

## Faculty Biographies

**COSTELLO, KEVIN** Commissioner Kevin Costello has been a Court Commissioner in Waukesha County since 2018 and prior to that was a Court Commissioner in Milwaukee County for 14 years. On his first day on his first job as an Assistant District Attorney, his supervisor told Kevin to open Ch. 48 and learn it. He said he would get right on it and, after the supervisor left, he asked the secretary what Ch. 48 was and where he could find it. Thus began a career in children's law that extended from his first day as an ADA, through 20 years as a private practitioner engaging in all aspects of this area of law and being the senior staff representative for the private bar at Milwaukee County's Children's Court, and now as a Court Commissioner. Commissioner Costello also serves as a member of the Wisconsin Commission on Children, Families and the Courts.

**FOLEY, CHRISTOPHER** Judge Christopher Foley currently serves as a mediator, arbitrator, and special master. He was a Circuit Court Judge in Milwaukee County for 38 years. He previously served as a chair of the Juvenile Jury Instruction Committee and the Juvenile Benchbook Committee. Judge Foley was named a "Milwaukeean of the Year" in 1996 by Milwaukee Magazine and was given the Children's Service Society Service to Children Award in 1997 for his work in implementing the Foster Care Conversion Project, which freed hundreds of children for adoption who had been mired in long-term foster care. He has been the recipient of United States Congress' Angels in Adoptions Award; Jockey Being Family's Jurist of the Year; Marquette University's Professional Achievement Award; and very recently given the Wisconsin State Bar's Lifetime Jurist Achievement Award. Judge Foley has testified before congressional committees and appeared on ABC's News Nightline and NBC's Today Show discussing child custody disputes.

A graduate of Marquette Law School in 1978, Judge Foley was a law clerk for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, a Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney, and a Milwaukee Municipal Court Judge before he was appointed to succeed his father, the Honorable Leander J. Foley, Jr., as a Circuit Court Judge. He and his wife, Deb, are the proud parents of seven children: Rebecca, Christopher, Jr., Patrick, Kevin, Sean, Donald and Ben. Additionally, they are also proud grandparents of Nora Grace Foley, Leander Donald Cramer, Evelyn Clare Foley, and are expecting two additional grandchildren later this year!

**HECKMANN, TIMOTHY** Commissioner Heckmann has been a Circuit Court Commissioner in St. Croix County since 2000. His primary responsibilities include all of the powers and duties set forth in Wis. Stat. § 757.69, as delegated by the four St. Croix County Circuit Court Judges. He is a member of the Domestic Violence subcommittee of the St. Croix County CJCC and the St. Croix County Safety & Security Committee. Commissioner Heckmann is a PSIA-certified ski instructor who has spent most of his time over the past 21 years chauffeuring, chaperoning, or coaching his four children in hockey, soccer, softball, baseball, dance and theatre, which has provided great perspective to his work in children's law.

**KLICKO, WENDY** Judge Wendy J.N. Klicko was elected to the Circuit Court of Sauk County in 2016. After graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1997, she began her legal career with Cross, Jenks, Mercer and Maffei in Baraboo practicing family law and insurance defense. She then spent 16 years as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for Sauk County representing the Department of Human Services in Chapter 48 cases involving child abuse/neglect and termination of parental rights, Chapter 51 mental commitments and Chapter 54/55 guardianship and protective placement cases. She is the Co-Dean of the Wisconsin Judicial College, faculty member of Child Welfare Law Orientation, Vice-Chair of the Wisconsin Commission on Children, Family and the Courts, a judicial representative on the DCF/PIP Advisory Group and State Team Planning for the Children's Bureau, and former member of the Family Model Recording Keeping and Juvenile Law Benchbook Committees. She is a longtime member and past president of the Rotary Club of Baraboo and past board member of the Baraboo Theatre Guild.

**ROSSELL, JASON** Judge Jason A. Rossell presides over Branch 2 of the Circuit Court for Kenosha County. After his appointment to the bench in November 2011, Judge Rossell, was elected to a six year term beginning in August 2012 and was subsequently re-elected in 2018. He is currently assigned to the Criminal rotation, after previously being assigned to the Juvenile and Family rotation. In April 2017, Judge Rossell was appointed by the Wisconsin Supreme Court as the Chief of District II, encompassing Kenosha, Racine and Walworth Counties. Judge Rossell is a member of the Wisconsin Judicial Committee on Child Welfare and the Legislative Committee of the Judicial Conference. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Rossell, was a sole practitioner and Guardian ad Litem for three years. Before starting his own practice, Judge Rossell served as an Assistant District Attorney for over six years. He is a proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School and the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. Judge Rossell is married with two children and is an active member of Crossway Community Church.

**ZIEGLER, TODD** Judge Todd Ziegler has been a Monroe County Circuit Court Judge since 2007. He received his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1995. After law school, he was a law clerk for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals. He then started a wide-ranging private practice that included Guardian ad Litem work, representing parents in children in need of protection and services (CHIPS) actions, and representing youth in delinquency cases.

Judge Ziegler has been a member of the Wisconsin Judicial Committee on Child Welfare since its inception in 2012. He led Monroe County's work on CHIPS cases with Casey Family Programs starting in 2015. In addition, he has been a member of a judicial workgroup addressing youth justice cases, since 2017, and has previously served on the Wisconsin Juvenile Jury Instruction Committee. Judge Ziegler is also a Treatment Court Judge for felony OWI offenders; starting the program in 2012 and now serves as Chair for the PPAC Planning Subcommittee.