

Prof. Randall S. Abate is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University College of Law in Orlando, Florida. He teaches courses in domestic and international environmental law, constitutional law, and animal law. Professor Abate has 22 years of full-time law teaching experience at six U.S. law schools. He has taught international and comparative law courses on environmental and animal law topics in Argentina, Canada, Cayman Islands, China, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Spain, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom. In 2016, Professor Abate delivered invited lectures on climate justice and animal law topics at several of the top law schools in the world including Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford, Yale, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Sydney. Professor Abate has published and presented widely on environmental and animal law topics, with a recent emphasis on climate change law and justice and comparative animal personhood. He is the editor of *CLIMATE JUSTICE: CASE STUDIES IN GLOBAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES* (ELI Press 2016), *WHAT CAN ANIMAL LAW LEARN FROM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW?* (ELI Press 2015), *CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON OCEAN AND COASTAL LAW: U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES* (Oxford University Press 2015) and co-editor of *CLIMATE CHANGE AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: THE SEARCH FOR LEGAL REMEDIES* (Edward Elgar 2013). Early in his career, Professor Abate handled environmental law matters at two law firms in Manhattan. He holds a B.A. from the University of Rochester and a J.D. and M.S.E.L. (Environmental Law and Policy) from Vermont Law School.

Allison Anderson graduated Northern Illinois University in 2008 where she double majored in Psychology and Sociology. After graduation she began her career in Emergency Management in the Village of Oak Lawn. Since then she has been part of the development of Emergency Operations Centers, mass vaccination clinics during H1N1, and currently serves as the lead for the Campus Preparedness Task Force and the K-12 Advisory Task Force. Allison joined Will County Management Agency in December of 2014 as the Planning and Exercise Officer where she works with local municipalities in enhancing and testing their Emergency Operations Plans as well as maintaining the Will County Emergency Operations Plan. Allison is currently working to enhance the Animal Services Annex of the Will County EOP as well as work with the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT) of the Greater Chicago Area to develop standardized training for animal shelters in a disaster.

Jennifer Bagby has been an Assistant State's Attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office since November 2000. She earned her J.D. at Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis, Indiana in May 2000, and a B.S. in Education from the University of Kansas in 1993. Ms. Bagby is currently a Deputy Supervisor of the Felony Review Unit and has served in this position since January 2016.

Stephen Hedinger graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Law in 1988 and he is currently a shareholder at Sorling Northrup in Springfield. He is past chair of the Illinois State Bar Association's Animal Law Section Council. His animal law practice has included such matters as the rights of ownership and possession of domestic pets, issues of humane care of animals, property damage claims for injured livestock and pets, the rights and responsibilities of humane investigators in investigating allegations or evidence of animal abuse, and civil rights actions against police for harming and killing dogs. His primary areas of practice also include environmental law, construction law and matters involving consumer protection statutes.

Hon. William E. Holdridge was elected to the Illinois Appellate Court, Third District in 1994. He has served several terms as the Presiding Judge of the Court. He also serves as the Presiding Justice of the Workers' Compensation Commission Division of the Illinois Appellate Court.

Justice Holdridge has served as Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois court system and as a Trustee of the Illinois Judicial Retirement System of Illinois.

Prior to his election to the Appellate Court, he was an elected full circuit judge in the six counties of the 9th Judicial Circuit, presiding over criminal and civil trials.

David H. Hopkins earned his A.B. at Duke University in 1966 and his J.D. at Columbia University in 1969. He is admitted to practice in Illinois and before the U.S. Tax Court. Mr. Hopkins has been a Partner at Schiller, DuCanto & Fleck LLP since 1983.

Mr. Hopkins has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *Best Lawyers of America* (2009-16), *Illinois Leading Lawyers* (2003-16), and *Illinois Super Lawyers* (2005-16). He is recipient of the 1992 ISBA Board of Governors' Award for his work on the Illinois Domestic Violence Act. Mr. Hopkins has been an author or presenter of numerous papers in the family law area.

Mr. Hopkins is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is the past Chairman for the ABA Domestic Relations Tax Simplification Task Force (1980-86), as well as the past Vice-Chairman (1980-82) and Chairman (1982-84) for the ABA Section of Taxation – Domestic Relations Tax Problems Committee. He also served as the Chairman for the CBA Domestic Relations Subcommittee (1993-96), CBA Board of Managers (1992-94), a member of the CBA Committee on Courts for the 21st Century (1997-98), Chairman of the CBA Matrimonial Law Committee (1988-89), and a member of the Chicago Bar Foundation Board (1998-2003).

Ken E. Hudson earned his Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from Indiana University in 2007 and his Juris Doctor from Loyola University School of Law in 2014. He currently serves as an Assistant State's Attorney in McHenry.

David Jackson has been a Chicago Tribune investigative reporter since 1991, except for a year at The Washington Post, where he shared the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for public service for articles about citizens shot by police. At the Tribune, he was a Pulitzer finalist 4 times: for exposing violence in residential treatment facilities for youth; for interviewing dangerous fugitives who live in foreign countries; for the series "How Troubled Kids Became Big Business"; and for a probe of the Nation of Islam.

Scott W. Kummer is a partner at the law firm of Boyd & Kummer, LLC. Scott is originally from West Allis, WI. Scott received his B.A. in Philosophy from UW-Milwaukee and his law degree from DePaul University. Scott was previously an associate at the law firm of Dahl & Bonadies, LLC, where he worked in virtually every area of commercial litigation and business law, representing large commercial clients as well as banking institutions. In doing so, Scott both defended and prosecuted claims on behalf of lenders arising out of fraud, consumer fraud, check kiting schemes and mechanics' liens.

Since 2005, Scott has worked with Juliet Boyd in a wide variety of cases ranging from civil, commercial, real estate, civil rights, personal injury and criminal litigation, from simple contract preparation/review to complex business mergers and acquisitions. Scott has conducted trials and arbitrations with and without juries. Scott has represented Plaintiffs and Defendants in a wide variety of matters.

Scott Has a wide variety of commercial and real estate clients who generally consist of small to mid-sized businesses looking for experienced and professional representation and advice without spending excessive fees on the large law firms. Scott's clients appreciate his direct, personal approach to seeing them through a case from beginning to end and guiding them through the process.

Scott represents also represents small businesses in their day-to-day operations. Scott reviews and prepares contracts, assists with incorporation/organization and prosecutes/defends small businesses in all of their litigation matters including the collection of judgments.

Scott also represents plaintiffs in personal injury and civil rights matters. From 2005 to the present Scott has obtained hundreds of thousands of dollars in recoveries for clients who have suffered personal injuries and/or had their civil rights violated. Scott takes pride in seeking resolutions for his clients that provide them with not only just compensation but also a sense of justice.

Scott has represented criminal defendants and tried criminal cases.

Scott is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and is a Member of the Animal Law Section. Scott also is a volunteer for the Lawyer's Assistance Program. Scott also volunteers for the Illinois Doberman Rescue.

Anna Morrison-Ricordati practices civil litigation, business law, and animal law in Chicago, Illinois. Handling all aspects of dispute resolution, Anna has represented individual and business clients in mediations, arbitrations, jury and bench trials, equitable remedies, and appeals. She is a past Chair of the Illinois State Bar Association's Animal Law Section Council (2010-2011), past Chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Animal Law Committee (2012-2013), past Chair of the DuPage County Bar Association's Animal Law Section (2013-2014), past President of the North Suburban Bar Association (2014-2015), and has served as a CLE speaker on emerging legal topics for many organizations, including The Chicago Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association and Louisiana State Bar Association. Anna has also guest lectured at The John Marshall Law School in animal law and civil practice courses.

Angela E. Peters earned her B.A. in Philosophy at the University of Illinois Chicago in 1973 and her J.D. at IIT-Chicago Kent College of Law in 1985. She is the principal attorney of Buffalo Grove Law Offices where her practice concentrates in international and domestic divorce/family law, criminal, civil and criminal litigation, real estate law, general practice, mediation, and pet litigation and mediation. Ms. Peters is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association, North Suburban Bar Association, Northwest Suburban Bar Association, Buffalo Grove Chamber of Commerce, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Amber Porter earned her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Columbia College Chicago in 2010 and her Juris Doctor from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2014. She currently serves as an Assistant State's Attorney with the McHenry County State's Attorney's Office. Prior to this, she worked for two years as an Assistant Attorney General in Springfield, Illinois.

Richard M. Seligman is an attorney with broad insurance industry experience. His Practice includes representing traditional and non-traditional insurance underwriters, captive and surplus lines insurers, risk pooling trusts, producers, managing general agents, trade associations, affinity groups and banks. Mr. Seligman's Practice also includes representation of third party administrators, adjusters, accountants and actuaries. Mr. Seligman has represented clients in connection with financing and capital accumulation, formation and acquisition of insurance companies, marketing, risk management, regulatory compliance and general corporate transactions. Clients include specialty insurance corporations, health care providers such as hospitals, nursing homes, physicians, podiatrists and chiropractors, captive insurance companies and alternative risk program sponsors. Mr. Seligman is one of the founders and a director of AaRoooo!! Basset Hound Rescue and serves as its legal counsel.

Mr. Seligman started his professional career with Marsh & McLennan where he was an accounts person and eventually Assistant Counsel. He has also served as Chief Counsel of the State of Illinois Department of Insurance and practiced law with several large law firms. He is a member of the Illinois and Wisconsin bars. Mr. Seligman holds a BS in Economics and an MS in Risk Management and Insurance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a JD law degree from DePaul University.

Rory P. Quinn is a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney. Currently he is assigned to the Third Municipal District located in Rolling Meadows. Previously, Mr. Quinn was assigned to the 1st Municipal District City-Wide Misdemeanors. There he was able to work closely with the Chicago Police Department's Animal Crimes Team based out of Homan Square. Mr. Quinn's work with the Animal Crime's team led to the successful prosecution of several animal cruelty cases.

He earned his J.D., *cum laude*, in 2015 from Chicago-Kent, and his B.S., in 2010 from Western Illinois University. He is admitted to the bar in Illinois.

Ledy VanKavage is the Senior Legislative Attorney for Best Friends Animal Society located in Kanab, Utah and the current chair of the ISBA's animal law section. Before coming to Best Friends, Ledy was the Senior Director of Legislation and Legal Training for the ASPCA. She has spearheaded the passage of over 35 humane state bills during her lobbying tenure and is also a past Chair of the American Bar Association's Animal Law Committee. Ledy is the recipient of the ABA's Excellence in Animal Law award for 2014. She is a co-author of the USDOJ publication, "The Problem of Dog Related Incidents and Encounters" and is an instructor for the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. She has been interviewed on MSNBC, NPR, the Chicago Tribune, Time Magazine and the New York Times.

Lisa M. Velez is a partner at Cassidy Schade LLP. She concentrates her practice in the areas of medical malpractice, pharmacy liability and professional liability. She represents hospitals, physicians, and health care providers, involving various medical specialties. She holds a JD from the UCLA School of Law and BA in Applied Psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Ms. Velez is a board member and volunteer at Save-A-Pet Adoption Center. She is a Humane Investigator licensed by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. As a humane investigator, Ms. Velez responds to complaints of animal cruelty, neglect and/or abuse to determine whether there has been a violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act. Ms. Velez is a member of various organizations, including the CBA's Alliance for Women, CHRMS, CLM, the ISBA's Animal Law Council and co-chair of the CBA's Animal Law Committee.

Debra A. Vey Voda-Hamilton has 30 years of experience as a litigator. Her focus for the past 6 years is as a mediator/collaborative professional working with people who are in conflict over an animal. Debra is the principal at Hamilton La and Mediation, PLLC (HLM), the first solo alternative dispute resolution practice dedicated to resolving conflicts involving animals.

During her litigation career, Ms. Vey Moda-Hamilton was an Assistant District Attorney in Westchester County, an Assistant Inspector General for the NYS-MTA Inspector General and in private practice. She has extensive experience in animal, criminal, and contract law handling cases, including animal abuse, shelter conflicts, contract disputes, civil disagreements, and family disputes about an animal. Throughout her solo litigation career, she brought or defended actions involving disagreements involving animals.

Ms. Vey Moda-Hamilton now exclusively mediates disputes over animals and speaks nationally and internationally about different ways of addressing these conflicts. In 2011, she co-chaired a first of its kind program, *It Doesn't Have to Be Dog Eat Dog – Introducing Mediation to the Animal Law Practitioner*, at St. John's University Law School. She now presents programs on how to resolve conflicts over animals in divorce, in planning for the care of animals and when addressing conflicts arising over an animal, thus resolving the issues more peacefully. She speaks at State Bar Association committee annual meetings, National Veterinary conferences, and Pet Service/Entrepreneur Conferences.

Debra is an advisory committee member of the ABA TIPS Dispute Resolution Committee, Women in Dispute Resolution, Women Rainmakers, Women Advocates and the Animal Law Committee and Equine subcommittee. She is also a member of the American Veterinary Medical Law Association and a frequent contributor to bar association newsletters, pet owner and service provider magazines and veterinary publications. Debra is the go-to person for information regarding the use of mediation in disagreements involving animals for the NY Times, Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, Reuters, Huffington Post, and U.S. News and World Report.

Debra sits on the Board of Directors at The Center for Understanding in Law, Fur-Bridge, Grey Muzzle, The Irish Setter Club of American, and Eastern Irish Setter Association.

HLM uses alternative dispute resolution to help resolve divorce disagreements over the family pet, neighbor arguments over a barking dog, vet and pet service providers and their clients' misunderstandings. We also assist animal rights, rescues, and welfare advocates to be heard more clearly and productively by providing all interested parties with a venue in which to discuss the focus on the best interests of all, avoiding costly and time-consuming litigation.

Debra is the author of the Amazon best-selling book, *Nipped in the Bud, Not in the Butt: How to Use Mediation to Resolve Conflicts over Animals* and co-author of *Onward and Upward: A Guide for Getting Through New York Divorce & Family Law Issues*.

Debra has monthly newsletters and is starting instructional podcasts and webinars on how to live and work peacefully with pets. For more information, go to www.hamiltonlawandmediation.com

Jonathan Wier is a Litigation Counsel with the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (“ARDC”). He is responsible for investigating charges of attorney misconduct and prosecuting disciplinary cases. Jonathan graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Finance with a bachelors’ degree in economics and then received his JD from the University of Wisconsin School of Law. Prior to joining the ARDC in 2015, Jonathan worked for two Chicago law firms where he was a commercial litigator with extensive experience in utility regulation. He also served as assistant general counsel to the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives.