



**WELCOME TO
TALLAHASSEE WOMEN
LAWYERS'**

FIRST ANNUAL

**FOUNDERS &
PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER**



TWL FOUNDERS

Paulette Vernia Armstead

Drucilla Bell

Mary Anne Bestebreurtje

Sarah Margaret Bleakley

Carol Martha Browner

Janice Mulligan Bush

Ann Cocheu

Martha Jean Cook

Ivy B. Cream Harris

Judith Curtin

Joyce Davis

Kathleen F. Dekker

Julia Patricia Forrester

Carol A. Forthman

Tina Hipple Furlow

Mary Jo MacDonald Gallay

Deborah A. Getzoff

Ruth Lucinda Gokel

Diane Arden Grubbs

Jane R. Harris

Rose Deeb Kitchen

M. Catherine Lannon

Barbara Myrie Lithicum

Anne Longman

Lesley Fellows Mendelson

Lyndia F. Padgett Spears

Glenna Joyce Reeves

Mary Lou Rajchel

Bonnie S. Satterfield

Vicky A. Savage

Linda Cargill Smith

Sharyn Lynn Smith

Barbara Jean Staros

Delphene C. Strickland

Sandra Lee Turner

Barbara Jane Yates

TWL PAST PRESIDENTS

Martha Jean Cook	Virginia A. Daire	Ruth Stone	Jessica Leigh Eldridge
Kathleen Dekker	Martha Edenfield	Elizabeth Demme	Catherine Chapman
Catherine Lannon	Hillary Ervin	Mary Ellen Clark	Christin Gonzalez
Mary Lou Rajchel	Marilyn Morris	Sha'Ron James	Rachel Nordby
Kelly Overstreet Johnson	C. J. Weinman	Chasity O'Steen	Christian Moretz
Julie Cobb Costas	Wendy Loquasto	Kimberly Driggers	Magie Ozarowski
Janice Mulligan Bush	Wendy Morris	Gigi Rollini	Hannah Monroe
Elizabeth C. Bowman	Nina Ashenafi-Richardson	Twyla Sketchley	Molli McGuire
Mary-Ann Bestebreurtje	Kelly O'Keefe	Jennifer Sullivan Davis	
Deborah Stephens Minnis	Kathy Maus	Meghan Boudreau Daigle	
Lauri Goldman	June C. McKinney	Linda Bond Edwards	



SARAH M. BLEAKLEY

Founding Member

Sarah Bleakley pursued a career in law with two goals: to provide a living for herself and her future family and to help less fortunate people. Initially, she wanted to be a criminal defense lawyer like her childhood hero, the fictional Perry Mason. She was convinced otherwise by both a law school internship in a State Attorney's office and her volunteer representation of a death row inmate in pursuit of a new trial. Two law professors, then Chief Justice Art England and Joe Jacobs, illuminated a better path for Sarah in the Florida legislative process and tax law. In the Florida Legislature she found many role models including Representative Bill Sadowski and Ms. Budd Bell, a social worker and organizer. Sarah worked in the process as a legislative aide, as counsel to a tax committee, and as lobbyist on behalf of the state agency responsible for health and human services, various local governments, and the Florida Association of Counties.

Bob Nabors later convinced Sarah to join Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. to focus her practice on local governments. Sarah's first assignment was to help Nabors draft the *Primer on Home Rule & Local Government Revenue Sources*. At the firm, Sarah continued to focus on tax law, lobbying and helping draft statutes creating sources of revenue for the State and local governments.

Sarah has retired from the firm and now devotes herself to her family and friends. She enjoys volunteering as a poll worker, kayaking, sewing, and practicing yoga and life exercises. Sarah's legal mind keeps her focused on politics, as decisions at the local, state, and national governments affect our freedoms.

HON. BARBARA STAROS

FOUNDING MEMBER

The law was not a welcoming place to women when I began practicing law in 1978. And yet, the trajectory of my career was shaped in no small part by a handful of women. I moved to Tallahassee in early 1978 after graduation from law school at UF in December of 1977. Besides studying for the Bar Exam and then job hunting, I was visiting my parents in Pensacola as often as possible as my father became very ill in my last semester of law school and passed away a few months later.

