SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Please visit the BLI website at www.ambar.org/bli2018 for additional program information.
Julie Armstrong  
*Indianapolis, IN, Executive Director, Indianapolis Bar Association and Foundation*  
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Julie M. Armstrong is the Executive Director of the Indianapolis Bar Association and Foundation. During her tenure as with the Indy Bar, the association has developed and actively implemented seven long range strategic plans, consistently grown or maintained membership, more than tripled its operating budget, improved its structure and governance, and added innovative programs and initiatives for attorneys, paralegals, law students and the public. The association’s membership is 4,545 with an operating budget of $2.1 million.

Implementing new membership strategies, the IndyBar has grown membership by 7% since October 2017. Working to increase perceived value, the bar is rebranding programs and services, re-evaluating the format and effectiveness of over 230 events annually (CLEs and socials), and is redesigning its marketing and communications strategies. The bar has a staff of 13 FTEs maximized by the use of technology. The Indianapolis Bar Foundation also has experienced record growth during Armstrong’s service. Its annual fund campaign has increased its income and donor base by over 10% for 12 consecutive years with an annual fund income of more than $300,000 and a portfolio of more than $1 million. In recent years the Foundation has been focused on gaining greater visibility for its mission.

Julie has over twenty-five years of non-profit management experience having been the Assistant Director of an international fraternity, as well as serving as the fraternity’s foundation administrator. She currently serves as a Vice President to the National Association of Bar Executive’s Board of Directors and is a Past President of the Conference of Metropolitan Bar Associations. She is a graduate of Indiana State University. Professionally, she has been recognized for leadership having been named to the Indianapolis Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 and was honored by Ball State University with the Indiana Women of Achievement Award. Julie and her husband Bob have been married for more than 30 years and are the parents of three children.

Mary A. Augsburger  
*Columbus, OH, Executive Director, Ohio State Bar Association*  
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Mary Amos Augsburger is only the fourth executive director in the Ohio State Bar Association’s 133-year history, and the first woman to hold that position.

Originally from Mansfield, Ohio, she earned her law degree from Capital University Law School and her undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University. During law school, Mary spent her nights in the classroom and her days at the Ohio Statehouse, where she worked as a legislative aide. After graduating and passing the bar, she brought her legislative experience to her new role as general counsel and policy advisor for the Ohio Senate, a role she assumed at just 30 years of age.

Following her work as Senate legal counsel, Mary began private practice with then Squire Sanders & Dempsey in Columbus. She then returned to her true passion of public service, working as an executive for a state agency as a chief counsel and policy advisor, and then serving as the director of policy and public affairs for the Ohio Auditor of State. In 2012, she joined the OSBA as legislative counsel.

As executive director, Mary now leads the daily operations of an organization that serves a membership of more than 28,000 Ohio lawyers, judges and legal professionals. She works with her board, staff and members to create a vision for the OSBA that will serve its members well into the future. Mary also serves on the boards of the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation, Ohio State Bar Foundation, Ohio Public Defenders’ Commission, and the Ohio Bar Liability Insurance Company. She is also a member of Capital Law School’s Board of Counselors, as well as the OSU President’s Government Affairs Advisory Committee.

Meredith Z. Avakian  
*Philadelphia, PA, Director of Communications and Marketing, Philadelphia Bar Association*  
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In addition to working full-time as Director of Communications and Marketing at the Philadelphia Bar Association, Meredith Z. Avakian is also past president of the Philadelphia Public Relations Association (PPRA), chair of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Philadelphia Chapter’s Diversity & Inclusion Committee, an
adjunct professor at Temple University, and chair of a communications committee for Turning Points for Children. Prior to these positions, Meredith spent nearly eight years at DuPont working in a variety of global and regional roles.

In 2016, Meredith received the Anthony J. Fulginiti Commitment to Education Award from PRSA Philadelphia and was named on the first-ever “Who’s Next: Communications” list by Billy Penn. Meredith also received the Lew Klein Alumni in the Media Rising Star Award from Temple University’s School of Media and Communication and named a “Rising Star of PR” by PR News, a “Hero” by the American Red Cross and “Notable Alumni” by Temple University’s Department of Strategic Communications. PPRA has honored her with its Fast-Track Award & Dr. Jean Brodey Award. She is an active member of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) and speaks at conferences throughout the country. Meredith is a past chair of the Philadelphia chapter of the Armenian General Benevolent Union Young Professionals and has led communications efforts for the annual Armenian Genocide Walk.

In her “spare” time, she published two books of her own poetry – “Propaganda Begins with PR: Poetry for the Soul” and “PRhyme Time: Power of Poetry” – and has shared her poetry around the world.

Hilarie Bass
Miami, FL, President, American Bar Association
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As Co-President of international law firm Greenberg Traurig and a prolific trial attorney with a highly successful 30-plus year career, Hilarie Bass is one of the most recognized women attorneys in the United States. Hilarie is currently President of the American Bar Association, the world’s largest voluntary professional organization with more than 400,000 members. At Greenberg Traurig, she helps chart the course for the multi-practice firm with approximately 2,000 attorneys across 38 offices worldwide. She currently serves on the firm’s Executive Committee and previously served an eight-year term as national chair of its 600-member litigation department. Hilarie is also the founder and former chair of Greenberg Traurig’s Women’s Initiative.

Mentoring others in the legal field and giving back to the community has always been a top priority for Hilarie. She previously served as Chair of the Section of Litigation, the ABA’s largest section, where she spearheaded the creation of a Task Force on Implicit Bias in the Justice System. She also served as Chair of the Committee on Rules and Calendar, and as a member of the Board of Governors, House of Delegates and the State of Florida representative on the Nominating Committee. Hilarie serves as Vice Chair of University of Miami’s Board of Trustees. She was formerly Chair of the United Way of Miami-Dade County and a member of the ABA Commission on Women.

Her work is recognized throughout the industry, as Hilarie is consistently ranked in leading legal guides. She was most recently named “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation – Securities in 2016, by The Best Lawyers in America.

Michelle A. Behnke
Madison, WI, Past President, State Bar of Wisconsin, and Treasurer, American Bar Association
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Michelle is the principal of the firm Michelle Behnke & Associates, where her practice is focused on business, real estate and estate planning. She is active in her community and has served on a number of boards including Dean Health Plan, Inc., and SSM Healthcare of Wisconsin. She currently serves on the University of Wisconsin Law School Board of Visitors and is President of the International Women’s Forum-Wisconsin.

Michelle is involved in the American Bar Association, currently serving as the Treasurer. Michelle has also served on the ABA Board of Governors, formerly served as Chair of the Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services and she has served on the Standing Committee on Membership. She is also a past President and Treasurer of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Michelle received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Economics and her law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School. She has been listed in both the Best Lawyers in America and Wisconsin Super Lawyers since 2006. In 2015, she was named Lawyer of the Year, Real Estate, by Best Lawyers in Wisconsin, based upon high peer recognition.

She is a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Dane County Bar Association, and the Wisconsin Association of African-American Lawyers.
David J. Bergeson, PhD, CAE  
*Chicago, IL, Account Executive, Association Management Center*  
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Dave Bergeson is an Account Executive at Association Management Center, a firm dedicated to empowering association leaders - both volunteer leaders and staff - to achieve what they believe through outstanding management services. Born and raised near Chicago, Dave Bergeson earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology in 1996. Since then, Dave has spent ten years in the field of association management, and serves as Executive Director to several trade associations and foundations.

Hon. Melissa Blackburn  
*Nashville, TN, Co-Chair, Veterans Committee, Nashville Bar Association*  
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A Nashville native, Judge Blackburn is a graduate of David Lipscomb High School and Lipscomb University. She attended the Nashville School of Law to earn her law degree. Following graduation, she decided to practice law in the General Sessions courts across Tennessee and extensively in Nashville.

Prior to her election, the focus of Judge Blackburn’s practice was in the area of employment law, standing up for employees who face discrimination and unfair wage practices. Judge Blackburn has been a strong advocate for children, especially those who have suffered the horror of sexual abuse.

In addition to her duties in General Sessions Court, Judge Blackburn serves as presiding judge of the Mental Health and Veterans Courts. She works through the court program to provide assistance to the mentally challenged and works with Nashville’s Veterans who have encountered legal difficulties resulting from trauma suffered in the service of the United States Military. Since taking the bench, Judge Blackburn has established the Davidson County Mental Health and Veterans Court Assistance Foundation. She successfully led the effort to secure funding to support the work of Veterans Courts in the Tennessee Legislature, making Tennessee the first state to provide such funding. In December of 2017, she was elected by her colleagues to serve as Presiding Judge of the Davidson County General Sessions Courts.

George C. Brown  
*Madison, WI, Senior Partner, RR Consulting Group, and Retired Executive Director, State Bar of Wisconsin*  
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George C. Brown is a senior partner with the RR Consulting Group, which provides results based consulting to non-profit organizations on governance, planning, and leadership development. He recently retired after 18 years as the Executive Director of the State Bar of Wisconsin and 30 years with the association.

As the State Bar’s chief staff executive, he led a statewide association with over 25,000 lawyer members, a staff of 90, and a $12 million annual budget. Inheriting an association that was several million dollars in debt, he improved the finances by becoming debt free with over $3 million in cash reserves, largely by increasing non-dues revenue. At the same time, he improved financial policies and procedures, tightened fiscal controls, contract signing and document control procedures. He led the development of the first association-wide strategic plan, and transformed the board decision-making process from one based upon politics and political pressure to one based upon information and knowledge.

George’s peers elected him president of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE), as its Secretary, and to its Board of Directors. He recently was presented with The Bolton Award, NABE’s highest award for outstanding leadership. His leadership and expertise in association management have led to presentations at more than 70 national conferences.

In 2017, he helped advise the Armenian Chamber of Advocates on improving their programs and services to the lawyers and the people of Armenia. George holds an undergraduate degree from Illinois State University and a graduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Julie Brown

*Chicago, IL, Manager, Broadcast Communications, ABA Division for Communications and Media Relations Services*

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An award-winning veteran broadcast journalist and video producer, Julie Brown manages the American Bar Association Communications and Media Relations Division’s Legal News Network. She produces video, multimedia and news stories for the association’s news website ambar.org/news. One of her recent video projects, “Hidden Injustice: Bias on the Bench” was awarded a 2016 Bronze Telly Award. She was also the recipient of a 2015 Silver Telly Award for “Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law.” Other honors include a 2014 Bronze Telly Award for “Be the Change,” which was produced for the ABA Legal Access Job Corps Task Force, a 2013 Bronze Telly Award and a 2013 Bronze Stevie® Award for her work on “Voices for Victims: Lawyers Against Human Trafficking.” Prior to her ABA employment, Julie worked as reporter and anchor at TV stations in Idaho, Oregon, California, Minneapolis and Kentucky. She also served as the director of public affairs for the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office in Louisville. An Idaho native, Julie holds a Bachelor of Arts in speech from Idaho State University.

Hon. Pamila J. Brown

*Ellicott City, MD, Chair, ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services*

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Pamila J. Brown has served as an Associate Judge for the District Court in Howard County, Maryland since 2002. Judge Brown received her J.D. from the University Of Baltimore School Of Law, after earning a B.S. in Political Science from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Prior to her appointment she served as a Principal Counsel and Maryland Assistant Attorney General and as an Assistant City Solicitor in the Baltimore City Law Department.

Judge Brown is a former Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division and the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and the Gavel Committee and is a current member of the Executive Committee of the Conference of Specialized Trial Court Judges and the Standing Committee on Bar Services Chair of the ABA Gavel Committee. She is a current member of the Maryland delegation to the House of Delegates and is the Past Chair of the ABA House Minority Caucus, and is currently chair of the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services.

Judge Brown is the Immediate Past President of the Maryland State Bar Association and first female African American to hold the position. She is a founding member and Past President of the Howard County Bar Foundation and Past President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City and the Howard County Bar Associations.

Susie Brown

*Minneapolis, MN, Executive Director, Hennepin County Bar Association*

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Susie Brown is the executive director of the Hennepin County Bar Association and the Hennepin County Bar Foundation in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a role she has held since October 2016. Prior to her work at the HCBA Susie was the public policy director for several nonprofit organizations, including most recently the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, and was the executive director of Child Care WORKS. She is on the faculty at the Hamline University School of Business where she teaches in the Masters of Nonprofit Management program. Susie graduated from Lewis and Clark College and has a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Vermont.

Mary Byers, CAE, CSP

*Chatham, IL, CAE, CSP, Consultant and Author, Race to Relevance and Road to Relevance*

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Mary Byers, CAE, is co-author of *Race for Relevance: Five Radical Changes for Associations and Road to Relevance: 5 Strategies for Competitive Associations*. She’s the former director of communications and member services for the Illinois State Dental Society and served in that capacity for nine years prior to starting her consulting business in 1998.
Mary specializes in working with volunteer association leaders and chief staff executives to help define their roles and clarify their vision through leadership conference programming, facilitating strategic planning retreats and coaching. Mary is a certified association executive and a member of the National Speakers Association. She is also the author of seven books.

Robert M. Carlson
Butte, MT, President-elect, American Bar Association
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Robert M. Carlson, a shareholder with the Butte, Montana, law firm of Corette Black Carlson & Mickelson, P.C., is president-elect of the American Bar Association and will become president of the 400,000-member organization in August 2018.

Carlson has served in many national and state bar leadership positions, including as president of the State Bar of Montana from 1993 to 1994. From 2012 to 2014, he was chair of the ABA’s policymaking House of Delegates, the association’s second-highest elected office. He has served two terms on the ABA Board of Governors and its Executive Committee, chairing its Executive Compensation Committee. Carlson has also served in the ABA House of Delegates as both Montana’s state bar delegate and as a delegate at large. He is a life patron fellow and past state chair of the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation and was a member of the Executive Council of the National Conference of Bar Presidents.

Carlson’s other previous ABA leadership positions include service as chair and member of the ABA Day in Washington Planning Committee, chair and member of the Standing Committee on Meetings and Travel, and member of the Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services, Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession, Council of the ABA Section of International Law, and co-chair of the ABA Section of Litigation’s ABA Resource Committee. He was Board of Governors liaison to the ABA Standing Committee for Bar Activities and Services, Dispute Resolution Section, and Commission on Homelessness and Poverty.

In addition to serving as president of the State Bar of Montana, Carlson has chaired the state bar’s Board of Trustees and, since 1995, has served as a member of the Montana Supreme Court’s Character and Fitness Commission. Since 1994, he has been a member of the University of Montana Law School’s Clinical Board of Visitors. Carlson has served as lawyer representative to the Federal District of Montana, as Montana co-chair of the Ninth Circuit’s Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee, and as chair of the state bar’s Ad Hoc Committee on Discipline.

Eric T. Cooperstein
Minneapolis, MN, Past President, Hennepin County Bar Association
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Eric T. Cooperstein, the “Ethics Maven,” has a solo practice devoted to representing and consulting with lawyers in a wide variety of legal ethics and law practice conundrums. Eric defends lawyers against ethics complaints, provides advice and expert opinions, and represents lawyers in fee disputes and law firm break-ups. Eric is a frequent CLE presenter, webcaster, and moderator in Minnesota and nationwide on legal ethics and practice management. Eric currently is an HCBA delegate to the ABA House of Delegates, a Director on the boards of Minnesota Continuing Legal Education and Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Co., and a Trustee and President of First Universalist Church. Eric previously served as President of the Hennepin County Bar Association in 2013-14, and served as chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association’s Rules of Professional Conduct Committee from July 2009 through June 2012.

Robert E. Craghead
Springfield, IL, Executive Director, Illinois State Bar Association, and President, National Association of Bar Executives
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Robert E. Craghead is the Executive Director, Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA). Mr. Craghead joined the staff of the ISBA in 1975, and held a variety of positions before becoming Executive Director in 1995. Mr. Craghead received the 2003 National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) Bolton Award for Professional Excellence and has served as chair of the NABE Program Committee, the former CLE Section, and the Chief Staff Executives Committee and Retreat. He has spoken at numerous NABE programs and has served two terms as a state bar director on the NABE board. He is currently the President of NABE.
David E. Crawford  
St. Louis, MO, Past President, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis  
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Dave Crawford, a Past President of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Missouri Lawyers Trust Account Foundation, and a Past Chair of the Missouri Lawyers Assistance Committee, currently serves on The Intervention Committee of the Missouri Supreme Court. A patent attorney, mediator, and intellectual property counselor in St. Louis, Missouri. After practicing as a partner in a mid-size regional Intellectual Property boutique and as a partner in a law firm ranked among the very largest in the world, he founded Crawford IP Law in 2017. Today, Dave practices as a solo patent attorney, mediator, and IP counselor, bringing to bear his decades of experience and extensive expertise procuring intellectual property rights in the U.S. and throughout the world for clients ranging from individuals and start-up companies to established national corporations and multi-national conglomerates. He is certified in dispute resolution and regularly mediates disputes between parties, particularly disputes involving intellectual property.

Jeffrey Cufaude  
Indianapolis, IN, President & CEO, Idea Architects  
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A former association executive and university student affairs staff member, Jeffrey Cufaude (kuh • fawd) is an architect of ideas, building communities of ideas and idealists through his writing, facilitation, and speaking. Currently he is working on his first book: Say Yes Less: Why it Matters and How to Do It.

His areas of work include strategy think tanks that bring fresh eyes and innovative thinking to critical questions; conference workshops; volunteer and staff sessions and retreats; and major keynotes, including speaking on lifelong learning at TEDx Indianapolis in 2012.

For 10 years, he led the American Society of Association Executives Future Leaders Conference demonstrating his unique gifts in custom-designing and facilitating multiple-day leadership and learning experiences. His work is known for reflecting best practices in adult learning, and he often teaches presentation design and facilitation skills to subject matter experts. He also is an accomplished author with more than 20 articles published in major association magazines and journals.

He is a long-time volunteer with several professional associations, was a co-producer of TEDxIndianapolis in 2013, and has served on the boards of several Indianapolis nonprofits including Big Car, an innovative arts and placemaking organization.

Elizabeth M. Derrico  
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Elizabeth Derrico is an independent organizational development consultant and facilitator. She spent 33 years as an association professional. She recently retired from the New York State Bar Association as its associate executive director after a three-year return tour of duty. She served for almost 20 years as the associate director for bar information and management in the ABA’s Division for Bar Services. In that position she had management responsibility for the division’s consulting services program, the field service program, clearinghouse and library, and marketing initiatives. She worked with state, local and special purpose bar associations throughout the country to build their capacity to serve their members and the public interest.

Prior to joining the ABA, she worked for the New York State Bar Association for nearly 11 years, first as the local bar services representative and then as the associate director of communications. She has no recollection of life before bar association work. Elizabeth received her undergraduate degree in Government from Wheaton College in Norton, MA, and a Master’s in Public Affairs from the State University at Albany. Her goal for 2018 is to make the perfect pie crust.

Elizabeth is a member of the National Association of Bar Executives. She is a past chair of the National Association of Bar Executives Communications Section and is a recipient of its E.A. Richter Leadership Award.
Jill Eckert McCall
Burr Ridge, IL, Co-Chair, Chicago Bar Association Alliance for Women; Past Chair, Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section; and Past Member, Chicago Bar Association Board of Managers

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Jill McCall, CAE, JD, MBA, currently serves as Co-Chair of the Chicago Bar Association’s Alliance for Women. At work, Jill is the Executive Vice President for the Mechanical Contractors Association of Chicago, a trade association who represents over 400 union contractors. A lawyer and MBA, Jill has been involved in management, strategic planning and education for multiple associations. Through her staff and volunteer leadership, she has helped many find personal and professional success.

At the Chicago Bar, Jill has contributed prior service as the Young Lawyers Section Chair, a member of the Board of Managers and Co-Chairman of its Trade and Association Law Committee. She also served on the Chicago Bar Foundation board. Before working at the MCA of Chicago, Jill worked for the American Bar Association (ABA) for 15 years, beginning her tenure at as a career counselor for lawyers and law students. She went on to serve as the organization’s staff lead for various entities: continuing education/program accreditation, law practice/technology, and emerging professionals.

Jill completed her professional education in six years (BS, JD, MBA) and committed to a career path of association management in 2010, by earning her Certified Association Executive designation. Through the years, she has co-authored, contributed to, and edited books and articles, and made presentations to association and business leaders.

Mark T. Engle, DM, FASAE, CAE
Chicago, IL, Principal, Association Management Center

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Mark is a principal with Association Management Center in Chicago, IL; headquarters to 32 associations with a staff of over 230 talented professionals. Engle received his Doctor of Management degree in 2011, from Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH) with his study in nonprofit governance. Mark is continually striving to develop and share new research that leads to advancing the association management profession. He is a frequent author and speaker on governance and high performing organizations and is a faculty member of ASAE’s Exceptional Boards program. Engle serves on four Boards of Directors. He was recently honored with the Samuel Shapiro Award – Outstanding CEO – Association Forum of Chicagoland and was inducted into the Chicago Area Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Association Executives and the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Leadership (Case Western Reserve University) and is a BoardSource Certified Governance Trainer. Engle formerly served as a chief staff executive for trade associations and professional societies for 29 years. He has participated in over 300 Board meetings during his career.

Deborah Enix-Ross
New York, NY, Chair, ABA House of Delegates
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Deborah is Senior Adviser to the International Dispute Resolution Group at Debevoise & Plimpton in New York City. She has been a member of the ABA House of Delegates since 2010; she served as a minority and women member-at-large; vice-chair of House Committee on Credentials and Admissions; and a member of the Commission on Governance. She has Chaired the Africa Law Initiative Council for Rule of Law Initiative. She chaired the ABA Center for Human Rights and the Center’s Business and Human Rights Project. She chaired the Section of International Law in 2006-07, and also served on the section council.

She co-founded the International Law section’s Women’s Interest Network, and was instrumental in creating the Women’s Interest Group at the International Bar Association. She is past chair of the ABA Section Officers Conference (2007-09). She is a member of the New York Law School Alternative Dispute Resolution Skills Program Advisory Committee and is Vice President of the World Justice Project.
Farrah Fite
Jefferson City, MO, Media Relations Director, The Missouri Bar
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Farrah Fite is the media relations director for The Missouri Bar where she communicates and promotes - using traditional and new media - the wide range of services and resources available to its members, the media, educators, and the citizens of Missouri. In her role, she also works with the bar’s officers when it comes to developing message maps for key issues, speech writing and interview prep. Fite says she is most passionate about shaping messaging that makes sure audiences get “what’s in it for them” and exploring new platforms to best communicate in the ways our audiences prefer.

The Missouri Bar was a 2014 recipient of the NABE Communications Section Luminary Award for Excellence in Public Relations (Large Bars) for its public relations campaign in support of bar-drafted legislation comprehensively revising Missouri’s Criminal Code for the first time in 35 years.

Before joining the bar world in 2012, she was communications director for the Missouri Senate. She is a former journalist having worked as a local television reporter in Missouri and an associate producer at ABC News in Washington, D.C. She lives in #JCMO with her husband Gus Wagner and their Welsh corgi Taffy.

Bob Glaves
Chicago, IL, Executive Director, Chicago Bar Foundation, and Past President, National Conference of Bar Foundations
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Bob Glaves has been Executive Director of The Chicago Bar Foundation since October, 1999, prior to which he had a successful nine-year career as a civil litigator at the Chicago law firm then known as Menges, Mikus & Molzahn. As Executive Director of the CBF, Glaves is responsible for leading and overseeing the CBF’s work that brings Chicago’s legal community together to improve access to justice for people in need and the make the legal system more fair and efficient for everyone. Since Glaves became Executive Director, the CBF has increased the amount of its annual grants and fundraising more than tenfold and has played a lead role in launching a number of groundbreaking access to justice initiatives.

Glaves authors the “Bobservations” blog, has been featured in Crain’s Chicago Business, has written numerous articles for legal and nonprofit publications, and is a frequent speaker at seminars and conferences on issues including access to justice, pro bono, advocacy, and a number of other legal and nonprofit topics. He has served as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Donors Forum (n/k/a Forefront) and President of the National Conference of Bar Foundations. He also served on the boards of the American Judicature Society and Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR), and has chaired the Chicago Bar Association (CBA) Legislative Committee, the CBA Legal Aid Committee and several other bar committees. He was the principal drafter and led the successful advocacy efforts for the Illinois Equal Justice Act and other significant Illinois legislation. He is involved in a number of other policy and law-related initiatives as well.

In addition to his law related activities, Glaves served for several years on the local school council for Beaubien elementary school in Chicago, served on former Chicago Mayor Daley’s 21st Century Leadership Council, and has been involved in other community activities. He resides in Chicago’s Jefferson Park neighborhood.

Kathryn Grant Madigan
Binghamton, NY, Past President, New York State Bar Association, and Member, ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services
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Kate Grant Madigan is past president of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), the largest voluntary state bar in the United States and the youngest and first woman president of the Broome County Bar Association. A member of the American Bar Association (ABA) House of Delegates, former member of the Executive Council of the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP), and frequent presenter at the ABA Bar Leadership Institute, ABA Mid-year and Annual Meetings, Kate is chair of the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services.

Kate is partner, founder and Chair of the Elder Law Group at Levene, Gouldin and Thompson, LLP.
Anne Haag
Chicago, IL, Trainer and Coordinator, Law Practice Management and Technology, Chicago Bar Association
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Anne is a former IP paralegal at a Fitch, Even, Tabin and Flannery, the longest consecutively running IP firm in Chicago. Prior to that, she worked as a record buyer in the music industry. She graduated from Loyola University Chicago in 2013 with a degree in English, and is bringing her Mac knowledge to the LPMT department. She is a board member of the Midwest Access Coalition and Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation.

Christine H. Hickey
Indianapolis, IN, Past President, Indianapolis Bar Association, and President, National Conference of Bar Presidents
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Christine Hickey serves as the 2017-2018 President of the National Conference of Bar Presidents. Christine also served as President of the National Conference of Bar Foundations, and presently serves as an appointee on several Indiana Supreme Court committees and task forces. She is a member of the Indianapolis Bar Association (President-2010; Board of Directors, 2008 to the present; Bar Review Co-Chair; former Membership and Bar Leader Series Chair; IBA Judicial Evaluation Political Action Committee Chair (2003-2006); Justice Center Task Force, Outreach Chair); Indianapolis Bar Foundation (President 2006-2008; Distinguished Fellow; former Development Committee Chair); National Conference of Bar Foundations (President, 2009-2010; Board of Directors, 2007-2011); National Conference of Bar Presidents (Secretary; Treasurer; Executive Council, 2012-2017; Sponsorship Committee Chair, 2013-2014); Indiana State and American Bar Associations; Commercial Law League of America (Board of Governors (2007-2010); past Chair, National Education Committee; past Chair, Professional Responsibility National Committee; past Chair, Creditors’ Rights Section; CRS Newsletter and Education Committees; former CRS Executive Council Member, Secretary, and Treasurer; former Young Member Section Executive Council Member; past Chair, Midwest Region Executive Council); Indiana Association of Commercial Collectors, Education Committee; Commercial Collection Agencies of America, Standards Board Member; Member of the Board of Directors, Shaw-Burckhardt-Brenner Foundation; Former Member, Board of Directors for the American Board of Certification, from which she was the only female attorney in Indiana certified in the area of creditors’ rights law from 2001 to 2015. Member: Indiana Supreme Court Records Management Committee (present); Indiana Supreme Court Rules Committee (present); Indiana Supreme Court Remote Access Task Force (present); Indiana Supreme Court Judgment Docket Task Force; Marion Circuit Court Small Claims Advisory Committee; Indiana Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee for E-Filing Rules. First Program Coordinator for Blessings in a Backpack, Center Grove Schools, feeding elementary school children on the weekends (2012-present).

Leah G. Johnson
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Leah joined the South Carolina Bar staff in 1992, became Membership Services Director in 1996 and Assistant Executive Director in 2003. From 1994-2003, Leah served as the bar’s primary lobbyist.

As Assistant Executive Director, Leah has responsibility for overseeing the Membership Services, Communications and Law Related Education Divisions and the government relations program. To date, she remains involved in the development and execution of legislative strategies on the state and federal level. She regularly advises the bar’s Board of Governors on policy and other matters of interest. She also serves as State Captain for annual ABA Day on the Hill visits. Leah coordinates the bar’s annual Leadership Academy, now in its ninth year, and supports special task forces and featured programs.

In 2016, Leah was selected to participate in Leadership Columbia based on her community involvement, capacity for leadership, and commitment to improving the Midlands. She successfully graduated from the program which focuses on in-depth and hands on exposure to the critical issues facing the community. She is a past chair of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) Government Relations Section and remains active in the Section. Leah served two terms as a State Bar Director on the NABE Board of Directors, continues to serve on special task forces and is a regular speaker at NABE and the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP).
Jennifer K. Lewin  
**Chicago, IL, Deputy Director, ABA Division for Bar Services**  
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Jennifer recently marked her 20th year working with national, state, local and special-focus bar associations through the ABA’s Division for Bar Services. Bar Services’ primary mission is to strengthen bar associations – through trendspotting, promulgating best practices, educating bar leadership and assisting with bar strategy development. Currently, Jennifer is the division’s deputy director. She leads the division’s consulting arm and oversees the division’s clearinghouse and publications, including the flagship periodicals *Bar Leader* and *Bar Leader Weekly*. Jennifer has facilitated more than 100 strategic planning initiatives, board trainings, and operational reviews. She serves on the ABA Bar Leadership Institute planning team and regularly writes on leadership and governance topics. She is the author of *New Bar President* and *New Bar Board Member*, two bar association leadership primers and planning guides, and led the development of the new Board Catalyst Video Series.

Jennifer is a member of BoardSource, the National Association of Bar Executives and the Association Forum of Chicagoland. She is an obsessive gardener and food-lover. Prior to bar work, Jennifer was an art historian researching the surrealist movement in Prague.

John Locallo  
**Chicago, IL, Past President, Illinois State Bar Association**  
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John Locallo is a partner in the Chicago firm of Amari & Locallo and a past president of the Illinois State Bar Association, and a past member of the National Conference of Bar Presidents Executive Council. He received his B.S. in Accounting from the University of Illinois and passed the CPA exam in 1983. He graduated from Chicago-Kent School of Law in 1986, and received his Masters of Law (Taxation) in 1992. Mr. Locallo is currently on the Board of Directors of the ISBA Mutual Insurance Company and previously was on the boards of the ISBA Board of Governors and the Illinois Bar Foundation.

