

**Hon. Arnold F. Blockman** (ret.) presided over the family law division in Champaign County, Illinois from 2000 to September 16, 2016. He received his B.S. in History and Political Science from the University of Memphis in 1968 and his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law in 1973. He served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Leland Simkins, Illinois Appellate Court Judge for the Fourth District, from 1973 to 1975. From 1975 to 1996 he was an associate and partner in the Champaign law firm of Hatch, Blockman & McPheters, P.C., concentrating in civil litigation. In November of 1996, he was elected as a Circuit Judge in the Sixth Judicial Circuit. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to be a member of the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Civil Jury Instructions and served on that committee from 1979 to December of 1996. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court as a faculty member for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 Illinois Judicial Conference Seminar Series and the 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2016 and 2018 Judicial Education Conference. He is a frequent speaker at various Illinois State Bar Association seminars on family law issues. He has published articles on various legal issues in a number of publications, including the Illinois Bar Journal and the Southern Illinois Law Journal. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois College of Law teaching a course entitled "Family Law Practice."

**Hon. Kevin T. Busch** earned his B.A. in Political Science at Eastern Illinois University in 1981 and his J.D. at The John Marshall law School in 1985. He is admitted to practice in Illinois and before the Federal Trial Bar, Northern District of Illinois. Judge Busch began his legal career in 1984 by serving the Kane County State's Attorney's Office. In 1992, he went into private practice where he concentrated on the litigation in criminal defense and family law cases. He was appointed Associate Judge for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit in July 2008 and elected Circuit Court Judge for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Kane County in November 2010 where he currently serves as the Presiding Judge of the Family Law Division. Judge Busch is a member of the Kane County Bar Association and the Illinois State Bar Association.

**Hon. Rodney W. Equi** served as the Presiding Judge for the DuPage County Domestic Relations Division from 1999-2008 and from 2011 until his retirement on December 31, 2014. He also served as a Domestic Relations Trial Judge from August 1992 to June 1995 and January 1999-retirement. His prior assignments include Chancery (1995-1996) and Law/Jury (1996-1999).

Judge Equi is a member of the DuPage County Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association. He is a past member of the Elmhurst College Mentoring Program, the Federal Trial Bar, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, and the American Bar Association. Judge Equi received the Justinian Society of Lawyers "Lawyer of the Year" award in 2008, the DuPage County Bar Association "Lawyer of the Year" award in 2009, and the Michael S. Cohen Award for the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers in 2010.

Judge Equi has lectured on various subjects (including domestic relations, trial advocacy, and pre-trial procedure) at the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, Illinois State Bar Association, DuPage County Bar Association, and private seminars. He has also authored articles for the DuPage County Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

**Robert Hugh Farley**, the Principal of Farley International, was the Commanding Officer (retired) of the Cook County Sheriff's Police, Child Exploitation Unit in Chicago. As a highly decorated Detective, Unit Supervisor and Deputy U.S. Marshal he has had over 28 years experience investigating and supervising all aspects of child abuse crimes – from sexual abuse to child homicide. As an internationally recognized child abuse consultant, expert and author, he has conducted child abuse training seminars for tens of thousands of professionals in all 50 states for the U.S. Department of Justice and in 22 countries for INTERPOL.

In 2007, he supervised the child sexual abuse investigation at Oprah Winfrey's School for Girls in South Africa. In 2011, he became the first police officer to conduct a child sexual abuse seminar for the clergy at the Vatican - Rome. In 2012, he collaborated with the Boys Scouts of America following the court ordered release of the ineligible volunteer or so called "perversion files." In 2015, he returned back to Rome to conduct child sexual abuse training for the clergy in the Vatican.

As a result of his unique training curriculum, the numerous investigative techniques he developed have been implemented by thousands of police departments, child protection agencies, child advocacy centers, MDT's and prosecutors throughout the world.