My legal career started in the Division of Statutory Revision where I was hired by Jane Harris. I only stayed there a year, but I credit Jane for hiring me for my first legal job and enabling me to get my foot in the door in a city where I had no connections. I wanted to get litigation experience and moved on to the Attorney General's Office where I got a lot of litigation experience. While there weren't a lot of women lawyers, the number of women in litigation jobs was even smaller. It was not uncommon to be the only woman in the court room besides the court reporter, and it was not uncommon to be mistaken for the court reporter. It was a challenge to be taken seriously in the litigation setting. One judge referred to me as "little lady" during hearings. Women were viewed with some skepticism as to whether we were genuinely interested in a legal career and whether we were tough enough. It took a certain amount of toughness to succeed in a profession and in a world that belonged to men. Unfortunately, if we came across as too tough we were criticized for that. A relatively polite label that was used to describe us was a "tough cookie." If we were perceived as too tough we were labeled as a "bitch."

I left the AG's office when I was hired as the Deputy General Counsel to the Department of Education by Judy Brechner, who at that time was General Counsel. Several years later, I was promoted to General Counsel by Betty Castor, who was the Commissioner of Education, which at that time was an elected office and a member of the Cabinet. Becoming a Cabinet Officer's General Counsel was a game-changing event in my career. After a decade at DOE, I entered private practice and later was hired as an Administrative Law Judge by Sharyn Smith, who was the Chief Judge and Director of the Division of Administrative Hearings. I stayed at DOAH for 17 wonderful years and retired from that position in 2017. My legal career spanned 40 years. And despite the law being an unwelcome place for women, these four women helped shape the trajectory of my legal career: Jane Harris, Judy Brechner, Betty Castor and Sharyn Smith. I will always be grateful for their confidence in me.

HON. MARTHA COOK

1980-1981



Judge Martha J. Cook was the first president of TWL. She earned her BA In Psychology from Stetson University (1970) graduating *magna cum laude*, her MA in Psychology and Education from University of South Florida (1971) and her Juris Doctor with honors from University of Florida (1977).

After law school she joined the Florida Attorney General's office (appellate division) as an assistant and later became in house counsel for the Department of Revenue (DOR,) where she was the first women attorney for that agency. A few years later she was hired as an associate at Carlton Fields. In 1983 she attended the Harvard Negotiation Project, which was then taught by Professor Roger Fisher (author of *Getting to Yes*). In 1987 she joined Holland & Knight, where she later become a partner in the litigation department. In 1991 she became one of the first Florida Supreme Court Mediators, and then left the firm to open her mediation and arbitration practice in 1994.

In 2002 Judge Cook was elected a circuit judge for the Florida Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and served until retiring in 2021. She is a Florida Supreme Court mediator and is contributor to the Florida Mediator Best Practices Handbook. She was recently widowed (William Sedgeman, Jr.) and has one daughter, Hilary W. Sedgeman, 31, who is an elementary school teacher.

HON. KATHLEEN DEKKER

1981-1982



M. CATHERINE LANNON

1982-1983

M. Catherine (Cathy) Lannon was a founding member of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers and served as its third president. During her legal career she was a law clerk at the First District Court of Appeal for four years, then worked at the Florida Attorney General's Office in the Administrative Law Bureau for 28 years. She was Bureau Chief for 23 years.

In addition to TWL, Cathy was active in the Florida Government Bar Association (serving as President for one year) and the Tallahassee Bar Association. She was also active in several Sections of The Florida Bar and served terms as Chair of the Administrative Law Section and the Government Lawyer Section. She received the Tallahassee Women Lawyers Inspiration Award, the Capital City Bar Presidents Richard Ervin Equal Justice Award, and the Second Judicial Pro Bono Award. She also served on the Board of Legal Services of North Florida for 25 years.



MARY LOU RAJCHEL

1983-1984

Mary Lou Rajchel served as President of TWL from 1983 - 1984. In her role as Vice President the year before, she served as the Chair of the first Judicial Reception. It was well-received, and became and remains an annual event. Mary Lou thoroughly enjoyed attending the TWL Judicial Reception held October 2022. She worked diligently every year to build the membership and reputation of Tallahassee Women Lawyers and is proud that those efforts have continued. Mary Lou says that it was a unique opportunity to be one of the founding members of Tallahassee Women Lawyers, and it has been an inspiration through the years to see its continuing growth and relevance in the legal community.



KELLY OVERSTREET JOHNSON

1984-1985

Kelly Overstreet Johnson is a Florida native and lifelong resident. A former president of The Florida Bar, the Tallahassee Bar Association and Tallahassee Women Lawyers, she maintains professional connections statewide in the Florida legal community.