Rebecca McMahon  
**Cleveland, OH, Executive Director, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association**  
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Rebecca Rupert McMahon has been the chief executive officer of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) since 2015. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations and resources of the bar, its charitable arm – the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation – and its subsidiary insurance agency. With nearly 6,000 members, the CMBA serves as the center for legal professionalism in the region, while leveraging the talents of its world-class legal community to serve those in need through a variety of pro bono and community service programs.

Prior to serving as the Executive Director for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Becky served as the Director and Vice Chair, Audit Committee for the First Federal of Lakewood, General Counsel for Cuyahoga Community College, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for KeyCorp and Associate with Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff.

Becky received her JD from The Ohio State University in 1993, and graduated from Smith College in 1989.

Ellen Miller-Sharp  
**San Diego, CA, Executive Director and CEO, San Diego County Bar Association**  
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Ellen Miller-Sharp is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA), California’s second largest voluntary, regional bar.

Miller-Sharp has the distinction of being the only bar executive in the country with experience working at the national, state and local levels. Prior to joining the SDCBA, Miller-Sharp served as Section Director of the American Bar Association’s Section of Dispute Resolution in Washington D.C., and served as the ADR/Middle Income Program Developer at the State Bar of California. Her current volunteerism includes serving on the
Board of Directors for the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) and locally on the Board of Directors for Center Stage Children’s Theatre. Previously, she has served as Co-Chair of California Society of Association Executives (CalSAE) San Diego Regional Council, Chair of the NABE Survey Committee, Chair of NABE State and Local Forum, member of the Executive Committee of the Metropolitan Bar Caucus, member of the Executive Committee of the California Dispute Resolution Council, member of the California Judicial Council’s Working Group on Mediator Ethics and a member of the Board of Trustees for a San Diego charter school (Urban Discovery Academy).

In 2014, she was honored to be named one of San Diego Business Journal’s Women Who Impact San Diego. She is married to Dennis Sharp and is the proud mother of Rachael. In her spare time, she loves to cook, golf, and support her daughter’s love of theatre and performing arts.

John E. Mitchell
Chicago, IL, Managing Director, KM Advisors, LLC, and Immediate Past Chair, ABA Law Practice Division
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John Mitchell is a lawyer and a leader who is committed to helping lawyers discover their leadership potential so they continuously develop themselves and their organizations in pursuit of changing the world. John’s 20 plus years of business experience ranges from working as a professional in a social service agency, to practicing law in a large international law firm, to leading a large urban affiliate of an internationally known not-for-profit housing development organization, to starting a successful company that helps leaders develop and hone their own unique leadership style.

John is the Immediate Past Chair of the ABA Law Practice Division.

C. Allen Nichols
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Following a 32 year career in public libraries, C. Allen Nichols left the library world in 2013 to become Executive Director of the Akron Bar Association and Foundation.

Allen has served the bar association and library professions through statewide and national organizations, including terms as president of the Ohio Library Association and coordinator of the Ohio Metropolitan Bar Association Consortium. He is also a leader in the Conference of Metropolitan Bar Associations. His career-long involvement in the American Library Association included significant work in graduate school accreditation. He has presented workshops and programs throughout the country, published three books, and co-edits the “Libraries Unlimited Professional Guides for Young Adult Librarians” series with his wife Mary Anne - a faculty member at Kent State University’s School of Information.

He is the immediate past chairman of Goodwill Industries of Akron and serves on the Downtown Akron Partnership board. He volunteers with the PGA’s World Golf Championships Bridgestone Invitational and serves on the Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation distributing tournament proceeds to local charities. He possesses a Master of Library Science degree from Kent State and an MBA from Mississippi State University. The Kent State School of Library and Information Science named him Alumnus of the Year in 2005.

He has two sons: a junior at Akron’s Archbishop Hoban High School and a junior at the University of Notre Dame.

Holly O’Grady Cook
Washington, DC, Principal Deputy Director, ABA Governmental Affairs
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Holly O’Grady Cook joined the American Bar Association six years ago as the Principal Deputy Director of the ABA’s Governmental Affairs Office in Washington DC. She also previously served as the Associate Executive Director in charge of the ABA Washington DC Operations managing the DC facilities and supporting all ABA activities and 30 DC-based staff entities in the National Capital Region.

Holly Cook is a retired Army Colonel who served almost 23 years on active duty as a judge advocate. During
In her military career, she held a wide variety of leadership positions and practiced diverse areas of the law, including criminal, international, administrative, labor, and operational law. She also served several years as the Army’s Chief Legislative Counsel coordinating with congressional committees on sensitive military investigations and presidential nominees during the Senate confirmation process. She deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, as chief counsel for the Army’s largest division in combat and to Bosnia as deputy chief counsel in support of NATO peacekeeping operations. She was a professor at the only military law school accredited by the American Bar Association to award a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree and served as a prosecutor both in the United States and in Korea. Before joining the Army, Ms. Cook worked as a judicial law clerk for a state trial court and as a labor law attorney at a law firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

In May 2013, the House Armed Services Committee Chairman appointed Ms. Cook to serve on a congressionally created panel to analyze the systems used to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate crimes involving adult sexual assault in the military services. After a year of hearings and witness testimony, the panel submitted its final report in 2014, recommending ways to improve the effectiveness of those systems.

A native of New York, Ms. Cook holds a Bachelors of Arts degree from St. Joseph’s College, a Juris Doctorate from Union University (Albany Law School), a Master of Laws from the Army’s Judge Advocate General’s School, and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, D.C. She has earned numerous military awards and decorations, including two Legions of Merit and a Bronze Star. She also received a Meritorious Honor Award from the Department of State, the ABA’s Outstanding Career Attorney Award for the U.S. Army, and the Albany Law School Excellence in Government Service Award. Holly is married to Alan Cook who also retired as an Army Judge Advocate after 25 years of military service and four years of federal civilian service as an attorney. They are the proud parents of fifteen-year old Andrei.

Patricia Pippert  
*Chicago, IL, President and Founder, P2 Enterprises*  
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Patricia Pippert, President/Founder of P2 Enterprises, blends her background as an actress with 25+ years in the corporate world to facilitate dynamic training programs. As consultant and coach, she has extensive experience in assessing needs and creating solutions for professional development. She has worked with domestic and global organizations, executive managers and teams at all levels within those organizations to improve processes and manage performance for increased productivity and profitability.

