

2022 WJCCA Conference Speaker Biographies

Chief Justice Annette Kingsland Ziegler was elected to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2007 and re-elected in 2017. On May 1, 2021, she was chosen by members of the Court to serve as chief justice. She is the 80th justice and the sixth woman to serve on the state's highest court since Wisconsin became a state in 1848.

Born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Chief Justice Ziegler received her bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Business Administration from Hope College in Holland, Michigan in 1986. She earned her law degree from Marquette University in 1989. Chief Justice Ziegler received the Marquette Law School Alumna of the Year award in April, 2019, and also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hope College in April, 2014.

Upon graduation from law school, Chief Justice Ziegler was in private practice where she engaged in civil litigation. She also served as a pro bono special assistant district attorney in Milwaukee County in 1992 and 1996. Immediately prior to serving as a circuit court judge, she was an assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

Before joining the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Ziegler served as a Washington County Circuit Court judge. She was appointed to the bench in 1997, elected in 1998, and reelected in 2004. She was the first female jurist in Washington County. As a circuit court judge, she was the deputy chief judge for the Third Judicial District and served six years as the presiding judge of Washington County. In 1999, Chief Justice Ziegler sat as a Court of Appeals judge in the District II Court of Appeals Judicial Exchange Program.

Chief Justice Ziegler currently serves on the Marquette University Law School Advisory Board. She is a member of the American Bar Association, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and an elected member of the American Law Institute. Chief Justice Ziegler is also a member of the International Women's Forum.

Chief Justice Ziegler previously served as a commissioner on the Wisconsin Commission on Uniform State Laws from 2016 to 2019 and as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission from 2011 to 2016. She also served on the Wisconsin Judicial Council from 2014 to 2018 and the State Bar of Wisconsin Bench and Bar Committee from 2013 to 2018. She has been a member of a number of law-related organizations including Legal Association of Women and James E. Doyle Chapter of the American Inns of Court. Chief Justice Ziegler has been a faculty member at the Wisconsin Judicial College, and has served as faculty at a number of seminars.

Chief Justice Ziegler is also active in her community, volunteering for numerous charitable and social welfare organizations as a board member and committee chair. Chief Justice Ziegler is currently president of the Trustee Board for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington County.

Patrick Brummond has worked in court administration since 1988 and the Wisconsin Court System since 1994. He currently serves as the District Court Administrator for the Seventh Judicial District. Prior to this Pat served as Deputy Director of State Courts for Court Operations and also as a District Court Administrator for the Third Judicial District.

In addition to providing judicial administrative services for the fifteen counties in the Seventh Judicial Administrative District, Pat has been involved with a variety of statewide initiatives involving topics such as: the Judicial Branch Information Technology Strategic Plan, Court Financing, Court Reporting “Making the Record”, Municipal Courts, Tribal Courts, Caseload Management and Statistics, Interpreters, Jury Issues, the Assess Inform and Measure (AIM) Initiative, eFiling, and the Children’s Court Initiative. He serves on the Consolidated Court Automation Program (CCAP) Steering Committee, Wisconsin Circuit Court Access Oversight Committee, and is the chair of the Judicial Administrative District Court Administrators. Pat was a member of the Chief Justice’s Wisconsin Courts COVID-19 Task Force. He has served as faculty for educational seminars targeting judges, clerks, registers in probate and court staff.

His academic background includes a Masters of Science in Judicial Administration from University of Denver College of Law in Colorado and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa.

Theresa Owens graduated from Drake Law School, Des Moines, Iowa and is a licensed attorney in Iowa and Wisconsin. She received a masters in court administration from the Institute for Court Management, National Center for State Courts. She has served in court administration in the Iowa appellate courts, the federal district court, and Wisconsin court system.

Justin Wolff is a legal advisor with the Children’s Court Improvement Program (CCIP) in the Wisconsin Director of State Courts Office. He graduated from Drake Law School in 2008 and has worked in private practice before becoming an Assistant State Public Defender. Justin previously worked at CCIP as a policy analyst, having then gone on to serve as Corporation Counsel and special prosecutor for Clark County, WI and juvenile justice compliance manager for the Wisconsin Department of Justice; returning to CCIP in 2020.