Kelly values her relationships with her clients and professional colleagues and prides herself on being readily available as a resource when needed. As a litigator, Kelly's approach is to promptly evaluate, discuss and strategize on the best approach to achieving the client's goal, which many times involves mediation as a way to resolve cases without going to trial. Her legal practice focuses on business and commercial litigation, all types of employment-related litigation, general civil litigation, nursing home and health care litigation, real estate and probate and trust litigation. She defends clients in a wide variety of cases in both state and federal court.

She brings these same values and skills as a mediator. When mediation is the path to resolution of your dispute, enlisting a skilled mediator who also is a practicing attorney can be critical to the outcome of your case. Kelly Overstreet Johnson's professional colleagues repeatedly request her for mediation services because of her knowledge of the law and her commitment to providing impartial, efficient and effective mediation services.

JULIE COBB COSTAS

1985-1986



JANICE MULLIGAN BUSH

1986-1987

ELIZABETH C. BOWMAN

1987-1988

MARY-ANN “MIKEY” BESTEBREURTJE

1988-1989

Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje (“Mikey”) served as TWL President, 1988-1989. She retired in 2012, after having served as Corporate Secretary to the State University System’s Board of Regents and the System’s Board of Governors for 31 years. Since retiring, she and her husband have been fortunate to make trips to Australia and New Zealand in 2018, Argentina and Chile (Patagonia) in 2020, and Alaska this past summer in 2022. She is enjoying retirement!!



DEBORAH STEPHENS MINNIS

1989-1990

Deborah Stephens Minnis is a shareholder with Ausley McMullen where she focuses her practice on labor and employment law. She also represents various local government bodies.

Deborah regularly represents and advises management clients in employment discrimination matters including the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Pregnancy Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, Title VII, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and other civil rights acts, as well as, state law employment tort claims.

Additionally, Deborah has practice experience as a management consultant and as a litigator in judicial, administrative, and appellate forums. Prior to joining Ausley McMullen, she worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Florida.

LAURI GOLDMAN

1990-1991



VIRGINIA A. DAIRE

1991-1992

Certified as a family mediator, Virginia Daire is the oldest of six children, two of whom had developmental disabilities. She and her family have been advocates for people with disabilities since 1952. An attorney since 1978, Virginia once served as General Counsel of the Florida Association for Retarded Citizens along with serving on several Florida Supreme Court Commissions focusing on issues relevant to people affected with disabilities. In 1987, she authored a publication entitled “Preparing for the Future of Your Florida Family Member Who Is Developmentally Disabled.” At several points in her career, Virginia also directed The Florida Supreme Court’s Gender Bias Study Commission and acted as Agency Clerk for both the Florida Department of Children and Family Services and the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. Formerly she was president of both Tallahassee Women Lawyers and the Florida Association for Women Lawyers.



MARTHA J. EDENFIELD

1992-1993

Martha J. Edenfield is a founding shareholder of the Dean, Mead & Dunbar Tallahassee office. In her 40th year of private practice, she focuses on governmental affairs and administrative law, representing clients before the Florida Legislature, state agencies, and the Governor and Cabinet.

Martha began attending Tallahassee Women Lawyers meetings while a law student at Florida State University and went on to serve as a board member, Vice President and President of TWL in 1992-93.

She is a recipient of the Robert C. Scott Memorial Service Award from the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar for her devotion and service to the Section and has been named as an Outstanding Government Relations Lawyer in The Best Lawyers in America.

HILLARY ERVIN

1993-1994



MARILYN K. MORRIS

1994-1995

Marilyn K. Morris earned a performing arts scholarship and graduated from Colorado State University with a B.A. in Speech and Theatre Arts in 1970. In 1977, Marilyn moved to Tallahassee to attend Florida State University where she earned a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. This led to Marilyn serving as the CEO of the Leon County 4-C Counsel, a Title 20 non-profit that provided childcare for low-income families as part of the "War of Poverty." In 1978, Marilyn became the first woman to ever head a department in Leon County government as the County's Purchasing Director. Marilyn then went on to law school at Florida State University and became a member of The Florida Bar in 1986.

Marilyn's first lawyering job was defending the State of Florida in civil rights and tort cases as an Assistant Attorney General. She was assigned three "Son of Sam" cases, enforcing a Florida Statute designed to prevent criminals, like Ted Bundy and other notable offenders of that time, from profiting from the sale of publishing rights regarding their crimes.

Marilyn went into private practice in 1990 and became a sole practitioner in 1993. She would then go on to serve family law clients for the next 24 years. During that period, Marilyn served on the Board of Directors and became the President of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers. As TWL President, Marilyn was most proud of her work with the Hon. Terry Lewis, establishing a TWL volunteer feeder system for the Leon County Teen Court, an alternative sentencing program for juveniles who had committed minor offences.

