

Who are Colorado's Court of Appeals Judges?

Lesson from the Courts in the Community curriculum
Find out more about [this program](#) and discover [additional lesson plans about how state courts operate](#).

Objective: Students will be able to name the Court of Appeal judges and be familiar with information from their biography.

Inquiry Questions:

- Do the Colorado Court of Appeals judges reflect the diversity of the population of the State of Colorado?
- Why do you think that each of these judges was selected to serve in this position?
- Does anything surprise you about who is sitting on the Court of Appeals?
- How do the past professional experiences of the judges differ? What impact do you think this has on the judiciary?

Colorado Academic Standards

- **SS.HS.4.2.EOb.** Identify the structure, function, and roles of current members of local, state, and national governments. Including but not limited to: understanding the three branches of government at each level of government.
- **SS.HS.4.2.EOf.** Evaluate the role of the judicial system in protecting life, liberty, and property for all persons in the United States

Activities: Class participation activity and homework assignment.

Grade Level: High School

Anticipated classroom time: 45-60 minutes

Teacher background information

Introducing Judges on the Colorado Court of Appeals

By former Colorado Court of Appeals Judge José D. L. Márquez

Extensive experience in the law is perhaps the most distinctive characteristic of the 22 judges on the Colorado Court of Appeals. Members of the court come from diverse backgrounds. They have worked in private practice, served as law professors, provided legal services for the poor, and served as public defenders, district attorneys, assistant attorneys general, and assistant staff judge advocates in the military.

Not reflected in all the biographies are the many other activities in which judges are involved. Almost all judges serve or have served on a number of boards, committees, and task forces that are law related. Many have served on the boards governing the Colorado and other bar associations and as trustees for the Denver Bar Association. Some are active in community organizations such as the University Club and Rotary, and others are active in their churches or synagogues. Almost all are parents, and a number have served in the military. Members of the court enjoy traveling, reading, music, theater, sports, and a host of other interests.

More Information

Included on the following pages are biographies for each of the 22 Colorado Court of Appeals judges. Information about judges is also available on the [Colorado Judicial Branch website](#).



The qualifications for becoming a Colorado Court of Appeals judge include the following: the nominee must be a qualified elector of the state of Colorado, licensed to practice law in Colorado for at least five years, and under the age of 72 at the time his or her name is submitted to the governor.

Class activities

1. Hand out packets of the judge biographies and have the students read through. Or you could divide the students into groups and hand out a few biographies to each group to read. Alternatively, you could have students read the [biographies of the judges online](#).
2. Generate discussion about the judges by asking the students:
 - a. Do the Colorado Court of Appeals judges reflect the diversity of the population of the State of Colorado?
 - b. Why do you think that each of these judges was selected to serve in this position?
 - c. Does anything surprise you about who is sitting on the Court of Appeals?
 - d. How do the past professional experiences of the judges differ? What impact do you think this has on the judiciary?

Homework assignment

1. Have students select three judges to profile. You can either send the biographies home with them or have them select [biographies of the judges online](#) at home, depending on their internet access.
2. Hand out worksheet titled “Colorado’s Court of Appeals Judges” and ask students to select three different judges to complete the worksheet.



Colorado's Court of Appeals Judges

Read the biographies of three judges. Write down three facts that are mentioned in each judge's bio. Then explain why this experience or situation might be beneficial for an appellate judge. For example: if it says that a judge was in private practice, how might this help that person while serving on the bench of the Court of Appeals?

Judge _____

FACT No. 1: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 2: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 3: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

Judge _____

FACT No. 1: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 2: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 3: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

Judge _____

FACT No. 1: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 2: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____

FACT No. 3: _____

Why is this beneficial? _____



Chief Judge Gilbert M. Román

Date of Judicial Appointment: August 1, 2005



Career: Partner, Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP, Denver, Colo. (now known as Lewis Roca); Associate General Counsel, Kaiser-Hill Corporation LLC, Broomfield, Colo.; Partner, Román, Benezra & Culver, LLC, Lakewood, Colo.; Partner, Feiger, Collison & Killmer, LLC, Denver, Colo.; Associate, Sherman & Howard, Denver, Colo.; Adjunct Faculty, University of Denver College of Law; Arbitrator and Mediator, American Arbitration Association; and Arbitrator, National Association of Securities Dealers. Practice focused on complex civil litigation with an emphasis on employment law, commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

Professional: Named Chief Judge of the Colorado Court of Appeals by Chief Justice Brian Boatright. Prior to that served as Deputy Chief Judge under Chief Judge Steven Bernard. Teaches as a faculty member for the National Judicial College. Has taught at the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. Member and former trustee of the Denver Bar Association; board member of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association and the Hispanic National Bar Association. Recipient of Appellate Judicial Skills and General Jurisdiction Certificates awarded by the National Judicial College; recipient of the Richard Marden Davis Award, Denver Bar Foundation; Outstanding Lawyer Award, Hispanic National Bar Association; Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association; and Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, Denver Bar Association.

At the state judicial branch level, chairs the Rules of Appellate Procedure Committee and serves on the Civil Rules Committee; the Rules of Evidence Committee; the Child Welfare Appeals Workgroup; the Court Services Committee; the State Task Force on Attorney Well-Being; the permanent Judicial Well-Being Committee; the Colorado Judicial Conference Planning Committee; the Colorado Institute for Faculty Excellence; the Java with Judge's Program; the Pledge to Diversity Committee, and the Dream Team Coffee Brigade. Served as a "Dream Team Anchor" on the Colorado Campaign for Inclusive Excellence. Teaches at the Colorado New Judge Orientation training. Developed the Peer to Peer Coaching for Colorado Judicial Officers Program, serves on its executive committee, and serves as a peer coach.

At the Court of Appeals, chaired the Strategic Five-year Planning Committee and is the Court's Lorenzo Márquez Appellate Internship Liaison to the local law schools. In addition, serves on the Court of Appeals collegiality committee and wellness committee.. Developed the Court of Appeal's Law clerk Peer to Peer Coaching Program and also the Goldilocks Mock Trial presentation given to fourth and fifth graders across the state.

Civic: Judged the state finals of the We the People competition, the finals of the HNBA's National Moot Court Competition, the regional competition of the Thomas Tang International Moot Court Competition and the regional competition of the American Constitution Society. Has spoken at C.S.U. Rams, J.D.; The Office of the Child's Representative and Respondent Parents' Counsel Conference; the Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO), the Lorenzo de Zavala Youth Legislative Session, the Colorado Bar Association's Appellate Section, and the Colorado Judicial Institute. Authored *The Colorado Appellate Court's Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion (The Colorado Lawyer, July 2020)* (co-author); *Coming to a Community Near You: The Court of Appeals Extended Outreach Program (The Colorado Lawyer, April 2017)*. Through the Courts in the Community program for high school students, heard oral arguments and spoke to students in Colorado Springs, Grand Junction, Denver, Longmont, Lakewood, Limon, Glenwood Springs, Steamboat Springs and Durango.



Has presented to local bar associations in Denver, Golden, Sterling, Lamar, La Junta, Glenwood Springs, Steamboat Springs, Montrose, Trinidad and Vail.

PERSONAL: Born 1962, in Wichita, Kan. Colorado State University (Political Science, 1984); University of Michigan Law School (Juris Doctor, 1987). Married, three children – Aug, Dom, and Gabe.



Jerry N. Jones

Date of Judicial Appointment: July 5, 2006



CAREER: Chief of the Appellate Division, Office of the United States Attorney, Denver, Colorado (2004-06); Partner, Moye Giles LLP, Denver, Colorado (1994-2004); Associate, Moye Giles LLP, Denver, Colorado (1987-1993); Special Assistant Attorney General, Criminal and State Services Sections, Colorado Attorney General's Office (1996-2003); Judicial Clerk for the Honorable George E. Lohr, Associate Justice, Colorado Supreme Court (1986-87).

PROFESSIONAL: Admitted to practice in Colorado (1986); United States District Court for the District of Colorado (1987); United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (1987); United States Supreme Court (1992). Colorado Judicial Performance Commission, Second Judicial District (1999-2006), Chair (2001-06). Amicus Committee, Colorado Bar Association (2002-06). Faculty of Federal Advocates (1997-2006).

EDUCATION: A. J. Dimond High School, Anchorage, Alaska (diploma, 1979); Arizona State University (B.S., 1983); University of Denver College of Law (J.D., 1986) (Tenth Circuit Survey Editor, Denver University Law Review (1985-86); American Jurisprudence Awards in Constitutional Law and Torts).

PERSONAL: Born October 22, 1961, in Lexington, Kentucky. Grew up in Anchorage, Alaska. Married, three children.