Amber Peterson is a Legal Advisor for the Wisconsin Director of State Courts Office, Office of Court Operations. Amber received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her law degree from Marquette University Law School. In her role as Legal Advisor, Amber provides policy and procedural guidance to the circuit courts, primarily focusing on areas involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and victims' rights. Amber frequently provides training and technical assistance to judges, court commissioners, and other legal system professionals.

Michael F. Caldwell, Psy.D. is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, and a Senior Staff Psychologist at the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center. He is a Co-Investigator with the MIND Research Network at the University of New Mexico. He has served as a consultant to the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Juvenile Justice, the National Academy of Sciences Sackler International Scientific Forum on Neuroscience and the Law, Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, the Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas, the Mitchell Hamlin School of Law in St. Paul, among many others. He was a psychotherapist for 32 years and has published over 45 research publications or book chapters on the assessment and treatment of violent adolescents. He received his Master's in Counseling Psychology from Kansas State University in 1976 and his doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Denver in 1988. He has conducted research into risk assessment methods and the effectiveness of treatment interventions and published over 40 articles and book chapters on these issues.

Kristen Wetzel joined the Children's Court Improvement Program (CCIP) as a Legal Advisor in August 2018. Prior to her position with CCIP, she worked as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in Portage County handling CHIPS, TPR, and Chapter 48 guardianship cases. Kristen has a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Law Studies from Marquette University and a Juris Doctor from the John Marshall Law School.

Karley Downing is the Chief Legal Counsel for the Office of the Director of State Courts. She has previously served as Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Department of Corrections, and the Chief Legal Counsel for the Department of Transportation and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Downing was also legal counsel at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, Department of Administration, and the Office of the Governor. Downing has a bachelor's degree summa cum laude in History from the University of St. Thomas and her Juris Doctor cum laude from the University of Wisconsin Law School. She is admitted to practice law in the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as the United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin.

Diane Fremgen is the Wisconsin Deputy Director of State Courts, Office of Court Operations. Ms. Fremgen has been with the Wisconsin Court system for over 30 years. She started as a clerk with the Winnebago County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in 1990 and was elected Clerk of the Court in 1997 where she served until her appointment to the Supreme Court in 2012. In this position, Ms. Fremgen served as Clerk for both the Supreme Court and for the Intermediate Appellate Courts. In December 2017 she was appointed to her current position by the Director of State Courts to oversee the Office of Court Operations. During her tenure, Ms. Fremgen has been fortunate to serve on numerous local and state committees and is grateful for the experience and knowledge she has gained by being involved in the different areas of the Wisconsin court system.

Sam Christensen is the Clerk of Circuit Court & Juvenile Court Clerk for Racine County. He is the current secretary and member of the executive committee of the Wisconsin Clerk of Circuit Court Association and has served as a past president of the WI Juvenile Court Clerk's Association. He current member of The Committee to Improve Interpreting and Translation in the Wisconsin Courts and CCAP Steering Committee. He serves on the Board of Bar Examiners and the Board of Administrative Oversight for the Office of Lawyer Regulation. Additionally, he is an Adjunct Instructor of Ethics for Gateway Technical College.

Sheila T. Reiff is the Clerk of the Wisconsin Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. She attended Gateway Technical College and University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. She was elected the Clerk of Circuit Court for Walworth County for 23 years. She was a member of the Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association, co-chair of their Legislative Committee for many years, was the first President of the Juvenile Clerks Association, and also a member of NACM, National Association of Court Management. She currently is a member of NCACC, National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks. She is a newly elected Board Supervisor for the Walworth County Board and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Tom Flitter joined the Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP), within Wisconsin Court System, as Chief Information Officer in May of 2022. Mr. Flitter has spent the last 28 years in the information technology field providing senior and executive leadership for public and privately held companies across the nation. He has most recently served in an executive role within the Madison office of Gainwell Technologies where he provided oversight of technology systems, solutions and services for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and their state-wide Medicaid program. Previous to that Mr. Flitter was the Director of Information Technology at Madison-based Total Administrative Services Corporation. Mr. Flitter holds a Bachelor's Degree in Management Information Systems from University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire and a Master's of Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University in Florida.