In 2001, Marilyn moved her practice into the historic Alphonse Pichard House, circa 1912, located on Tallahassee's historic Park Avenue, and received a Tallahassee/Leon County Historical Society Award for her restoration of this property. During Marilyn's 24 years as a family law practitioner, she also served on the Board of the Tallahassee Bar Association's Legal Aid Foundation and organized numerous family law CLE's to help pro bono attorney-volunteers become familiar with the nuances of family law. In 2015, Marilyn received the Glen J. Winuk Humanitarian Service Award for her countless pro bono hours dedicated to providing legal aid representation.



C.J. WEINMAN
1995-1996



WENDY LOQUASTO

1996-1997

Wendy S. Loquasto is President of Fox & Loquasto, LLC, and was a founding member of the firm in 2003. Wendy brings to the firm her unique perspective gained from her experience as a law clerk for The Honorable Richard W. Ervin, III, at the First District Court of Appeal for 15 years. While at the court, she handled over 1,200 appeals and extraordinary writs and gained comprehensive knowledge of how the appellate courts work and what they expect in briefs and legal documents and from oral argument. She has been board-certified in appellate practice since 2008.

Wendy received her Juris Doctor degree, magna cum laude, from Stetson University College of Law in 1988. She has a B.A. Degree in History and Political Science from the State University of New York, College at Oswego.

Wendy served on The Florida Bar's Appellate Practice Section and has served three terms on its Executive Council, as well as on its Publications, Outreach, CLE, Pro-Se Handbook, and Tallahassee Outreach Committees. She also chaired the Appellate Court Rules Committee in 2014-2015 and served on the Workers' Compensation Rules Advisory Committee.

In addition to her state bar activities, Wendy has served on the Tallahassee Bar Association, Tallahassee Women Lawyers (President 1996-1997), Tallahassee Barristers, and Florida Association for Women Lawyers (President 2006-2007), and she was an inaugural member of the First District Appellate American Inn of Court (Executive Council 2009-2010, 2010-2011).

Wendy has served on the Board of Directors of Legal Services of North Florida, Inc., and on the Board for the North Florida Center for Equal Justice, Inc., and she was Board President of both organizations in 2009-2011.



WENDY MORRIS

1997-1998

Wendy Morris is the founder and president of Morris Law Offices, LLC, in Bonita Springs, Florida, where she advises individuals and couples in estate planning, including the creation of wills and trusts, and in the administration of estates and trusts.

She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Rutgers University, in 1988, and her Juris Doctor degree from the Florida State University College of Law, in 1991. Wendy became a member of The Florida Bar in 1991.

Wendy was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, and she grew up in Randolph, New Jersey, and Dublin, Ireland. Wendy is a first-generation American with Irish-born parents.

Prior to opening the law firm, Wendy represented higher education institutions as general counsel for Florida Gulf Coast University, associate general counsel of the University of North Florida, and legal counsel at the Florida Board of Regents, where she handled matters in several areas of the law such as contracts, leases, employment, students, administrative, government, public records, corporate and charitable organizations. Additionally, she started her law career as an assistant attorney general in the Tallahassee office of the Florida Attorney General, where she represented the State of Florida and its agencies in civil and criminal appeals in the Supreme Court of Florida and other appellate courts.



NINA ASHENAFI- RICHARDSON

1998-1999

Nina Ashenafi-Richardson has served as a Leon County Judge in Tallahassee since 2008. Prior to her election, she spent the majority of her career representing teachers and university faculty as in-house counsel with the Florida Education Association and as adjunct faculty at Barry University's Tallahassee campus. Judge Ashenafi-Richardson has distinguished herself as a first in many categories, including as the first Ethiopian-American judge in the United States and the first African-American elected president of TWL and the TBA. She is also a former president of the William H. Stafford American Inn of Court.

The Conference of County Court Judges of Florida awarded her the Distinguished Leadership Award in 2016, and she was also the recipient of the Florida Bar's 2019 Distinguished Judicial Service Award. Hard work and community service are hallmarks of Judge Ashenafi-Richardson's life. Since taking the bench, Judge Ashenafi-Richardson has been appointed to serve on statewide committees intended to improve access to the courts for all people, improve the judicial education of judges around the state, and promote ethical conduct by members of the judiciary.

Judge Nina Ashenafi-Richardson is married to City Commissioner Curtis Richardson, and the mother of two daughters, Carina and Aida.



