

Membership Directory



Connecting People With Courts



**Roger L. Crittenden, KAJC
Chair
Circuit Judge (ret.)
Frankfort, Ky.**

Judge Roger L. Crittenden spent 25 years as a circuit and district judge for Franklin County before retiring and joining the Senior Judges Program in 2006. He began his career on the bench as a district judge in 1980 and was elected to a circuit judgeship in 1991. Prior to serving the judiciary, Judge Crittenden was an assistant to the secretary of the Kentucky Department of Human Resources and legal counsel for the Kentucky Council on Higher Education.

Judge Crittenden holds a juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law and a bachelor's degree in political science from Georgetown (Ky.) College. He attended the Fels Institute of Government, a graduate program in public policy and public management at the University of Pennsylvania.

Judge Crittenden is a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War.



Roula Allouch

Attorney

O'Hara, Ruberg, Taylor, Sloan & Sergent

Crestview Hills, Ky.

Roula Allouch is an associate attorney with O'Hara, Ruberg, Taylor, Sloan & Sergent. She focuses her practice in the areas of employment law, civil rights, Islamic family law and civil litigation. Ms. Allouch also prepares Islamic wills.

Ms. Allouch grew up in Central Kentucky and has lived most of her life in Kentucky. She is fluent in Arabic and involved in a number of community organizations.

She participates in multiple interfaith dialogues in the Cincinnati area, often giving talks in local places of worship as a part of the dialogue programs.



Jeffrey A. Been
Executive Director
Legal Aid Society of Louisville
Louisville, Ky.

Jeffrey A. Been is executive director of the Legal Aid Society of Louisville. He previously served as project director for the HIV/AIDS Legal Project and as a prosecutor, judicial law clerk and staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit.

He was also on the faculty at the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis and was director of the AIDS Legal Project for Indiana Legal Services. He currently serves as an adjunct faculty member for the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law.

Mr. Been is the author of several articles on constitutional rights. He is a member of the Indiana and Kentucky Bar associations and has served as a board member on various civic and professional organizations, including the LBA and the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission.

He is the recipient of the Brandeis School of Law's Dean Service Award and the LBA's Justice Martin E. Johnstone Special Recognition Award.

Myral Bender

Retired Educator

Central City, Ky.

Myral Bender is a retired educator who spent 32 years with the Muhlenberg County Board of Education. She spent 20 years in school social work as a coordinator for the Family Resource Center and 12 years as director of pupil personnel.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Brescia College in Owensboro, Ky., and a master's degree and Rank I in administration from Western Kentucky University.

Ms. Bender is a founding member of the Central City BPW Outstanding Young Woman organization, president of the Kentucky Association for School Social Work, and founding member and board member of the Family Resource/Youth Service Center of Kentucky.



Bill Cunningham
Justice, Supreme Court of Kentucky
Princeton, Ky.

Justice Bill Cunningham was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 2006 to serve the First Supreme Court District. Before becoming a member of the state's highest court, Justice Cunningham was a circuit judge for 15 years. He was elected to the Circuit Court bench in November 1991 to serve the 56th Judicial Circuit, which consists of Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties. He was re-elected in 1999 and was a circuit judge until January 2007.

Justice Cunningham served the legal system in several capacities before beginning his judicial career. He was the Eddyville city attorney from 1974 to 1991 and public defender for the Kentucky State Penitentiary from 1974 to 1976. He served as commonwealth's attorney for the 56th Judicial District from 1976 to 1988. During his tenure in that position, he was voted the Outstanding Commonwealth's Attorney of Kentucky by his peers. Justice Cunningham also served as a hearing officer for the Kentucky Board of Claims from 1981 to 1985 and as a trial commissioner for Lyon County District Court from 1989 to 1992.

Justice Cunningham earned his bachelor's degree from Murray State University in 1962 and his juris doctor in 1969 from the University of Kentucky College of Law. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Vietnam, Korea and Germany.

The Lyon County native is the author of six books about regional history, which chronicle the struggle for racial justice in western Kentucky since the Civil War.



Helen Deines, Ed.D., M.S.S.W.
Professor of Social Work Emeritus
Spalding University, Louisville
Louisville, Ky.