Thousands of individuals have attended her Leadership for Today’s Challenges, Nuts & Bolts of Supervision, Presentation Skills, Stellar Customer Service, Business Writing for Results, Navigating the Generations, Email Etiquette, Building Professional Teams, and Time Management classes and webinars over the years.

Prior to launching her premier learning organization, P2 Enterprises, Patricia successfully built the training department for the Central Zone of American International Group, overseeing the training needs of 10,000 employees for 14 years.

After receiving her Masters of Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, Patricia was invited to be a faculty member. She also serves as adjunct faculty for the American Management Association and for Loyola University’s Quinlan School of Business Executive Education Program.

Christina Plum  
*Milwaukee, WI, Adjunct Professor, University of Wisconsin Law School, and Past Chair, ABA Young Lawyers Division*  
*Email: plumchristina@yahoo.com*

Christina Plum is a staff attorney for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals and an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she has taught public speaking for law students since 2003. Christina has made bar association involvement a significant part of her professional life. She is currently the ABA State Delegate for Wisconsin and serves on the ABA Section of Litigation’s Council. Previously, she chaired the Young Lawyers Divisions of the State Bar of Wisconsin and the ABA, and she also served as the YLD liaison to her State Bar’s Board of Governors. Christina has spoken on communication-related topics (e.g., public speaking and meetings management) to numerous associations, including the ABA, the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Association of Women Lawyers, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, and the National Association of Bar Executives.
Robert Rice  
*Salt Lake City, UT, Past President, Utah State Bar*  
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Rob Rice practices in the areas of labor and employment law, commercial litigation and intellectual property law. He is recognized in Chambers USA in Labor & Employment (Band 2), and maintains an AV Preeminent (5.0) rating with Martindale-Hubbell, which is the highest rating awarded to attorneys for professional competence and ethics. He has been selected for inclusion in Mountain States Super Lawyers (2011-2017) in the category of Employment Litigation: Defense. Rob is also nationally recognized by Best Lawyers in America in the areas of Commercial Litigation, Employment Law - Management, and Litigation - Labor & Employment and was recognized by Best Lawyers as "Lawyer of the Year" in Employment Law - Management for 2017. Rob has also been voted by his peers throughout the state as one of Utah's “Legal Elite,” as published in Utah Business Magazine (2004-2017).

Rob’s employment practice focuses exclusively on defending employers in all aspects of employment litigation and advising them on on-going personnel matters. He also regularly represents clients in complex commercial and intellectual property disputes at all stages of litigation, including proceedings for injunctive relief in state and federal court and in the United Kingdom.

Prior to attending law school, Rob was a newspaper and television reporter in Salt Lake City and now advises clients regarding public relations matters. Rob graduated from the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah in 1993, as a William H. Leary Scholar. In 2015, he was elected by his peers to serve as President-Elect of the Utah State Bar (2015-2016). Mr. Rice also served as a Utah State Bar Commissioner for two consecutive terms (2011-2015). Rob currently serves as President of the Utah State Bar.

Jack L. Rives  
*Chicago, IL, Executive Director, American Bar Association*  
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Jack L. Rives began serving as the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the American Bar Association on Law Day (May 1), 2010. Mr. Rives has overall management responsibility for staff operations at the Association’s headquarters in Chicago, at its Washington, DC office, and at program sites in more than 60 countries throughout the world. He ensures the effective development and direct implementation of the Association’s strategic goals. He has responsibility for the programs and policy activities adopted by the ABA’s governing and policy-making bodies, the Board of Governors and House of Delegates. Mr. Rives is responsible for helping to build the ABA’s position as the world’s premier professional association for lawyers and as the voice of the legal profession.

Prior to joining the ABA, Mr. Rives served as The Judge Advocate General of the United States Air Force, where he was the first military attorney to serve in three-star rank (lieutenant general). He served as legal adviser to the secretary of the Air Force and all officers and agencies of the Department of the Air Force, overseeing an annual staff budget of $47 million. Among his many military awards and decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Defense Superior Service Medal. Mr. Rives received both his juris doctor degree and his Bachelor of Arts degree (political science) from the University of Georgia, Athens. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the American Law Institute, and he served on the Board of Trustees of the Air Force Aid Society.

Originally from Rockmart, Georgia, Mr. Rives and his wife Marie have one son and two grandsons.

Robin Rone  
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Robin L. Rone is Director of the ABA Young Lawyers Division. Robin joined the ABA in 2002. During her tenure at the Association, Robin has served as Director of the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline and of the ABA Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity; as Special Presidential Advisor in the Office of the President; as Manager of Writing Services in the Division for Communication Services and Media Relations; and as Manager of Strategic Communication and Planning, also in the Division for Communication Services and Media Relations.
Before joining the ABA, Robin worked as a commissioning editor and communications director for a number of institutions, including Howard University Press, the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian and the National Security Archive in Washington, D.C., and at the University of Chicago Press and Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers in Chicago. She holds a B.A. in English from Howard University and an M.A. in American Studies from The George Washington University.

Catherine Sanders Reach

*Chicago, IL, Director, Law Practice Management and Technology, The Chicago Bar Association*

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Catherine Sanders Reach is Director, Law Practice Management and Technology for the Chicago Bar Association. She was the Director at the American Bar Association's Legal Technology Resource Center, providing practice technology assistance to lawyers for over ten years. Prior to her work at the CBA and ABA she worked in library and information science environments for a number of years, working at Ross and Hardies as a librarian. She received a master’s degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa in 1997.

Ms. Reach’s professional activities include articles published in Law Practice magazine, Law Technology News and GPSolo Magazine. She has given presentations on the use of technology in law firms for national bar conferences, state and local bar associations and organizations such as the National Association of Bar Council and the Association of American Law Schools. In 2011, she was selected to be one of the inaugural Fastcase 50, celebrating 50 innovators, techies, visionaries, and leaders in the field of law and in 2013, became a Fellow of the College of Law Practice Management. She served on the ABA TECHSHOW Board from 2007-2009 and 2014-2016 and is editorial advisory board emeritus for Law Technology News.

The Second City

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**WORKS**

IT’S AN IMPROV WORLD, AND YOU’RE WELCOME TO IT.