**Kelli E. Gordon** earned her B.S. in Business Administration at the University of Illinois in 1995 and her J.D. at Southern Illinois University School of Law in 1998. She completed the “40 Hour Custody and Visitation Mediation” training at the University of Illinois in Springfield in 2007. Ms. Gordon is admitted to practice in Illinois, the U.S. District Court Central District of Illinois, and the U.S. Court of Appeals 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit. She is a Partner at Feldman Wasser. Her experience covers a wide range of family law matters, from the protection of adult disabled children and the division of family businesses, to international kidnappings and unique estate issues, to paternity and adoptions.

Ms. Gordon’s family law skills have also been recognized by *The Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, which designated her a Leading Lawyer® in Family Law. Leading Lawyers are nominated through a poll of the 60,000 attorneys in *Sullivan’s Law Directory* and represent the top five percent of attorneys in the State of Illinois. Thomson-Reuters™ has named Kelli a Super Lawyer in Family Law. Super Lawyers has a rigorous national selection process that recognizes only the top five percent of lawyers in each state.

**Morris Lane Harvey** earned his B.S. in Political Science and Speech at Murray State University in 1973 and his J.D. at the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1974. He is admitted to practice in Illinois, the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois, and the U.S. Court of Appeals 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit. Mr. Harvey served as an associate attorney at Hanagan and Dousman from 1975-1977 and was a Partner at Feiger, Quindry, Molt and Harvey from 1977-1985. Mr. Harvey opened his own law practice in Fairfield, Illinois in 1985 and in Mount Vernon, Illinois in 1997. His practice concentrates in civil litigation with special emphasis on family law.

Mr. Harvey has been rated “AV Preeminent” by Martindale-Hubbell since 1993. He is chair of the Family Law Section Council of the Illinois State Bar Association and a member of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, and American Association for Justice. Mr. Harvey engages in several civic and pro bono activities, including Rotary International, Rotary Club of Mount Vernon, and United Way Illinois.

**Matthew A. Kirsh** has been practicing family law in the Chicago area for the past 27 years. He received his undergraduate (1986) and law degrees (1989) from the University of Illinois. Matt is a partner at Kirsh & Associates, Ltd. located in Chicago.

Matt has been a member of the ISBA Family Law Section Council since 2006, Editor of the Family Law Section Newsletter from 2007 to 2013 and again beginning in 2016 and a frequent speaker on family law topics. Currently Matt served as Chair of the ISBA Family Law Section Council in 2015-2016. He is also a fellow of the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

**Pamela J. Kuzniar, Esq.**, practices family law in Cook, Lake and DuPage Counties. She is a Member of Kuzniar & Simons PC; her primary practice is located at 161 North Clark Street, 47<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601. Her email address is [kuzniar@Kuzniarsimons.com](mailto:kuzniar@Kuzniarsimons.com). She is a graduate of Loyola University (1980: Biology/Chemistry/English) and Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, J.D. 1991. She was admitted in Illinois, 1991, Northern District of Illinois 1991, and the Supreme Court of the United States of America, 2003. She was designated and elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Fellow in 2007. She serves by appointment as a Cook County Child Representative from 2006 to present. She is an Illinois Bar Foundation Fellow, member of the American Bar Association, Chicago Bar Association, DuPage County Bar Association, and Lake County Bar Association. She is an Author and presenter for CLE seminars sponsored by the Illinois State Bar Association, American Academy of Matrimonial Law, DuPage County Bar Association, National Business Institute and Circuit Court of Cook County. She has authored articles for the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin and ISBA Family Law Newsletter. ISBA Membership Activities include: Assembly, Family Law Section Council 2001-2007 and 2009 to present, CLE Coordinator for Family Law 2007 to present, and Chair of the Family Law Section Council 2013-2014. She is a Leading Lawyer, Super Lawyer and AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and a recipient of the Illinois State Bar Associations' Board Of Governors Award on June 20, 2014.