KELLY O'KEEFE

1999-2000

Kelly O'Keefe is a Shareholder at Stearns Weaver Miller. She represents professional and family member fiduciaries and individuals in estate, probate and trust litigation, and businesses in real estate, land use and complex commercial litigation. She also represents businesses before government agencies and advises candidates regarding campaign laws. Kelly's experience spans state, federal and local government forums. She has managed cases in multiple parallel forums, including arbitration, and brought cases successfully through appeal. Her clients appreciate the thoughtful manner in which she finds creative and cost effective solutions to difficult legal issues and seemingly intractable disputes regarding inheritance, personal and family wealth.

Prior to entering private practice, Kelly served as a law clerk to three Florida Supreme Court Justices. She is regularly recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Florida Trend* and *Super Lawyers* magazines and is AV Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. She is a frequent lecturer and author on a wide variety of topics related to estate, probate and trust litigation.

Kelly has made significant contributions to the legal profession through her leadership roles in local and state bar associations and her work with the Legal Aid Foundation and North Florida Legal Services. Through these organizations she promotes professionalism in the legal community and access to the courts for all.



KATHY MAUS

2000-2001

Kathy J. Maus is a partner at Butler. Kathy is a Partner and an Executive Committee Member practicing primarily out of the firm's Tallahassee office, active in the firm's bad faith, casualty and first and third party liability defense and insurance coverage practices. Kathy received her Bachelor of Science degree in Risk/Management & Insurance from Florida State University in 1986. She received her Doctor of Jurisprudence, with honors, from Florida State University in 1991. Prior to attending law school, Kathy served as a licensed Commercial Liability Claims Adjuster with a national insurance company.

Kathy is a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer and a Florida Super lawyer in Insurance Coverage. She is licensed in the State of Florida and in each of Florida's three Federal District Courts within the Eleventh Circuit. She is also licensed in the 11th Circuit Court of Appeal and the United States Supreme Court. Her professional memberships include DRI, IADC (International Association of Defense Counsel), FDLA (Florida Defense Lawyer Association), TBA (Tallahassee Bar Association), ABOTA (American Board of Trial Advocates), William Stafford Inns of Court, and Tallahassee Women Lawyers.



HON. JUNE C. MCKINNEY

2001-2003

Judge June C. McKinney has served as an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) with the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings since 2007. Throughout her career, Judge McKinney has distinguished herself through her legal leadership positions.

In 2013-2014, she served as the first African-American female President elected to the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary. In 2005, Judge McKinney was elected and served FAWL as the first and only African-American President and initiated the “Balancing the Scales” program to help women statewide enjoy a level playing field during the judicial nominating process. She was also elected twice to serve as president of TWL for 2001-02 and 2002-03. While in leadership, Judge McKinney established several effective TWL programs aimed at promoting the professional and educational success of young girls and women while president. In 2002, she founded the “Legacy of Excellence” program, an intensive all-day event where middle and high school girls participated in activities such as learning about various practice areas, attending a session at the Capitol and touring the Florida Supreme Court, interacting with prominent female practitioners, and having lunch with TWL members. Judge McKinney also established the “Breakfast and Books” program at the Tallahassee PACE Center for Girls during her tenure as President.

Judge McKinney is a graduate of Howard University and the University of Florida College of Law. She is married to Reginald Riley with one adult daughter, Regina.



RUTH STONE

2003-2004

Professor Ruth Stone, co-directed the Florida State University College of Law Public Interest Law Center, and served as the Wayne and Pat Hogan Professor of Trial Practice.

She directed the Family Law Clinic at the Public Interest Law Center and served as faculty advisor and a coach for the College of Law's Mock Trial Team. Under her leadership, the Mock Trial Team has won first place in numerous statewide and national competitions, including the 2012 National Criminal Trial Advocacy Competition held in San Francisco in October.

A 1976 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, Stone joined the law school faculty in 1995. Prior to her teaching career, Stone practiced with Florida Legal Services in Pensacola, served as an assistant state attorney in the juvenile division of the State Attorney's Office, and was the managing attorney for the Gadsden Region of Legal Services Corporation of Alabama.

ELIZABETH DEMME

2004-2005



MARY ELLEN CLARK

2005-2006

Mary Ellen Clark is the Chief Legal Counsel for the Florida Commission on Human Relations. A native Floridian, Mary Ellen is an A-V rated attorney who graduated with honors from the FSU College of Law and Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

Prior to joining the FCHR, Mary Ellen was a member of the Office of Court Education with the Office of the State Courts Administrator, a Senior Vice President with BankFlorida, a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Administrative Law Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General, a hearing officer for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and a prosecutor for the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

Mary Ellen is a past Chair of the Government Lawyer Section of The Florida Bar and a past president of the Florida Government Bar Association and the Tallahassee Women Lawyers.