Terry Fox

Date of Judicial Appointment: September 2, 2010



Terry Fox sits on the Colorado Court of Appeals (COA), where she has served since January of 2011. In 2017, the Denver Bar Association awarded Judge Fox its Judicial Excellence Award. In 2018, she received the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ, Region IX) Lady Justice Award and the Colorado Women's Bar Association (CWBA) honored her as the 2019 Outstanding Judicial Officer. Judge Fox was the People's Choice for Best Court of Appeals Judge on Law Week Colorado's "Barrister's Best 2019." Judge Fox has served as the Colorado Director and as District Director for the NAWJ and remains a NAWJ member. In collaboration with the Center for Legal Inclusiveness, she is a member of the Judicial Dream Team's efforts to diversify the bench. She is a member of the Executive Committee of Our Courts Colorado and contributes to the Colorado Judicial Conference Planning Committee, the Supreme Court's

Advisory Committee on Language Access, and the Supreme Court's Character and Fitness Committee. Beginning in 2020, she will train new COA judges. Her community service includes membership and board service in the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association and the CWBA and mentoring young lawyers and aspiring jurists. She previously served on Colorado Supreme Court's Attorney Regulation Committee and the Board of Law Examiner's Law Committee. Before her appointment to the Colorado Court of Appeals, from 2004-2010, Judge Fox served as an assistant U.S. Attorney in Colorado, working as trial counsel to federal agencies and specializing in environmental law, constitutional law, and other civil matters. Before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Judge Fox was an attorney with the Colorado Attorney General's Office (in the Public Officials Unit and in the Litigation Section), an associate with the law firm of Holland & Hart (where she practiced Environmental Law), and a clerk for Justice Craig Enoch on the Texas Supreme Court. She earned an engineering degree from the Colorado School of Mines, her J.D. in Houston, Texas and her L.L.M. from Duke School of Law. Judge Fox graduated from Brighton High School in Brighton, Colorado.



Stephanie Dunn

Date of judicial appointment: June 29, 2012



Judge Dunn was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals in June 2012. Before joining the bench, she was a partner at the Denver office of Perkins Coie LLP, where she practiced in state and federal courts. Her practice focused on complex business litigation, appellate litigation, and white-collar investigations and defense. She was a member of the firm's securities and corporate governance litigation practice group, the appellate practice group, and the investigations and white-collar defense practice group. While there, Judge Dunn chaired both the Denver Diversity Committee and the Denver Pro Bono Committee and served on several firmwide committees. She also actively represented clients on pro bono matters, in particular assisting military veterans on a pro bono basis. Before joining Perkins Coie, Judge

Dunn was a litigation associate in the Denver office of a large New York-based law firm, focusing on commercial and securities litigation. Judge Dunn began her career as a law clerk for Chief Justice Luis Rovira of the Colorado Supreme Court.

Judge Dunn currently serves on multiple working committees within the Colorado Court of Appeals, including the court's Governance Group and the Strategic Five-Year Planning Committee. She also serves on several committees in the Judicial Branch and Colorado legal community, including the Rules of Evidence Committee, the Pattern Civil Jury Instructions Committee, the Civil Rules Committee, Our Courts Colorado Executive Committee, and the Colorado Lawyers Committee Hate Crimes Education Task Force. Judge Dunn enjoys speaking on a wide range of legal topics but particularly enjoys speaking with students about law and the judiciary. She has also volunteered with several community organizations over the years, especially those serving individuals facing food insecurity.

Judge Dunn is a graduate of the Judicial Branch's Executive Leadership Development Program and is a Colorado Bar Foundation Fellow. She is also a member of the American, Colorado, Denver, and Women's Bar Associations, as well as the National Association of Women Judges.

Judge Dunn is admitted to practice in Colorado and several federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Before joining the bench, she was recognized as one of Law Week Colorado's Lawyers of the Year, Big Verdict Case list.

Judge Dunn received her Bachelor of Arts, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Colorado and her Juris Doctor from the University of Denver, where she graduated Order of St. Ives and served on the Law Review and the Honor Board.



