

E.A. "Trey" Apffel III became executive director of the State Bar of Texas in December 2017. A longtime Galveston County trial lawyer, he previously was the owner and principal of the Apffel Law Firm in League City, where he focused on personal injury litigation, toxic torts, medical malpractice, and family law. He is certified in both civil trial law and personal injury trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Apffel has served as State Bar of Texas president (2014-2015), on the State Bar Board of Directors, and as a member of the board's Executive Committee. He is a former member of the Commission for Lawyer Discipline, a member of the Texas Bar College, a Texas Bar Foundation Life Fellow, and served on the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees.



Emiko Meyers is an attorney in private practice on the island of Kauai. She practices primarily in the areas of Family Law and Landlord/Tenant law. Prior to private practice, she spent over ten years at Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, many of those years managing the Kauai office. Emiko is originally from Seattle but moved to Kauai in 2003. She met her husband at Legal Aid, and they have two children together, ages 12 and 15. Her husband is currently a Judge for the Fifth Circuit Family Court.

Emiko has been involved with the YWCA of Kauai for almost 20 years as a board member and currently serves as President. She is active in the Kauai Bar Association and sits on the Hawaii State Bar Association board as the Kauai Director. In her spare time, she paddles outrigger canoe, hikes, camps, listens to podcasts (politics and/or true crime), and enjoys what Kauai has to offer.



Mark E. Recktenwald was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on September 14, 2010. He joined the Supreme Court as an Associate Justice on May 11, 2009, and previously served as Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals beginning in April 2007. Prior to his appointment to the Intermediate Court of Appeals, Recktenwald served as the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Hawai'i, and as an attorney in private practice. He received his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and his law degree from the University of Chicago.



Liam M. Deeley, JD is the Executive Director of the Attorney's and Judge's Assistance Program. Before becoming the AAP executive director in 2014, Mr. Deeley worked as a public defender, a human resource manager, and a certified assessment and referral specialist and case manager for Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC). He also provided assessments and testified as an expert witness in sentencing hearings for Illinois drug courts.

As director of AAP Mr. Deeley provides immediate and confidential assistance to Hawaii's lawyers, judges, and law students who are dealing with impairments that include mental health, substance abuse, and aging issues that are impacting their practice or personal lives. Additionally, Mr. Deeley serves as the chair of the Nomination Committee and as a member of the Professionalism Committees of the Hawaii's Supreme Court, and on the HSBA's Transitioning Lawyers and Well-being Committees.



Dean Camille Nelson has long been an outstanding member of the legal community. Prior to her appointment as Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law in 2020, Dean Nelson served as Dean of American University Washington College of Law ("WCL"), and as Dean of Suffolk University Law School in Boston. She was also a Professor of Law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University, a Dean's Scholar in Residence and Visiting Professor of Law at Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, and a Professor of Law at Saint Louis University School of Law, where she was recognized as both Professor of the Year and with a university Faculty Excellence Award. She is an elected member of the American Law Institute. Prior to entering academia, Dean Nelson was a litigator at McCarthy Tétrault (a large Canadian law firm) and clerked for Justice Frank Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada, the nation's highest court.

Dean Nelson holds a B.A. with high distinction from the University of Toronto in Administration, a magna cum laude law degree from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law, and an LL.M. from Columbia Law School.



William R. "Bill" Bay, a partner with the St. Louis office of national law firm Thompson Coburn LLP, is president-elect of the American Bar Association and will become ABA president in August 2024.

In recent years Bay has been honored with the Spurgeon Smithson award, a top honor given by The Missouri Bar; the Distinguished Lawyer Award, the highest honor awarded by the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; an Excellence in Law Award from St. Louis Magazine; and Missouri Lawyers Weekly's Influential Lawyer Award. He has appeared in The Best Lawyers in America since 2012 and has been recognized by Best Lawyers multiple times as the St. Louis Lawyer of the Year for Litigation-Banking and Finance. Bay received his B.A. from the University of Missouri and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.



Matthew Stubenberg (BA, University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2009; JD, University of Maryland School of Law, 2013) is the Innovator in Residence at the William S. Richardson, School of Law. He teaches Coding for Lawyers and Cybersecurity Law. He was previously a researcher at Harvard Law School's Access to Justice Lab; IT Director at the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service; and a Senior Applications Specialist at the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau. He has independently worked on several legal apps including MDExpungement.com, a website which automated the expungement process and helped to expunge over 100,000 criminal cases in Maryland. Matthew has spoken at numerous conferences on legal technology related issues and has been a proponent of teaching technical knowledge to attorneys.



Glenn T. Melchinger is a partner at Dentons US LLP. He has litigated issues related to technology and the law for decades, and for over a decade he has taught on technology issues for lawyers and e-discovery at the HSBA, Thinktech Hawai'i, and elsewhere. He is Chair of the HSBA Technology Committee. Glenn has represented clients for 25 years in complex commercial and civil disputes, BEC (business email compromise), TCPA, class actions regarding data security incidents, products liability matters, and has advised clients on cybersecurity, incident response and other issues involving the intersection of the law and technology. He also reads, writes, and speaks Japanese and helps Japan clients with a host of US legal issues with the broad bench of support at Dentons, a global law firm.



Associate Justice Sabrina McKenna has served on the Hawai'i Supreme Court since March 2011. She is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and its William S. Richardson School of Law ("WSRSL"), where she served as editor-in-chief of the law review. She was a civil litigator, general counsel to a Japan-based group of companies, and a WSRSL faculty member before serving as a Hawai'i state trial court judge from 1993 to 2011, presiding over civil, criminal, and family matters. She co-chaired Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald's Hawai'i Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being from 2019, which issued its Report on June 1, 2021. She serves on the Hawai'i State Bar Association's Well-Being Committee, which was organized pursuant to the Report. Justice McKenna also serves on the board of the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges and co-chairs the American Judicature Society's Judicial Diversity Committee. Her awards include the ABA's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement (2023) and Stonewall (2021) awards and NAPABA's Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award (2015).



Dr. Cindy Goodness-Zane was born and raised in Pearl City, Hawai'i. Cindy is a local girl at heart, of multiethnic backgrounds and strongly identifies with her Hawaiian and Japanese ancestries. She started her professional life as a civil litigation attorney, turned trial and appellate attorney with the Office of the Public Defender. Moved to help people beyond their legal problems, Cindy became a Clinical Psychologist who enjoys working with couples, families and individuals of diverse backgrounds, identities and varied life experiences to overcome life challenges through strengthening of their relationships. After all, life is less scary and most meaningful when we have close others to share it with. Now Certified by the International Centre for Excellence in Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT), Cindy diversifies her time training other clinicians in Hawai'i and around the world, including Japan, Iran, and North America. She also enjoys providing intensive therapy to couples, families, and individuals, as well as consulting with organizations on leadership and organizational thriving through secure collegiality.



Terra Nevitt has served as the Executive Director of the Washington State Bar Association since 2019. She was originally drawn to the state bar to help coordinate the state's network of civil legal aid providers as liaison to the Access to Justice Board, and the theme of law-in-service-to-those-most-in-need has defined her legal career—from leading civil-legal aid organizations to working as a non-profit immigration attorney to working in Bangkok to end the exploitation of children. She is a fierce advocate for equity and inclusion, in the legal community and world at large. Outside of her office, you can find her tracking orcas from her deck, traveling the globe with her family, and visiting as many local farmstands as possible.



Richard B. Spinello was named executive director of the State Bar of New Mexico and the New Mexico State Bar Foundation in December 2017. He has overall responsibility for the day-today operations of the State Bar and the State Bar Foundation with a combined budget of \$4.5 million. Richard is a licensed attorney and has held multiple leadership roles during his 20-year career with the State Bar. Richard attended the University of New Mexico (B.A.,1989) and Western Michigan University, Cooley Law School (J.D., 1997).



Chief Justice Robert Brutinel became Chief Justice on July 1, 2019. He was appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court in November of 2010 and was elected as Vice Chief Justice in January 2018. Prior to his appointment, Justice Brutinel served as the Presiding Judge of the Yavapai County Superior Court, where he presided over cases involving civil, criminal, juvenile, mental health, drug court, probate, and domestic relations matters.

Justice Brutinel graduated from Arizona State University with a B.S. in Economics in 1979. He received his law degree from the University of Arizona in 1982 and an LL.M. in Judicial Studies from Duke University in 2018. Justice Brutinel was admitted to practice law in Arizona in 1982. Prior to serving as a judge he practiced law in Prescott, Arizona, primarily in the areas of business and real estate, and Indian Law.



Judge Gregory H. Meyers was appointed as District (Family) Court Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court State of Hawaii in August 2022. Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Meyers spent 20+ years as an attorney in Hawaii – working both at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii as an advocated for low-income residents, and in private practice helping the people of Kauai with various legal needs. During his career, Judge Meyers spent many years volunteering on the boards of local organizations. In his free time, he enjoys coaching community basketball.

Judge Meyers graduated from the University of Michigan Business School with a Bachelor of Business Administration (1997) and received his Juris Doctor from The George Washington University Law School (2001).



Nikole Nelson is the founding CEO of Frontline Justice. Prior to joining Frontline Justice Nikole was the Executive Director of Alaska Legal Services Corporation, Alaska's only statewide provider of free civil aid. During her 25 years in the field, she worked to build community-led, people-centered justice models and to expand the scope of who can provide legal help including a groundbreaking launch of Partnering for Native Health, a Medical-Legal Partnership involving non-lawyer justice workers that won the 2019 World Justice Challenge. She also spearheaded reforming restrictions on unauthorized practice of law for justice workers in Alaska; these reforms were approved in 2022 by both the Alaska Supreme Court and State Bar Board of Governors. Nikole is a member of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defense (SCLAID) and is a member of the Legal Services Corporation's Rural Justice Task Force.



William D. Pickett holds the distinction of being the longest-serving President of the Washington State Bar Association, holding office from March 2018 to September 2019. Bill is a trial lawyer—committed to the underdog and restorative justice—licensed to practice law in Washington, Alaska, Oregon, and Arizona. He is the founder and boots-on-the-ground ambassador for an outreach program that establishes an exchange of legal knowledge and experience to support the burgeoning legal community and rule of law in Cambodia. When Bill is not in the office or Cambodia, you can find him spending time with his family, teaching mock trial to high school students, and cheering on the Seattle Seahawks (or even Taylor Swift!).



Sara Niegowski is the Chief Communications and Outreach Officer for the Washington State Bar Association. Her career began as a reporter for daily and weekly newspapers and communication executive for public school districts. She took a short detour through law school before discovering the sweet spot for her skills and advocacy: Supporting and coalescing the statewide legal community to champion justice for Washingtonians. She will fight passionately in defense of the Oxford comma and loves to hike Mount Rainier and chauffeur her children to basketball and karate events.



Tony Weiler is the Executive Director of the State Bar Association of North Dakota. Before coming to SBAND, Weiler was North Dakota's Labor Commissioner having been appointed by Governor John Hoeven in September 2010. He continued in that role under Governor Jack Dalrymple until his selection as Executive Director.

He is a 1998 graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Law. Weiler is a Ft. Yates, ND native who now resides in Bismarck with his four children.