Dr. Helen Deines is a professor of social work emeritus for Spalding University in Louisville. She holds an A.B. in history from Stanford University, a M.Ed. from Oregon State University, a M.S.S.W. from the University of Louisville and an Ed.D. from Spalding University.

Dr. Deines's current work focuses on the intersection between race, poverty and social inequity. She serves on the leadership team of Kentucky's Race, Community and Child Welfare Initiative and on the board of directors of the National Institute for Children, Youth and Families.

She is a frequent trainer and consultant to Kentucky human service agencies and has received numerous recognitions for her teaching and work with the community's poor, the homeless and people with HIV/AIDS. She is a member of Louisville's Catholic Community of the Epiphany.



Laurie K. Dudgeon

Director

Administrative Office of the Courts

Frankfort, Ky.

As director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, Laurie K. Dudgeon oversees nearly 3,300 employees, including 403 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. She administers the \$300 million Judicial Branch budget, drafts and promotes passage of legislation affecting the courts, and works with officials at the county, state and national levels.

Since being named director in 2009, Director Dudgeon has commissioned the National Center for State Courts to audit the AOC in an effort to achieve a leaner, more efficient organizational structure. She has also overseen the court system's largest personnel reduction in recent memory in response to the state budget crisis. She is currently leading the Judicial Branch's efforts to replace its obsolete case management system with a new one that would support support e-filing, e-records, video conferencing and an automated payable process and improve the flow of information among all four levels of the court system.

She previously served as executive director of the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy and as a staff attorney in the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet. She gained experience in constitutional law, employment law, administrative law, and commercial and residential real estate law during nine years in private practice at three law firms in Kentucky and South Carolina.

She earned a bachelor's degree and a law degree from the University of Kentucky.



Krissie Coe Fields
Barren County Circuit Court Clerk
Glasgow, Ky.

Krissie Coe Fields was appointed circuit court clerk for Barren County in June 2006 and elected to a six-year term in November 2006. Ms. Fields previously served three and one-half years on the Barren County Fiscal Court and six years on the Glasgow City Council.

She holds a bachelor's degree in public relations and criminology and a master's degree in organizational communication from Western Kentucky University.

Ms. Fields resides in Glasgow and is active in her community. She is a member and a past president of the Glasgow-Barren County Chamber of Commerce and a volunteer with the Barren River Animal Welfare Association and other civic organizations in Glasgow and Barren County.



Rep. Kelly Flood
Kentucky House of Representatives
Lexington, Ky.

Born April 14, 1959. Unitarian Universalist. Vice Pres for Advancement. Starr King School for the Ministry. Florida State Univ, BA Am Studies. Starr King School for the Ministry, Minister Emerita. Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington. Philanthropist of the year for Carnegie Center. Assoc of Fundraising Professionals.

Interim Committees. BR Sub. on Postsecondary Education [Liaison Member]; Economic Development and Tourism; Education; Judiciary

Session Committees. Appropriations & Revenue (H); BR Sub. on Postsecondary Education (H); Education (H); Judiciary (H); Tourism Development & Energy (H)

Statutory Committees. Program Review and Investigations Comm. [Co-Chair]



Jennifer Frazier, J.D., M.L.S.
Kentucky State Law Librarian
Frankfort, Ky.

Jennifer Frazier began working with the State Law Library in 2003 and became the state law librarian in September 2006. She received a bachelor's degree in history from Northern Kentucky University, a juris doctor from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Kentucky. She was admitted to the Kentucky Bar in October 2001.

Ms. Frazier was a member of the three-person team that represented Kentucky at the Public Libraries and Access to Justice Conference in Austin, Texas, in January 2010. The conference was presented by the Self-Represented Litigation Network and the National Center for State Courts in cooperation with the Legal Services Corporation.

She was also a panel member at the National Association of Legal Aid and Defenders Conference in November 2010 where she gave a presentation on Libraries and Access to Justice. She continues to work with the team Kentucky sent to Austin on bringing together libraries and the Access to Justice community.