SHA'RON JAMES

2006-2007

Sha'Ron James is an Of Counsel Shareholder on the Government Affairs team at Gunster. Sha'Ron has over two decades of experience providing forward thinking, strategic advice to clients on a number of business and regulatory matters.

Sha'Ron received her Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Florida A & M University, a Master of Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs at Syracuse University, a Juris Doctor from the University of Florida, and an Advanced Project Management certification from Stanford University.

Sha'Ron most recently served as the Insurance Consumer Advocate for the state of Florida, where she represented insurance consumers and the public before state regulators and the courts. As a policyholder advocate, she championed key healthcare legislation that led to reforms in unfair consumer billing practices, intervened in triple digit long-term care insurance rate filings and in the proposed merger and acquisition of two of the largest health insurance carriers in the country.

Through her public service and civic engagement, Sha'Ron has earned an outstanding reputation in the community for her leadership and commitment to civic, charitable and professional organizations, garnering her the trust and respect of some of the state's most influential decision makers. A member of Leadership Florida Class 37, Sha'Ron currently serves as the President of the National African American Insurance Association of Florida, Immediate Past Chair of Leadership Tallahassee, and Chair of the Community & Prosperity Community for the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.



CHASITY O'STEEN

2007-2008

Chasity H. O'Steen has been the Leon County Attorney since April 2020. Prior to her appointment, Ms. O'Steen worked in private practice and served as General Counsel of the State of Florida's Department of Management Services and Department of Financial Services.

Ms. O'Steen received a Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctorate degrees from Florida State University. She has represented state and local governments in a variety of areas, including ethics, public records and Sunshine law, procurement and contracts, federal and state grant funding, water and wastewater utilities, finance, labor and employment law, real estate, and civil litigation.

Ms. O'Steen is a member of the member of the Executive Council of the City, County and Local Government Section of The Florida Bar, and she has previously served on the Second Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee and as a member of the Second Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission. Ms. O'Steen is also a Past-President of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers.



KIMBERLY DRIGGERS

2008-2009

Kimberly A. Driggers is the owner of Driggers Law, PA, where she represents the Florida Chiropractic Association as its General Counsel and serves as one of their Lobbyists. For the prior twenty-plus years, Kimberly was in private practice in Orlando and Tallahassee, Florida, initially representing the interests of insurance companies in their defense of injury and insurance claims. After a number of years and for the majority of her practice, she put her insurance knowledge to use in representing medical providers, injured patients, and homeowners in the denial of insurance benefits, litigating insurance claims in courts throughout Florida.

Kimberly is well known in the area of Personal Injury Protection insurance law (No-Fault or PIP insurance) and has authored numerous articles, testifies regularly in the Florida Legislature, and lectures for the Florida Chiropractic Association throughout the State of Florida. She is a longstanding member of the National Association of Chiropractic Attorneys.

In August 2019, Kimberly became the first Non-Chiropractor and seventh woman since 1963, to be elected to the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the international testing agency for the chiropractic profession that develops, administers and scores standardized exams for the chiropractic profession.

She received her B.A. in Psychology Magna Cum Laude from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida in 1990. Kimberly attended the Florida State University College of Law, receiving her J.D. in 1994.



GIGI ROLLINI

2009-2010

Gigi Rollini is a Shareholder with the Florida firm of Stearns Weaver Miller, and leads its statewide Government & Administrative Law Practice Group. Her practice is focused on all aspects of Florida administrative law, including litigation and appeals, regulatory compliance, licensure, administrative complaints and disciplinary proceedings, government procurement and bid protests, rulemaking, monitoring and challenges, state taxation, election law, and non-profit and trade association formation, compliance and management.

Gigi is AV-Preeminent Rated in Florida administrative, appellate, and civil litigation, currently serves on The Florida Bar's Administrative Law Section Executive Council, and is a past two-term member of Florida's Appellate Court Rules Committee. She currently serves as an executive officer of the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL), and is slated to serve as NAWL's president in 2025. She is a past president of TWL (2009-2010) and the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) (2010-2011). She has been named one of Florida's "Top 50 Women Lawyers" by *Super Lawyers* and one of *The Best Lawyers in America* for administrative and regulatory law, is routinely named one of Florida's "Legal Elite," "Top Rated Lawyers," and a "Super Lawyer" in both administrative and appellate law, and has been honored as a FAWL "Extraordinary Woman," a Tallahassee "Woman You Need to Know," and a Girl Scout Council "Woman of Distinction in Law." Gigi is also a two-time past president of America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend.