The Consolidated Court Automation Programs provide information technology services to the Wisconsin Court System. CCAP and the talented team of professionals ensure technology is used effectively and economically throughout Wisconsin's judicial branch of government. For over three decades, CCAP has helped Wisconsin courts broaden their use of technology to improve court operations, expand services to litigants, increase operational efficiencies, and accommodate information sharing throughout the justice system.

Jacob Ebenhoe is a Business Process Analyst with CCAP and has been with the Court system for over six years. In that time, he has worked on many projects including eFiling, CCAP3 Case management and Financial rewrite programs and is the Juvenile subject matter expert at CCAP.

Andrea Olson is the Customer Services Manager for the Wisconsin Court System's Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP). Andrea has been employed at CCAP since 1993. As the Customer Services Manager, Andrea is responsible for the implementation of software applications and the operation of the CCAP Call Center which provides hardware and software support for all CCAP users, government agencies and the public.

Tim Grove, MSSW, is a senior consultant at Wellpoint Care Network (formerly SaintA), a human services agency whose mission it is to facilitate equity, learning, healing and wellness for all. He has over 25 years of professional experience in a variety of direct care, administrative and executive positions.

Tim created, developed and lead Wellpoint's Trauma Informed Care (TIC) initiatives. He created a TIC training curriculum centered around the Seven Essential Ingredients, or 7ei, of understanding and practicing TIC. Tim and the training team at Wellpoint have used the 7ei framework to train more than 60,000 people from diverse disciplines over the past 15 years.

Tim is an Affiliate of the Institute for Child and Family Well-being. He is a Mentor with Dr. Bruce Perry's Neurosequential Network and a Master Trainer in Dr. Rob Anda and Laura Porter's ACE Interface curriculum. Tim and the Wellpoint team's work has been highlighted and published in a number of magazines, journals and newspapers. He was the lead project manager of a three-year research study on the effectiveness of 7ei in child welfare outcomes which demonstrated positive effect on creating placement stability and permanency for kids.

Tim is recognized nationally as a trauma informed care expert and was interviewed by Oprah Winfrey for a 60 Minutes segment on trauma and resilience.

Krista Miller joined the Office of Court Operations in the fall of 2019. Prior to joining the office, Krista worked in private practice and then as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for Columbia County. The subject areas she focuses on are: civil, small claims, family, paternity, probate, guardianship, commercial docket pilot

program, court records retention under SCR 72, exhibits, sealing and confidentiality.

Derek Mosley graduated from Marquette University Law School in 1995. After graduation he served as an Assistant District Attorney for Milwaukee County from 1995-2002. As an Assistant District Attorney, he represented the State of Wisconsin in over 1,000 criminal prosecutions. Mr. Mosley founded the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Community Prosecution Unit. This unit places assistant district attorneys in various neighborhoods throughout the City of Milwaukee to work with residents to reduce urban blight and to improve the quality of life. As the head of this unit, Mr. Mosley helped to establish after-school programs, he established a Second Chance Felony Employment Initiative for offenders, closed 100 drug houses and nuisance properties, and started a police and citizen crime fighting initiative, which targeted street drug dealing. This initiative called "Operation Streetsweeper" was awarded the Law Enforcement Honor Award by the United States Department of Justice.

In 2002, Mr. Mosley was appointed Municipal Court Judge in Milwaukee. At the time of his appointment, he was the youngest African-American to be appointed judge in the State of Wisconsin. In August 2004, Judge Mosley was appointed Chief Judge of the Milwaukee Municipal Court.