Second City Works is the B2B side of The Second City, the world’s leading comedy theatre and school of improvisation. We collaborate with clients to create improv-based learning, digital content, and entertainment. By elevating messages so people want to listen, we help companies engage their workforce and win over customers. In short, we make work better.

The businesses that thrive in the chaos of ever-present change are the ones with a new toolkit. It’s a toolkit that values speed, agility, collaboration, comfort with change, willingness to fail, and the creativity to solve old problems in new ways. Ultimately, they have the toolkit of an improver.

Are we unconventional? Sure. But how’s conventional been working for you?

Christy Bonstell

*Chicago, IL, Lead Creative Facilitator, Second City Works*

Christy L. Bonstell has been working with the Second City for over a decade. Her multi-faceted duties with Second City Works include lending her face and voice to a multitude of video projects for ethics and compliance, writing both internal videos and creative content for advertising campaigns for companies like The Hartford and Secret Deodorant, performing in live shows across the country and working with many corporations and universities in communications training. She also travels the country hosting national sales meetings for a variety of companies.

Butch Jerinic

*Chicago, IL, Lead Creative Facilitator, Second City Works*

Butch Jerinic has traveled the world performing comedy and facilitating workshops for The Second City Communications since 1996. She has worked with hundreds of corporations including: Intel, Motorola, Abbot, Deloitte, Pepsi, Coke, Coors and Walmart just to name a few. Outside of corporate comedy Ms. Jerinic has performed with The Second City at the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, ComedySportz in Chicago and ran her critically acclaimed solo show *Growing Up Butch* in Los Angeles and Chicago. Off stage she has appeared in commercials, films and has lent her voice for all of the above. Butch is a Lady!
Carl D. Smallwood  
*Columbus, OH, Past President, Columbus Bar Association; Past President, National Conference of Bar Presidents; and Member, ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services*  
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Carl D. Smallwood is a partner in the Vorys Columbus office and a member of the litigation group. He represents clients in litigation, arbitration and mediation of employment-related injury, wrongful termination and toxic exposure disputes. Selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2016 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, he appears throughout Ohio on behalf of self-insured and state-funded manufacturers, retailers and service providers in the defense of intentional tort and retaliatory discharge litigation arising under the Ohio Workers’ Compensation Act, as well as defending product liability claims and commercial disputes.

Mr. Smallwood is a past president of the National Conference of Bar Presidents. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Ohio State Bar Association, the Columbus Bar Association, the John Mercer Langston Bar Association and serves on the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services. Mr. Smallwood is a frequent speaker to clients and trade associations on matters involving employment-related injury litigation and diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

Mr. Smallwood received his J.D. from The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law and his B.S. from The Ohio State University where he was Beta Gamma Sigma.

Lauren Stiller Rikleen  
*Wayland, MA, Past President, Boston Bar Association, and Member, ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services*  
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As President of the Rikleen Institute for Strategic Leadership, Ms. Rikleen conducts workshops, speaks at conferences, retreats, and professional events, and provides training programs focusing on: unconscious bias; strengthening intergenerational relationships in the workplace; and women’s leadership and advancement. She is also a Visiting Scholar at the Boston College Center for Work & Family in the Carroll School of Management. Ms. Rikleen is the author of several books, including *You Raised Us, Now Work With Us: Millennials, Career Success, and Building Strong Workplace Teams*. This widely acclaimed book provides new insights and rebuts old stereotypes about Millennials and offers practical recommendations for all generations to help navigate their differences. Ms. Rikleen has been invited to speak throughout the country about her insights into today’s multi-generational workplace and the impact of Millennials. Ms. Rikleen is the recipient of numerous awards. Most recently, she was named by public media’s Next Avenue as one of the 50 most influential people in aging.

Ms. Rikleen served on the ABA Board of Governors and is the current Chair of the ABA Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice, as well as a member of the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services.

Gene Takagi  
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Gene Takagi is the managing attorney of NEO Law Group and contributing editor of the Nonprofit Law Blog. At NEO, Gene has represented over 600 nonprofit organizations on corporate, tax, and charitable trust law matters. A former manager in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors, Gene’s diverse perspectives make him a popular speaker and writer on nonprofit legal topics. He is a regular contributor to The Nonprofit Quarterly and Nonprofit Radio and has written opinions for The New York Times and The Chronicle of Philanthropy. In 2016, Gene was recognized by the American Bar Association Nonprofit Organizations Committee as Outstanding Nonprofit Lawyer. Gene is a graduate of UCLA School of Law and holds a graduate degree in nonprofit administration.
Lisa M. Tatum  
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Lisa Tatum, named a 2014 Super Lawyer and a 2007 Texas Rising Star by SuperLawyers, was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1995. Featured in Texas Monthly’s *The Horse’s Mouth* in July 2012, Ms. Tatum is the proud owner of LM Tatum, PLLC, informally known as The Tatum Law Practice, established in 2011. Her firm focuses on corporate, labor and employment and public finance law. The firm also serves in the capacity of Underwriter’s Counsel and Co-Bond Counsel providing legal services related to financial transactions and is listed in The Bond Buyer’s Municipal Marketplace (The Red Book) as Co-Bond Counsel and Underwriter’s Counsel.

She is a former Assistant Criminal District Attorney for Bexar County, Texas who has prosecuted over 100 cases (misdemeanors and felonies) by jury and bench trials. First recruited into private practice by a locally based law firm and then by a Dallas based law firm, she built a satellite office from the ground up prior to opening up her own law practice. Ms. Tatum was sworn in as President at the Texas Bar’s Annual Meeting on June 21, 2013, and served as President of the State Bar of Texas from June 2013-2014. She was the first African-American to serve in this capacity.

Ms. Tatum, a graduate of Smith College and Santa Clara University School of Law, grew up in San Antonio. Her father was stationed at Randolph Air Force Base. Her mother was an English teacher and Speech and Debate Coach who taught in both the San Antonio and Judson Independent School Districts. A product of Judson Independent School District and a graduate of Incarnate Word High School, San Antonio is Ms. Tatum’s home. She enjoys her service and loves being a lawyer. Ms. Tatum is a Leadership San Antonio graduate and a lifelong supporter of the YMCA. She is also a Rotarian and active in local chambers.