**Hon. Mark J. Lopez** was appointed as an Associate Judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1999. He was assigned to Juvenile Court – Child Protection Division hearing abuse and neglect cases until his transfer to the Domestic Relations division in August of 2002 where he has served for fourteen years. Judge Lopez began his legal career as a prosecutor for the Office of the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office and also served as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. He was also engaged in private practice in Chicago’s Pilsen community as a partner with the Law firm of Honoratus Lopez and Associates. He is a member of the Circuit Court of Cook County’s Domestic Relations Division’s Policy and Procedures Committee. He is formerly a member of the Illinois Family Law Study Committee and the Illinois State Bar Association’s Family Law Section. Judge Lopez is a 1983 graduate of Northern Illinois University College of Law.

**Hon. Pamela E. Loza** received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin, her M.A. from Middlebury College, Vt. and her J.D. from IIT/Kent College of Law. Judge Loza was a Cook County Assistant State's Attorney and after leaving the office concentrated in Criminal Defense and Matrimonial Law. She was elected to the bench in 2008 and since December 1, 2012 has been the Supervising Judge of the Paternity/Child Support Enforcement Department of the Cook County Domestic Relations Division. Prior to her current position she served as a trial judge in the Domestic Relations Division and the Traffic Division. Judge Loza is currently a member of the Northwest Suburban Bar Association and the Illinois State Bar Association.

She is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council, her team wrote the new Child Support Act which was passed by the Illinois Legislature and signed by the governor and will go into effect on July 1, 2017. Judge Loza also sits on the Women and the Law Section Council for the ISBA. Additionally, Judge Loza is a member of the statewide Health and Family Service Child Support Advisory Council.

Since ascending to the bench Judge Loza has given over 30 CLE's and published various articles. She is honored to have been the recipient of the Northwest Suburban Bar Association 2014 Public Service Award as well as the 2016 CVLS Court of Honor Award for ensuring that each child has an attorney and a voice in court and for treating pro bono attorneys with courtesy and respect.

**Hon. Timothy J. McJoynt** is an Associate Judge assigned to the Domestic Relations Division of the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of DuPage County. He was appointed to the bench in August 2007. Judge McJoynt was admitted to practice in 1977. On the bench, he presided over the paternity call for three years and is presently hearing Dissolution of Marriage and Post Decree proceedings. Judge McJoynt is a member of the DuPage County Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association. He is also a patron of the DCBA and a Fellow of the Illinois Bar Foundation.

Judge McJoynt is a lifelong resident of Downers Grove and was highly active in numerous civic and legal associations. He acquired valuable experience with the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office prior to entering private practice in 1977. His practice concentrated primarily in real estate, corporate law, estate planning, marital and family law, and civil litigation.

His professional activities include service on the Board of Directors of the DuPage County Bar Association, as well as several committee chairmanships for that organization. Additionally, he served three terms as an elected Assemblyman to the Illinois State Bar Association.

Judge McJoynt served as President of the Grove Foundation, General Counsel of the Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, and Chairman of the Board of the Downers Grove Chamber. He was also Counsel for Downtown Downers Grove Special Service Area, past Board Member of the Illinois Real Estate Lawyers Association, past Chairman of the Downers Grove Community Maintenance Board and served on the Board of the District 99 High School Foundation and the District 58 School Foundation. He was also past Chairman of the Downers Grove Township Youth Commission, past President of the Downers Grove Kiwanis Breakfast Club, past Board Member of the Downers Grove North Hockey Club, and past Board member of The Lloyd Wasmer Foundation. He also served on the Police and Fire Board for the Village of Downers Grove.

Judge McJoynt was recognized as Citizen of the Year of Downers Grove and received the Alumni Award for Excellence from Downers Grove North High School.

He is a graduate of Downers Grove North High School, Western Illinois University (B.S.), and The John Marshall Law School (J.D.).