Judge Mosley sits on the Board of Directors of several organizations including the Urban Ecology Center, the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee, Safe & Sound, Divine Savior Holy Angels High School, the United Way Diversity Leadership Committee, and Transcenter for Youth. He has been a lecturer at both Marquette University Law School as well as the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He sits on the Supreme Court of Wisconsin's Judicial Education Committee. He received the Leaders in the Law Award from the Wisconsin Law Journal. He was inducted into the Milwaukee Community Journal's Academy of Legends, named one of the Philanthropic 5 by the United Way, recipient of the Dean Howard B. Eisenberg Public Service Award from Marquette University Law School, voted "Jurist of the Year" by the Justinian Society of Lawyers, Professional of the Year by ONEMKE & The United Way, named Law Enforcement Official of the Year by Safe & Sound, received the William C. Frye Civic Engagement Award from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, was named "Milwaukeean of the Year" and "Milwaukee's Most Trusted Public Official" by the Shepherd Express, and was inducted into the Milwaukee Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Hall of Fame. Judge Mosley routinely speaks both nationally and internationally about Unconscious Bias. Also, as a kidney transplant recipient, he is an ardent supporter of Donate Life Wisconsin, the National Kidney Foundation, and Versiti (formerly the BloodCenter of Wisconsin). He currently serves as a Donate Life Hollywood advisor to the television and movie industries to promote accurate depictions of organ donation and transplant on television and in movies.

Rachel Nili is an attorney in the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Children and Families. Rachel previously worked in child welfare program and policy at DCF. Prior to this, Rachel was an attorney at a national non-profit where she litigated institutional reform law suits on behalf of children in federal court in multiple states. Rachel began her legal career in Boston where she clerked for the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and then practiced as an attorney at a Boston law firm. Rachel graduated from Harvard College and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Jillian Young is the Adoption and Interstate Services Section Manager at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. She provides oversight for the Public Adoptions, Adoption Assistance, Adoption Record Search, and ICPC programs. She has been in her current role since April 2021 but has held various positions with DCF since 2017. Prior to joining DCF, she coordinated the Legal Advocacy Program at Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) in Madison and worked in the Juvenile Unit of the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office – Madison Trial Office. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Social Work degree, both from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Jonathan Wilcoxon is a program and policy analyst with the DCF Adoption and Interstate Services Section. This section includes public adoption, ICPC, adoption assistance, and adoption records search programs. He has a background working in mental health direct practice and has a passion for supporting programs for children and adolescents.

Jody Bartels has been Register in Probate and Juvenile Court Clerk for Grant County since her appointment in July 1999. Prior to this appointment, Jody worked for twenty years as a paralegal with the law firm of Hoskins, Kalnins, McNamara & VanDeHey of Lancaster. Jody has held the offices of Treasurer and President of the Wisconsin Registers in Probate Association (WRIPA). During her tenure as President, Jody served as the WRIPA representative to the Circuit Court Automation Program (CCAP) Steering Committee. Jody also serves on the CCAP Juvenile and Probate Design Committees, WRIPA Pro Se Website and Codes Committees, and the Children's Court Initiative Juvenile Clerks Workgroup. Jody has also worked with the Wisconsin Supreme Court's Office of Judicial Education, Probate Benchbook Committee by assisting with revisions to the Probate Benchbook.

Sandra Rhead is in her 25th year working for Dunn County, starting as a dispatcher in 911 communications for the first 14 years, then the Records Custodian of the Sheriff's Office and Sandra has been performing the duties of the Juvenile Clerk since 2017. Her duties include processing all CHIPS, JIPS, Delinquency, Juvenile Injunctions, Juvenile Ordinance, Truancy, Juvenile Guardianships, TPR and Juvenile Mental cases from initial filing to completion including clerking each

hearing. Sandra is married and has one son in middle school. Sandra has held the office of Secretary and is a member of the New Clerk Orientation committee of WJCCA.

Bridget Mauerman is responsible for administering the Children's Court Improvement Program (CCIP), a program designed to improve the handling of child welfare, termination of parental rights, and adoption proceedings in the court system. As director, she works closely with members of Wisconsin's judicial system on training, legislation, policies, strategic planning, development of best practices, and other quality improvement projects. She has worked for CCIP since 2004. Prior to her current position, Ms. Mauerman worked as an Assistant Public Defender for four years, where she represented children and juveniles in child in need of protection or services (CHIPS), juvenile in need of protection or services (JIPS), and delinquency proceedings, as well as adults in termination of parental rights, mental commitment, and criminal cases. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Political Science, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin.