar Association (ABA); the Canadian Bar Association (CBA); and the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association, the leading professional association for Canadian in-house counsel. She served on the CBA Legal Futures project, an initiative focused on legal innovation and regulatory reform. Her past speaking engagements include presentations about communications and legal technology for the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS), the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution, the Law Society of Ontario, the Online Council for Online Dispute Resolution and the Federation of Law Societies in Canada. She is the former Director of Communications for the Law Society of Saskatchewan where she worked in regulatory reform, access to justice and diversity and inclusion.

## **RICK TRACHOK**



Rick Trachok is Senior Counsel at McDonald Carano, focusing his practice on international regulatory and gaming law. He is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and received “Lawyer of the Year” awards from The Best Lawyers in America in Gaming Law (2022) and Administrative & Regulatory Law (2021). Since 2000, Rick has served as Chair of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners and has been a member of the Board since 1991. He also currently serves as an Ex Officio member of the Board of Governors of the Nevada State Bar. Rick is also currently a Lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, and previously was an adjunct professor at the University of Reno, Nevada (15 years) and an adjunct professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law (7 years). He teaches International Trade, Contracts, Secured Transactions, and Gaming Law at Berkeley Law.

## **LEAH WILSON**



Leah Wilson was appointed to the position of Executive Director for the State Bar of California in 2017 and reappointed in 2021. In that capacity, she manages a \$206 million budget and 550 staff who are responsible for regulation, licensing, and discipline of California attorneys, as well as for promoting access to legal services and diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Before joining the State Bar, Leah served as the Court Executive Officer for the Alameda County Superior Court. There, in addition to being responsible for overall court operations, personnel, budget and policy, she took a particular interest in collaborative courts, and advocated for the use of risk assessment tools and an expansion of effective alternatives to incarceration. Leah holds a Master’s Degree in Public Policy and a Juris Doctorate, both from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a member of the California State Bar. She also served as President of the Berkeley Unified School District’s Board of Education.

## **ELIZABETH A. WRIGHT**



Elizabeth Wright is the Executive Director of the Utah State Bar. Prior to her role as Executive Director, Elizabeth served as General Counsel for the Utah State Bar from 2014 until 2021. She is a graduate of Hamilton College and Case Western Reserve School of Law. She is admitted in New York and Utah.