**Dr. Rocio Muñoz** is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice in Oak Park, Illinois, since 2002. After earning her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Kansas, she relocated to Chicago to complete her clinical psychology residency and post-doctoral work at Rush University Medical Center. She trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) at the Beck Institute in Philadelphia, and received certification as a Master Trainer in the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program from Stanford University. A mediator since 1993, Dr. Muñoz has trained in conflict resolution through the American Academy of Forensic Psychology, the Mediation Council of Illinois, the Collaborative Law Institute of Illinois, and the Parenting Coordination Institute. In addition to her clinical services, Dr. Muñoz provides a broad range of dispute resolution options for families that include mediation, parenting coordination, 604.10 evaluation and child specialty services. She is an active and full member of the American Psychological Association, the Chicago chapter of ACR, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Mediation Council of Illinois (MCI). Dr. Muñoz is a frequent participant and volunteer in community events and organizations. She avidly gardens, sometimes watercolors, and reads tirelessly. Her tomatoes are spectacular, her paintings mediocre. Last, and in the spirit of full disclosure, she can be a veritable nuisance at board games and has been known to gloat when victorious.

**Lisa M. Nyuli** is a partner in the firm of Ariano, Hardy, Ritt, Nyuli, Richmond, Lytle & Goettel, P.C. in South Elgin, Illinois. She focuses her practice primarily in family law. She has been licensed to practice in the State of Illinois and the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois since 1989. She was admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court in 2004.

Ms. Nyuli is active in the Illinois State Bar Association as a member, served two terms on the Board of Governors, and was Treasurer of the Board. She is past chair of the Judicial Advisory Polls Committee and has served for many years on the Continuing Legal Education Committee and the Family Law Section Council. Ms. Nyuli is on the Assembly, and was the Chair of both the 2011 and the 2012 ISBA Solo and Small Firm Conference. Ms. Nyuli is currently on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Bar Foundation and is a Gold Fellow.

Ms. Nyuli is involved in a number of professional organizations, and has been a frequent seminar speaker for the ISBA and the Kane County Bar Association on various areas of practice, including family law, bankruptcy, practice management, GAL training and ethics/civility. She is a past President of the Kane County Bar Association and the Kane County Bar Foundation. She received the Family Law Achievement Award from the Kane County Bar Association in 2003 for her work in establishing a Children's Waiting Room at the Kane County Judicial Center. She also received the pro bono award from the Kane County Bar Foundation in 2006. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

Ms. Nyuli received her B.S. in business administration from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1986 and her J.D. from Northern Illinois University College of Law in 1989. She was honored with the Alumnus of the Year Award in 2005 from NIU College of Law. She has been chosen by her peers as a Leading Lawyer in Family Law every year since 2010, and as a SuperLawyer in family law every year since 2011.

**Dr. Sol R. Rappaport** is Board Certified in Clinical and Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology. Dr. Rappaport specializes in Forensic Psychology evaluations and consultations. Dr. Rappaport obtained his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from DePaul University in Chicago in 1991. He has been appointed in over 800 custody evaluation nationally. He has also testified throughout the United States. Dr. Rappaport also consults to attorneys in all aspects of the litigation process. Dr. Rappaport has presented nationally to a variety of professional audiences on custody and custody/related matters, including the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, American Bar Association, and various state bar associations. He has trained both attorneys and mental health professionals on the use of psychological testing in custody evaluations. He has also trained other mental health professionals in how to conduct custody evaluations. He consults with and trains attorneys in cross examination techniques. Dr. Rappaport is on faculty of the ABA/NITA Trial Advocacy Institute. Dr. Rappaport has numerous publications, having published in Family Law Quarterly, Family Court Review, and the journal of Child Abuse and Neglect. Dr. Rappaport has also published on sexual abuse of children. In addition to his forensic practice, Dr. Rappaport is a co-founder/owner of five therapeutic day schools. The schools serve children with emotional and behavioral problems as well as serves students with High Functioning Autism. Dr. Rappaport performs educational testing and violence/risk assessments for local school districts and police agencies. Dr. Rappaport also supervises doctorate candidates from area universities. Dr. Rappaport has several professional publications including a book on the prevention of sexual abuse among developmentally delayed children and adolescence. He has also written peer reviewed journal articles, and completed other professional writings as well, including a chapter in an edited book published by JAI Press. He is in the process of having a book on parenting published.

**Hon. Jeanne M. Reynolds** is an Associate Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County and is currently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division (2007- present). She has an individual calendar hearing all matters related to dissolution of marriage and paternity cases including: custody, visitation, children's issues, financial issues, maintenance, support, property and debt allocation, domestic violence, and other related family law issues. Every day there is a new issue, a crisis, or a "unique" twist, which makes coming to work always interesting.

From 1986 to 2007, Judge Reynolds was a partner in the Law Offices of Reynolds & Reynolds, Ltd., and her practice focused on the areas of commercial litigation, corporate and business transactions, real estate, and probate law. She graduated from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN, in 1983, and Loyola University School of Law, J.D., in 1986.

Judge Reynolds is an active member of the ISBA Family Law Section Council and Chair of the ISBA Bench & Bar Section Council. She is a frequent speaker and panelist for seminars including but not limited to: "What Judges Want: Notes from the Bench"; "Tackling Family Law Conundrums"; "Family Law Spring Training-From Rookie to Major League"; "Child Custody Litigation: Techniques for Trying a Custody Case from Rehearsal to Closing"; "Civility & Professionalism in 2013"; "Family Law Update 2013: A French Quarter Festival"; "A Child Custody Trial"; "It's Not Just Family law Anymore"; "Civility & Professionalism 2015"; "Family Law Financial Litigation"; "Family Law Update 2015: A French Quarter Festival"; "A Family Law Financial Trial"; "Navigating the New IMDMA and Parentage Act"; and the annual WBAI Domestic Relations Roundtable Seminar.

Judge Reynolds is currently the President of the Illinois Judges Foundation. In addition, she is a Past President of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois and the North Suburban Bar Association. She is also a Past President for the Women Everywhere: Partners In Service Project, Inc., and still actively participates as a Co-Chair the Circuit Court of Cook County's Second District's Women Everywhere Education Day for high school students. In addition, she is a past member of the Loyola University School of Law's Board of Governors. Judge Reynolds has enjoyed participating as a trial judge for law school and high school mock trials and frequently speaking about domestic relations, domestic violence and other family law topics for local philanthropic organizations.

**Veronica A. Silva** obtained her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 2003 and dedicated her career to the employee benefits and retirement plans area, dealing with the compliance and daily operation of retirement plans. This unique legal background distinguishes her among other QDRO professionals. The wisdom and insights she has gained working for over a decade as counsel for retirement plan administrators allows her to provide high quality advice and work product to her clients.

Ms. Silva worked as an Employee Benefits attorney in the Chicago office of Latham & Watkins LLP, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP and Franczek Radelet, P.C.

In January 2014, Ms. Silva founded the QDRO Law Center, P.C. in Illinois and currently works advising divorce attorneys, financial advisors and their clients nationwide on how to properly divide retirement pensions and accounts during and after a divorce.

Ms. Silva is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois. She is also an active member of:

**ISBA Family Law Section Council**

Illinois State Bar Association

Appointed 2015-2016

Appointed 2016-2017

**ISBA Task Force on the Unauthorized Practice of Law**

Illinois State Bar Association

Appointed 2015-2016

Appointed 2016-2017

You can find out more about Ms. Silva's background and how to contact her by visiting the QDRO Law Center, P.C.'s website at [www.qdrolawcenter.com](http://www.qdrolawcenter.com)