TWYLA SKETCHLEY

2010-2011

Twyla Sketchley is a Florida Bar Board Certified Elder Law Attorney. She is licensed to practice law in Montana and Florida and founded The Sketchley Law Firm, P.A. in Tallahassee in 2002. Twyla's practice focuses on elder law, guardianship, fiduciary representation, and elder law related litigation. She is a past Chair of the Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar and a past President of the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys (AFELA).

In addition to being an active member of the Florida Bar and its Sections, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Florida Association for Women Lawyers, and the Montana Bar, Twyla is active in her community. She works with statewide organizations that work to develop laws and rules that improve the lives of elders. She is a frequent speaker to community organizations regarding elder law issues. She speaks to national organizations about elder law, caregiving, and exploitation.

In her spare time, she gardens, sews, visits National Parks with her husband, and spends time with her family.



JENNIFER SULLIVAN

2011-2012

Jennifer Sullivan is a shareholder in Carr Allison's Tallahassee (FL) office where her practice focuses on personal injury, general litigation and transportation. Licensed to practice in Florida and Georgia, Jen holds an AV Preeminent peer-review rating from Martindale Hubbell. She is the past President of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) and Tallahassee Women Lawyers chapter, and prior board member of Okaloosa FAWL.

Before joining Carr Allison, Jen defended matters of bodily and catastrophic injury, wrongful death, property damage and construction defect, employment and professional liability. She also has experience with the defense of police conduct, Fourth Amendment/1983, search and seizure, qualified immunity and excessive force.

Jen received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Florida State University, graduating *cum laude* with a major in communications. She was selected to Phi Beta Kappa. She went on to earn her Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Florida State University College of Law.

A self-proclaimed military brat, Jen enjoys spending time with her husband, son and playing with their puppy dogs.



MEGHAN BOUDREAU DAIGLE

2012-2013



LINDA BOND EDWARDS

2013-2014

During her term as TWL president, Linda Bond Edwards' signature program was *Girls Where They Are*. The inaugural program partnered with Nims Middle School to identify about 20 "at promise" girls. Their day started at the Florida Supreme Court and TWL members made sure that they spent time in all three branches of government. The girls had lunch on the 24th Floor of the Capitol followed by a visit to the Florida Senate chambers. Their day ended at DOAH, an Executive Branch agency where they engaged in a mock trial. The goal of the program was to introduce the girls to the legal profession at an early age so that could see what they could become.

Linda was TWL president during the tenure of the first African American president of the Florida Bar, Eugene Pettis. She had the privilege of being invited by President Pettis to serve on a statewide task force that looked at diversity on the bench.



JESSICA LEIGH ELDRIDGE

2014-2015



CATHERINE CHAPMAN

2015-2016

Catherine Chapman (1973-2019) was an equity shareholder at Guilday Law, P.A., and practiced in a variety of civil law areas, including administrative and regulatory, appellate, business, litigation, employment, healthcare, insurance coverage and defense, nursing home defense, and professional liability. She received many honors, including being named a Superlawyers Rising Star and a Florida Association of Women Lawyers “Leader in the Law.”

For TWL, Catherine served for years on the Board of Directors, advancing the cause of TWL’s mission to promote the status of women in the legal community and the community at large. She was a faithful and diligent President in 2015 and 2016, and most recently served as the Director of CLE.

During Catherine’s Presidency, she successfully established the TWL Foundation to increase TWL’s charitable giving and positive impact in the community. TWL was honored to recognize Catherine’s dedication and service, and awarded her the Inspirational Service Award in 2013. One of her latest endeavors was to establish a Lactation Room at the Leon County Courthouse.

TWL honors Catherine each year through its Catherine Chapman Pro Bono Service Award.



CHRISTIN GONZALEZ

2016-2017

Christin Gonzalez obtained her Juris Doctorate in 2011 from the Florida State University College of Law, where she graduated with honors and served as a member of the Florida State University Law Review. Christin joined the firm as an associate attorney in 2011, and became a named partner in 2018.

Christin practices exclusively in the area of marital and family law, including family law appeals. Christin is Past President of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers and an active member of the First District Appellate Inn of Court. She is also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Law Mediator and certified in Collaborative Law Process. In May of 2019, Christin became Board Certified in Marital and Family Law by the Florida Bar.