James T. Gilbert

**Partner, Coy, Gilbert, Gilbert Law Office
Richmond, Ky.**

James T. Gilbert is a partner with Coy, Gilbert, Gilbert Law Office and has been in private practice in Madison County, Ky., since 1975. He has been corporation counsel for the City of Berea since 1976. He was an assistant county/commonwealth's attorney from 1978 to 1980 and a special deputy attorney general in 1981. He has also been a special justice on the Supreme Court of Kentucky.

He is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court/Eastern District of Kentucky, the U.S. Court of Appeals/Sixth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Gilbert was a 2009 fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and is the 2011 president of the Kentucky Justice Association. He is also a member of the American Association for Justice, the Kentucky Municipal Lawyers Association and the Kentucky Bank Counsel Association.

His many civic activities include serving on the Center for Performing Arts Board (chair 2007-2010), the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents and on the boards of Berea Hospital, the Boy Scouts of America/Bluegrass Council and the United Way of Madison County. He has been a director of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Madison County since 2006.

He is a certified civil trial specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and a fellow of the National College of Advocacy. He earned an A.B. from Eastern Kentucky University, a juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law and a master of laws from the University of Illinois. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 197



Dennis Honabach
Dean, Northern Kentucky University
Chase College of Law
Highland Heights, Ky.

Dennis Honabach has served as dean and professor of law at Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law since 2006. He came to Chase from Washburn University School of Law, where he had served as dean and professor. Under his leadership, NKU/Chase established the Center for Excellence in Advocacy and the Transactional Law Practice Center and opened its Small Business & Nonprofit Law Clinic, the first of its kind in the region.

Dean Honabach graduated cum laude with an A.B. in economics from Bucknell University and received his juris doctor from Yale University. After graduation he practiced law in Pittsburgh with the law firm of Kirkpatrick, Lockhart, Johnson & Hutchison. He then joined the faculty at Vermont Law School and later the faculties of Rutgers-Camden School of Law and the District of Columbia School of Law. Dean Honabach served as president, dean, professor of law and founding director of the Entrepreneurial Law Center at Western State University College of Law from 1996 to 2001.

Dean Honabach has co-authored books on directors and officers liability (D & O Liability Handbook, West Group 1994-2011 editions) and proxy rules (Proxy Rules Handbook, West Group 2001-2011 editions). He has published law review articles on topics ranging from managerial liability and Enron to toxic torts and nuisance law. He is a member of the Salmon P. Chase Inn of Court.



M. Holliday (Hollie) Hopkins
General Counsel
Office of the Governor
Frankfort, Ky.

M. Holliday (Hollie) Hopkins currently serves as general counsel to the Office of the Governor. She previously was executive director of the Office of Legal Services for the Public Protection Cabinet and general counsel to the Finance and Administration Cabinet.

Prior to returning to state government, she served as counsel to Frost Brown Todd LLC and was a partner with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, Ms. Hopkins concentrated her private practice in general and commercial litigation, with an emphasis on matters involving state and local government entities, including several matters of first impression involving questions of Kentucky constitutional law.

Ms. Hopkins graduated cum laude from Vanderbilt University in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in economics. She is a 1984 graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law. She is on the board of directors of the United Way of Kentucky.



Margaret “Maggie” E. Keane
Attorney
Greenebaum Doll & McDonald PLLC
Litigation and Dispute Resolution
Louisville, Ky.

As an attorney with Greenebaum Doll & McDonald PLLC, Margaret (Maggie) E. Keane is a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group and co-chair of the Beverage Alcohol Team. Her practice focuses on defense of products liability actions, general commercial litigation, defending employers in various employment actions and representing parties in family law actions.

She was a Dean’s Scholar at the University of Louisville where she earned a bachelor’s degree with high honors in 1979. She graduated magna cum laude with the Outstanding Senior Award from the U of L Brandeis School of Law in 1982.

Ms. Keane is admitted to practice before the courts in Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky; the U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit; the U.S. Court of Federal Claims; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; and the U.S. Supreme Court.

She is a member of numerous professional associations, including the Defense Research Institute, the Kentucky Defense Counsel and Trial Attorneys of America. She is a master and a past president of the Louis D. Brandeis American Inn of Court at Louisville.



Glenn D. Leveridge
Central Bank/Winchester Market
President
Winchester, Ky.

Glenn D. Leveridge has served as Central Bank/Winchester Market president since 2008. He previously was president of JPMorgan Chase/Lexington Market.

He is chair of the board for Hindman Settlement School and is on the board of directors for Central Baptist Hospital and Baptist Hospital Systems. He is also on advisory councils for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and the Bluegrass Community and Technical College/Clark County.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Morehead State University and graduated from the LSU Graduate School of Banking. He has been named to the MSU Alumni Hall of Fame and was a recipient of the East Kentucky Leadership Foundation's Professional Leadership Award 2010.



Stevie Lowery
Editor/General Manager
The Lebanon Enterprise
Lebanon, Ky.

Stevie Lowery is publisher of The Lebanon Enterprise, a weekly newspaper in Lebanon, Ky. She joined The Lebanon Enterprise as a staff writer in 2002 and was later promoted to editor/general manager before being named publisher.

Ms. Lowery serves on the board of directors for the Kentucky Press Association.

She is a native of Marion County, Ky., and a graduate of Marion County High School. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in mass communications from Murray State University.



Mark Maier

Associate

English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley

Bowling Green, Ky.

Mark Maier currently serves as an associate attorney with English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley in Bowling Green. During law school, he clerked for Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. and the Appeals Branch of the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy.

Mr. Maier served in AmeriCorps for two years prior to attending law school. He spent the first year as a volunteer with AmeriCorps VISTA and worked with a literacy development and community schools program at Iroquois High School and Western Middle School in Louisville.

As an AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) team leader the second year, he led a team of 10 who responded to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in Louisiana, offered tax assistance programs in Seattle and worked as a wildland firefighter in Crown King, Ariz.

He chaired the 2010-11 American Bar Association's Young Lawyers' Access to Justice Commission.

Mr. Maier is a graduate of Centre College and the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Donald R. Mitchell

Retired Educator

Burna, Ky.

Donald Mitchell currently serves as consultant/interim director of the McCracken County Community Career Endowment, a nonprofit organization established to mentor and help further the education of African-American students in Paducah and McCracken County. He is also past president and board member.

Mr. Mitchell has been a member of Carpenter's Local Union 357 since 1973, retiring in 2007 after 18 years as a business representative. He is a former trustee on the Carpenters Pension, Health & Welfare and Annuity Trust Funds and the Apprenticeship and Training Fund.

He is involved in community affairs. He served six years on the Kentucky State Labor/Management Conference Board and was co-chair for two years. He has served on the boards of the West Kentucky Community and Technical College, the Paducah Chamber of Commerce, the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board and the Paducah/McCracken County Convention Center. He is a recipient of the NAACP Curlee Brown Award.

Mr. Mitchell graduated from Livingston Central High School and attended Paducah Community College. He is an active member of Oaklawn Baptist Church, where he has served on various committees. He is currently church moderator, assistant Sunday School teacher, director of God's Children Ministry and van driver.



Donald P. Moloney II

Partner

Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney PLLC

Lexington, Ky.

As partner with Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney PLLC, Donald P. Moloney's practice is principally in the area of litigation. He focuses on insurance defense, civil litigation, medical negligence, nursing home litigation, health care law, mediation, personal injury, products liability and business litigation. He has been a trained mediator since 1992 and is actively mediating cases primarily in the area of personal injury.

He has been admitted to practice before the courts in Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky; the U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit; and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Moloney was born in Lexington, Ky., where he has spent most of his life. He previously served as an assistant Fayette county attorney and as a law clerk for the Kentucky Court of Appeals. He holds a bachelor's degree from Xavier University and a juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law.



Jeannine Owens
Retired FEMA Official
Pikeville, Ky.

After serving 21 years at FEMA, Jeannine Owens retired and became director of the Pike County Housing Authority. She was a founding member of the Sandy Valley Habitat for Humanity and served as its Family Selection chair for six years.

She has been an active member of Helping I-land of Pikeville. She has also served on the Pikeville Library board and on the Pikeville Concert Association.

Ms. Owens was born in Pikeville, Ky., and is a graduate of Pikeville High School. As a lifelong member of Pikeville United Methodist Church, she has served on various committees. She is currently church historian and a member of the administrative board.

Ms. Owens is also active in the United Methodist Women. She previously served as a conference officer of the United Methodist Women.



Kathleen Pellegrino
Former Vice President
and Deputy General Counsel
Humana Inc.
Louisville, Ky.

Kathleen Pellegrino served as vice president and deputy general counsel for Humana Inc. from 1982 to March 2010. In that position she provided legal and administrative direction for a 30-person legal department of attorneys and paralegals who provided legal assistance to operating companies in multiple states.

While at Humana Inc., Ms. Pellegrino developed and initiated the company's Corporate Compliance Program. She also worked with the American Association of Health Plans and the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a model compliance program for the managed care industry. In addition, she resolved major litigation involving providers, shareholders and others.

Prior to her career with Humana Inc., Ms. Pellegrino was an associate with Segal, Isenberg, Sales & Stewart where she specialized in labor and employment law. She also was a night state editor for The Associated Press and a general assignment and labor reporter for the Kansas City Star.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism with honors from the University of Texas at Austin and graduated cum laude with a juris doctor from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. She is currently a board member for the Home of the Innocents.



Rev. Willis Garnett Polk
Pastor, Imani Baptist Church
Lexington, Ky.

Willis Garnett Polk is founder and pastor of Imani Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky. Rev. Polk graduated from Georgetown (Ky.) College and attended graduate studies at the Lexington Theological Seminary.

He has been active in many civic, social and political activities.

Rev. Polk has also served extensively in the Progressive National Baptist Convention.



Judge Kimberly Winkenhofer Shumate

**Chief District Judge, Hardin County
Elizabethtown, Ky.**

Kimberly Winkenhofer Shumate began her career on the bench with an appointment to a Hardin County district judgeship in 1997 and she currently serves as chief district judge. She is a member of the Kentucky Compensation Commission and the Kentucky Access to Justice Commission by appointment of the chief justice. She is a regular presenter at judicial colleges for her fellow judges and she speaks on law-related topics in Hardin County.

Judge Shumate has been instrumental in establishing Teen Court and Drug Court in Hardin County and she assists each year with the state high school mock trial tournament. Judge Shumate has been a member of the Governor's Judicial Advisory Council on Domestic Violence and is co-chair of Bridges, the Hardin County Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Council.

She is one of two judges in Kentucky commended by the Department of Juvenile Justice for her work in juvenile delinquency prevention. She was also given the 2002 Kentucky Citizen Foster Care Review Board's Outstanding Judge Award and the 2008 NAACP Humanitarian Award.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University where she graduated as a President's Scholar in 1984. She graduated from the Vanderbilt University School of Law as the Cheatham Scholar for the Class of 1987. Prior to serving as a judge, she was in practice with the Louisville firm of Brown, Todd & Heyburn and the Hardin County firm of Skeeters & Bennett.



Senator Brandon D. Smith
Kentucky Senate
Hazard, Ky.

Sen. Smith is a lifelong resident of Hazard, Ky. He graduated from the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's degree in political science. He is a member and past president of the Lions Club and Masonic Lodge 676 and a member of the Oleika Shrine Temple in Lexington. He has also served as a district commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America and den leader for Pack 90 in Hazard.

Sen. Smith was first elected to office in 1993 as a city commissioner for the city of Hazard. During five years in that office, he was responsible for legislation to create the enhanced 911 emergency call center. He also opened the first recycling center in Eastern Kentucky, started the downtown revitalization development and enacted the toughest anti-littering laws in the state, which were repealed after he left office.

After leaving the city commission, he was elected to the House of Representatives where he served for eight years. He was on several committees, including Banking and Insurance, Natural Resources and Environment, and Economic Development. He was appointed as a minority member to the National Legislative Effectiveness Committee for the National Conference of State Legislatures by the Democratic speaker of the house.

Sen. Smith won the open senate seat created when Sen. Daniel Mongiardo was elected lieutenant governor. He sits on many committees in the Senate, including Appropriations and Revenue, Transportation, and Banking and Insurance. He chairs the Natural Resource and Energy Committee.



Dr. Michael D. Storey Sr.
Pastor,
New Birth Kingdom Dominion Ministries
Union, Ky.

Michael Storey was born in Covington, Ky., and enlisted in the U.S. Army after high school. While in the Army he became a licensed practical nurse. He spent six years in active service and eight years in the reserves. In 1994, he pursued his bachelor's degree in natural health.

He opened two health food stores and was a district manager for the Nature Sunshine Company for eight years.

Dr. Storey has been serving in the ministry for more than 30 years. In 1999 he obtained his master's degree in biblical studies and went into full-time ministry. Dr. Storey founded the New Birth International Ministries Inc. in 2000 and formed New Birth Kingdom Dominion Ministries Inc. in 2010. During his ministry, many people have been saved, delivered and healed. The church has been involved in several outreach programs, such as health and wellness, street evangelizing, holiday food and clothes drives, and nursing home, jail, youth detention center and prison ministries.

He continued his passion for learning and obtained his Ph.D. in counseling in 2005. Every Sunday morning for three years, Dr. Storey was on the Reaping the Harvest for God broadcast on a local Christian radio station where he taught on the laws of health and well-being.

Dr. Storey is currently serving as chaplain for the Florence Freedom, a minor professional league baseball team. He resides in Union, Ky.



Janet L. Stumbo
Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals
Prestonsburg, Ky.

In 1989, Janet L. Stumbo became the first woman from the 7th Appellate District to be elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals. At that time, she was only the second woman to serve on the Court of Appeals and the first woman to be elected without having first been appointed. Judge Stumbo served four years with the Court of Appeals before being the first woman elected (again without having first been appointed) to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 1993.

She was re-elected to a full eight-year term on the Supreme Court in 1996. While a Supreme Court justice she served as chair of the Civil Rules Committee and the Family Court Consortium, a statewide committee appointed by then Chief Justice Robert F. Stephens to implement a pilot project for Family Court. In November 2006, two years after completing her Supreme Court tenure, Judge Stumbo was elected to the Court of Appeals for a second time to represent the 7th Appellate District.

Judge Stumbo earned her bachelor's degree from Morehead State University and her juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law. She began her legal career as a staff attorney to the late Judge Harris S. Howard of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. She entered private practice in 1982 with Turner, Hall & Stumbo, PSC. She also served as assistant Floyd County attorney for three years and sat on the board of directors of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky from 1983 to 1989. She became a partner in Stumbo, DeRossett & Pillersdorf in 1989, just before being elected to the Court of Appeals for the first time.



Tommy Thompson
Teacher, Pike County School System
Pikeville, Ky.

Tommy Thompson has been employed by the Pike County School System for 22 years. He spent five years at Johns Creek High School and has been at Pike County Central High School for 17 years.

Mr. Thompson's accomplishments include being named to the 2009 KHSSL (Kentucky High School Speech League) Hall of Fame and the 2009 KESDA (Kentucky Educational Speech and Drama Association) Hall of Fame. He was given the 1996 National Federation of State High School Associations Outstanding Speech Educator Award and named the 1995 Smoking Mountain Invitational High School Speech Coach of the Year.

He has also been a Diamond Coach for the National Forensics League, chair and member of the Leadership Team for the Pike Central Language Arts Department and a Morehead State/Pike Central dual-credit college speech instructor.

He holds a bachelor's degree and a master's in education from Morehead State University and a Rank I from Union College.



John Wilson
Garrard County Judge-Executive
Lancaster, Ky.

John Wilson has served as the Garrard County judge-executive since January 2007. He ran unopposed for re-election in 2010.

In 2010, Mr. Wilson was selected as one of 25 county leaders from across the country to participate in the County Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C. He was one of six to travel to Taiwan with the American Council of Young Political Leaders, a program funded by the U.S. Department of State.

Mr. Wilson previously practiced law with Sanders and Sanders in Lancaster, Ky. He also was a legislative aide to state Rep. Lonnie Napier and a communication specialist in the National Guard.

His civic involvement includes serving as president-elect of the Kentucky Association of Counties, chairman of the Garrard County Health Department, board member of the Garrard County Extension District and vice chairman of the Garrard County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Wilson also represented the Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association on the Kentucky Criminal Justice Council charged with recommending changes to Kentucky's penal code to the legislature.

Mr. Wilson graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky and as a member of the Order of the Curia from the Capital University School of Law in Columbus, Ohio. He resides in Garrard County.



Kathy H. Witt
Sheriff
Office of the Fayette County Sheriff
Lexington, Ky.

Sheriff Kathy H. Witt has been employed in the Lexington Criminal Justice Community for 28 years. She was elected as Lexington's first female sheriff in 1998 and today is the only female sheriff in Kentucky.

Prior to being elected sheriff, Sheriff Witt held every rank within the Sheriff's Office. She has devoted time and energy to the issue of domestic violence and Megan's law and has successfully testified before many legislative committees in an effort to strengthen Kentucky law in these areas. She has served on the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence and co-chaired that council's Training and Professional Development Subcommittee.

Sheriff Witt currently serves on the Fayette County Board of Elections, is chair of the Lexington Domestic Violence Prevention Board and is chair of the National Sheriff's Association's Domestic Violence Committee. She is a member of the Crime Victim Services Committee and the Standards, Ethics and Education Committee of the National Sheriffs Association.

She is a 20-year member of the Southern Region Committee of the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division. She was elected to the FBI CJIS Advisory Policy Board in 2004. In December 2010, Sheriff Witt was elected to serve as the Advisory Policy Board's first vice chair. She is the only female and the only sheriff in the nation to be elected to this position.

KAJC Administrative Staff



Jacqueline Syers Duncan
Access to Justice Foundation
Director, Kentucky Volunteer Lawyer
Program

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Jacqueline Syers Duncan has been director of the Kentucky Volunteer Lawyer Program since 2007. She previously served as an attorney with the Legal HelpLine for Older Kentuckians and with Jackson Kelly PLLC, where she focused on civil litigation with an emphasis on employment law.

Ms. Duncan has been admitted to practice before the courts in Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky; the U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky; and the U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit. She has completed general civil mediation training through the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts and the Kentucky Mediation Center.

Ms. Duncan graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree from Murray State University in 1982. She earned a juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where she was associate editor of the Kentucky Law Journal. She has served on the board of directors for several community organizations and as a volunteer for many others.



Katie Shepherd
Chief of Staff and
Counsel for the Office of Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Kentucky

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Frankfort, KY 40601
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Chief Justice John D. Minton Jr. named Katie Shepherd as his chief of staff and counsel in 2008. Ms. Shepherd had previously served as Chief Justice Minton's staff attorney in 2004 when he sat on the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

She took a position as a litigation associate at Bell, Orr, Ayers & Moore in Bowling Green, Ky., in 2005, and moved to Nashville in 2007 to be a litigation associate at Bass, Berry & Sims. She has also been an adjunct professor with the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Ms. Shepherd earned a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from UK in 1999. She returned to her alma mater to earn a law degree and graduated from the UK College of Law in 2004.

She served on the board of directors for the Bowling Green/Warren County Bar Association and Kids on the Block in Bowling Green. She was also involved with the Bowling Green Junior Woman's Club.



Leigh Anne Hiatt, APR
Public Information Officer
Administrative Office of the Courts

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As public information officer for the Office of Public Information of the Administrative Office of the Courts, Leigh Anne Hiatt handles media relations and supports the court system's communications program through publications, presentations, event support and website development.

She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Georgetown (Ky.) College and a master's degree in journalism from Indiana University-Bloomington. She is Accredited by the Public Relations Society of America.

Ms. Hiatt has spent her career in the field of public relations, having held positions at Rockcastle County Hospital, Marymount Hospital, Georgetown College, UnitedHealthcare and the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce before joining the AOC in 2002.

Note: Ms. Hiatt will be serving as the communications liaison for the Kentucky Access to Justice Commission. Please contact her with requests regarding news releases, media relations and other communications needs.



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Kentucky Access to Justice Commission
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