**Ava George Stewart** is a criminal defense lawyer practicing in Chicago, IL. Ms. George Stewart serves on the Board of Governors for the Illinois State Bar Association and the Board of Directors of Black Women Lawyers' Association of Greater Chicago (BWLGA). She completed her terms in 2016 as the Illinois Delegate for the National College for DUI Defense, the DUI Committee of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and as co-chair of the WBAI's Criminal Litigation Committee. She was re-appointed to the Illinois State Bar Association's Illinois Bar Journal's Editorial Board, and the Standing Committee on Marketing & Communications; additionally, she is Ex Officio of the 2015-2016 Criminal Justice Section Council, and was re-elected as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association's Assembly for a two year term in 2014. Ms. George Stewart served as the Chair of the Traffic Laws and Courts Committee for the Illinois State Bar Association in 2011-2012. Additionally, she serves as a Board Member of Women Everywhere. Ms. George Stewart is also a member of the Cook County Bar Association and The Lawyers Club of Chicago. Ms. George Stewart is a founding member of the Women's Criminal Defense Bar Association.

As a frequent presenter and panelist at legal conferences and seminars throughout the state and nationally — and author of CLE materials and articles for legal publications — Ms. George Stewart has given presentations on issues as diverse as current issues in criminal law, cross-examination of police, sentencing, mitigation, legalization of cannabis, medical cannabis, felony traffic and DUI issues, Illinois criminal and DUI case law updates, Secretary of State-related issues, drug case issues, and specialty courts including drug courts and Veteran's courts, criminal law primer, and unconscious bias.

Ms. George Stewart received her Law Degree from the University of Illinois, and holds both a Master's degree in Managerial Communication and a Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University. She is a past Board member of MLER, Minority Legal Education Resources, an organization that prepares Illinois law students to pass the Illinois Bar Exam.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Ms. George Stewart gained over ten years management experience as Executive Director at several not-for-profit organizations, with a focus on homeless and disenfranchised women and children in a variety of racially and ethnically diverse communities.

**Tamika R. Walker** is an associate at the Sreenan & Cain, P.C. in Rockford, Illinois where she practices family law. She is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Social Work, receiving a Bachelor of Social Work degree with highest distinction and a Certification in Case Management in 2001. In 2002, Tamika earned a Master of Science in Social Administration Degree (M.S.W. equivalent) from Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. In 2005, she received a Juris Doctor degree with a concentration in litigation from the Franklin Thomas Backus School of Law at Case Western Reserve University.

Tamika was admitted to the Illinois bar in 2005 and the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois general bar in 2006. In addition to her license to practice law, Tamika maintains her license to practice social work in Ohio. Tamika began practicing law in Rockford, Illinois at the Winnebago County Office of the Public Defender in 2006. In July 2010 she joined Sreenan & Cain, P.C.

Tamika is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and serves on the Assembly and Family Law Section Council. She is currently the Family Law Section Council Vice Chair. She is also a member of the Winnebago County Bar Association, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. In addition to practicing law, Tamika serves the community through active participation in local sorority service activities and involvement in several local community boards.

**Rory T. Weiler**, Weiler & Lengle, P.C., St. Charles, Illinois, is a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) who concentrates his practice in family law, with an emphasis on cases involving child custody and more complex economic issues, especially those involving family and closely held businesses. He received his Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Northern Illinois University in 1975, and attended John Marshall Law School, graduating in 1979. While at John Marshall, he was a staff member of the John Marshall Journal of Practice and Procedure. He was admitted to practice in Illinois, and the U.S. District Court (Northern Illinois) in November, 1979.

Weiler is a member of the Kane County (KCBA) and Illinois State (ISBA) Bar Associations. Weiler has served as chair of the ISBA Family Law Section Council, and is currently a member of the ISBA Family Law Section Council, where he acts as co-editor of the Section's monthly newsletter. He also is a member of the ISBA Legislation committee, and the ISBA Bar Services committee. In 2016, he was appointed by ISBA President Umberto Davi to serve on the ISBA Special Committee for the Review of the Collaborative Law Process. He has served two terms on the ISBA Assembly, and is currently an elected member of the ISBA Board of Governors. He also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the ISBA. He has served on the AAML Illinois chapter Board of Directors.