HON. RACHEL NORDBY

2017-2018

Rachel Nordby was appointed to the First District Court of Appeal on October 16, 2019 by Governor Ron DeSantis; she took office on October 23, 2019.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Nordby was a partner in the Tallahassee office of Shutts & Bowen LLP and served as Vice-Chair of the firm's Appellate Practice Group. Before joining Shutts & Bowen, Judge Nordby served as the Senior Deputy Solicitor General for Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi. In this role, she represented the State, its agencies, and public officials in cases involving constitutional challenges and issues of statewide impact.

Before joining the Office of the Attorney General, Judge Nordby clerked for Judge Bradford L. Thomas on Florida's First District Court of Appeal. Judge Nordby is a 2008 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of The Florida State University Law Review and interned in the chambers of Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead. She earned her undergraduate degree in Classical Studies, summa cum laude, from the University of Florida.



CHRISTIAN MORETZ

2018-2019

Christian Moretz is a shareholder in the Tallahassee office of VLP Copenhaver Espino, with a practice that primarily pertains to representation of contractors, subcontractors, and sureties on Florida's public construction sites. Although Christian's passion is litigation, she also has a robust transactional practice--drafting and negotiating a variety of contracts, ranging from project subcontracts to joint venture agreements. She frequently advises contractor and subcontractor clients on a variety of pre- and post-bid contract risks and business disputes. Christian often lectures on construction-related topics such as pre-bid considerations, contract negotiation, mitigating contractual risks, claims presentation and preservation, liens, bonds, and design-build delivery method issues.

Christian originally hails from Orange City, Florida. She is a double Nole, having received both her Bachelor of Science in Political Science and English and Juris Doctorate from Florida State University. Christian is married to Jamie Moretz, Vice President at CWR Contracting. They love spending time with their sons, Alexander and Jake, and are thrilled to announce their daughter, Claire, is on the way!



MAGIE OZAROWSKI

2019-2020

Magie Ozarowski is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Florida College of Law. She started her career in California, in private practice, in toxic tort defense litigation and later, general business litigation. For the last 10+ years, Magie has been working as a government attorney for the State of Florida, currently serving as the Deputy General Counsel for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

In her spare time, Magie volunteers her time for the Florida Bar, as the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Professionalism, as an alum of the Leadership Academy, and on the Second Circuit Grievance Committee. She has also served as a dedicated Guardian ad Litem volunteer since 2014. Currently, she also serves on the Second Circuit Pro Bono Committee and as a Board member of the Stafford Inn of Court.

Magie's year as president of TWL coincided with both TWL's Celebration of the ratification of the 20th Amendment to the United States Constitution and the early days of the Covid pandemic. The former occurred just days before the world shut down in 2020. In the weeks that followed, Magie and her TWL Board quickly implemented virtual meetings and paved the way for next two years of TWL leadership in Covid times.



HANNAH MONROE

2020-2021

Hannah Monroe served as President of Tallahassee Women Lawyers during the 2020-2021 board year. Her year serving as President followed her years of service on the board as Awards Chair, Treasurer, and President-Elect.

Hannah is a eighth-generation Floridian from Waukeelah, Florida. After graduating from the FSU College of Law in 2012, Hannah clerked for the Honorable Robert L. Hinkle of the Northern District of Florida. She has worked as an assistant public defender for the Second Judicial Circuit, an associate with Rumberger Kirk, and as an assistant city attorney for the City of Tallahassee.

Hannah currently works as a research and writing attorney for LawCite, LLC. Hannah also serves expecting families as a certified birth doula. In addition to her involvement with TWL, she is a member of the Board of Directors for Brehon Family Services. Hannah and her husband Patrick Flemming have two children, a 3 year old daughter and a 2 month old son.



MOLLI MCGUIRE

2021-2022

The daughter of a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, Molli McGuire was born and raised in a rural area near North Tampa, Florida. She was accepted into the Honors Program at Florida State University and graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Psychology. Molli was then accepted to attend Stetson University College of Law on a full-tuition scholarship. Molli graduated cum laude from Stetson in December of 2015, in only two and a half years, and finished third overall in her class.

While at Stetson, she earned the Victor O. Wehle award for excellence in trial advocacy. After graduation, she achieved one of the five top scores on the bar exam and spoke at the swearing-in ceremony for new attorneys at the First District Court of Appeals in Tallahassee, Florida.

Molli has served in various leadership roles with several bar organizations and has exclusively represented plaintiffs in personal injury actions since 2015. Currently, she represents injured clients through her firm, McGuire Litigation, and provides research and writing services for other injury firms through LawCite as their Senior Attorney and Director of Research and Education.