He has been active in advancing the provision of legal services to the indigent. In 2001, he received the Kane County Bar Association's Pro Bono Award for his service to indigent clients, and in 2005 was awarded the ISBA's John C. McAndrews Pro Bono Service Award. He received the national Legal Services Corporation certificate of appreciation for service to the indigent in 2011. Weiler has served on the Illinois Supreme Court's Committee on Character and Fitness. He is a member of the Leading Lawyers Network, and has been recognized as an Illinois "Super Lawyer" and as one of the "Best Lawyers in America."

He has served in local government and on community boards, and spoken to many civic, community and public interest groups. He has lectured at seminars sponsored by the Kane County Bar Association, the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE), the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and the Illinois State Bar Association on many family law topics, both substantive and practical, including child custody litigation, analysis and cross examination of psychological experts in custody litigation, financial issues in divorce and trial practice. He has authored numerous articles on family law topics. He has written a book about family law practice, "Divorce Tools and Techniques," which has been published by James Publishing Co., [www.jamespublishing.com](http://www.jamespublishing.com).

**Richard A Wilson** is owner and principal in his own law practice in Chicago, and has concentrated particularly in family and matrimonial law for over 25 years, with special emphasis on negotiation, litigation and appellate practice in dissolution and related matters, including custody and visitation, complex valuation and division of marital and non-marital assets and interests, pre- and post-nuptial agreements, and domestic violence. Mr. Wilson's practice has particular concentration in the area of same-sex domestic relations law, where he has long and uniquely distinguished himself, with particular emphasis on nontraditional family law and the rights and interests of persons in same-sex relationships, including marriage and its equivalents, relationship and parentage recognition, dissolution, custody, visitation and access to children, parentage, Transgender rights and interests, and domestic partnerships, and the recognition of such relationships from one jurisdiction to the other. Mr. Wilson has frequently spoken and lectured on these issues in both the US and Canada. Mr. Wilson is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) and International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL), and is currently a member of the Board of Managers of the AAML-IL.

Mr. Wilson is currently an Adjunct Lecturer in Law at the University of Michigan Law School, where he teaches an advanced Seminar in Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and The Law, and since 2009 at IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law, where he teaches in the LLM program on the law of nontraditional families.

Mr. Wilson was President of the National LGBT Bar Association from 2006-2008 and continues to serve on its Board of Directors. He presently serves as Chair (since 2015) of the American Bar Association's AIDS Coordinating Committee (and member by appointment since 2003). He has been a member of and held leadership positions in the Illinois State Bar Association's Standing Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, by appointment from its inception in 2002 and which he chaired from 2006-2007, and the ISBA Family Law Section Council, by appointment since 2012; the Chicago Bar Association's Committee on the Legal Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men, which he chaired from 2003-2004 and 2004-2005; the Board of Directors of the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago; the American Bar Association's Family Law Section and Committee on Alternative Families; the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago; and the Illinois State Bar Association's Special Committee on Electronic Research Services, also by appointment from its inception in 2005, and again from 2010 to present.

Mr. Wilson is a founding, appointed member of the National Family Law Advisory Council, a roundtable of lawyers who practice same-sex Domestic Relations law, established in 2003 by the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco. In April, 2007, Mr. Wilson was appointed to the LGBT Policy Committee for Obama for America 2008, which he served on through the election. He was also a member of the coalition that worked to propose legislation in Illinois recognizing the rights of same-sex couples, which ultimately led to the passage of the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act in December, 2010, and later the Marriage Equality bill, which was passed in 2013. He was a founding member of the Board of Editors of the Same Sex Law Reporter, in 2004. Mr. Wilson serves on the board of WSMRCA/Austin Special, a non-profit, grassroots, community-based social service agency that provides residential services and developmental training to developmentally disabled individuals, working particularly with its Arts Program, which provides comprehensive art training and services to its members, and is a charter member of the Mies van der Rohe Society at Illinois Institute of Technology.

Mr. Wilson received his Juris Doctor from Loyola University Chicago Law School in 1992; and his B.A., cum laude, from Loyola University Chicago in January, 1982. He did post-graduate work at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago from 1985-1988, prior to attending law school.