Elizabeth L. Harris

Date of Judicial Appointment: May 29, 2015



Career

Law Office of Elizabeth L. Harris, LLC (2013 - 2015)

Husch Blackwell LLP (acquired Jacobs Chase) (2011 - 2013)

Jacobs Chase LLP (2003 - 2011)

Office of the Federal Public Defender (1997-2003)

Law Clerk to the Honorable John Porfilio, United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (1996 - 1997)

Education

New York University School of Law, J.D. (1996)

Georgetown University, B.A., English Literature (1989)

Walt Whitman High School, Bethesda, Maryland (1984)



Rebecca R. Freyre

Date of Judicial Appointment: Sept. 18, 2015



Career: Deputy State Public Defender, Appellate Division, Denver, CO (2005-2015); Deputy State Public Defender, Arapahoe County Trial Office, Centennial, CO (1991-2005); Law Clerk, Larry Pozner & Associates, Denver, CO (1988-1991); Manager, Planning & Control, Oppenheimer Funds, Denver, CO (1985-1988); Bank Management Consultant, Penquite & Associates, Dallas, TX (1982-1985)

Professional: Admitted to practice in Colorado (1990); United States District Court for the District of Colorado (1998); United States Supreme Court (2011)

Education: Topeka West High School, Topeka, KS (Diploma, 1978); Smith College, Northampton, MA (B.A. Economics, 1982); University of Denver College of Law (Order of St. Ives), Denver, CO (J.D., 1990)

Civic/Volunteer: Denver Partners (1985-1988); Colorado Uplift (1985-1988); Colorado Children's Justice Task Force (1992-1995); Arapahoe County Community Corrections Board alternate (1993-2004); Aurora Gang Task Force (1993-1999); Mock Trial Coach, Arapahoe High School, (1992-1995); Mock Trial Coach, Lookout Mountain School (1993-1994); Habitat for Humanity (200-2005); Project Angel Heart (2002-2005); PTCO Holly Hills Elementary School (2005-2015); East High School Constitutional Law Scholars (2009-2010); West Middle School Mock Congressional Hearings (2015-Present)

Personal: Born December 9, 1959 in Kansas City, Kansas. Married, three children.



Craig R. Welling

Date of Judicial Appointment: Dec. 29, 2016



Judge Craig Welling was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals in February 2017.

From 2011 until being appointed to the Court of Appeals, Judge Welling served as a Colorado district court judge in the Seventeenth Judicial District (Adams County). As a district court judge, Judge Welling had two-year rotations in each of the following: an adult felony criminal docket; a juvenile docket (including dependency and neglect cases, juvenile delinquency cases, contested and uncontested adoption cases, and paternity and maternity determinations); and a domestic relations docket.

Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Welling served in Colorado Governor Bill Ritter's Office of Legal Counsel (2007-2011); and before that, was an associate at Rothgerber Johnson & Lyons LLP (2001-2007).

Judge Welling earned a B.S. in chemical engineering from Colorado State University in 1995, an M.A. in environmental engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 2001, and a J.D. from the University of Colorado in 2001.



Ted C. Tow III

Date of Judicial Appointment: Feb. 13, 2018



Career

Before joining the Court, Judge Tow served for seven years as a District Judge in the 17th Judicial District (Adams County). Prior to his judicial service, he served as the Executive Director of the Colorado District Attorneys' Council, following several years as a deputy district attorney. He began his legal career in private practice, working as an associate primarily in labor and employment for three different law firms, including Dickinson, Wright, Moon, Van Dusen & Freeman (Chicago); Matkov, Salzman, Madoff & Gunn (Chicago); and Sherman & Howard (Denver).

Professional

Judge Tow is admitted to practice in Colorado (1999), Illinois (1994, presently inactive status), U.S. District Court, District of Colorado (1999), U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan (1996), and U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois (1994).

Judge Tow is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, and has served on the Board of Governors and the Executive Council of the Criminal Law Section since 2008. He is also a Fellow of the Colorado Bar Foundation, and a member of the Adams/Broomfield Bar Association, and the Law Club of Denver. Judge Tow previously served on the Colorado Judicial Discipline Commission (2013 to 2018).

Education

Judge Tow received his high school diploma in 1985 from Olathe South High School in Olathe, Kansas. He received a B.A. with Distinction and College Honors in English Literature and Comparative Constitutional History from the University of Kansas in 1989. And he received his J.D., *summa cum laude*, from Wayne State University Law School in 1994.

Teaching

Judge Tow is a graduate and member of the faculty and the leadership council for the Colorado Institute for Faculty Excellence in Judicial Education (COIFE). He is a frequent presenter of CLE for the Judicial Branch and the Colorado Bar Association on a wide range of topics including family law, civil procedure, and legal and judicial ethics.

Personal

Judge Tow is married, and has three children and two grandchildren. He enjoys attending the theater, sports, playing games and cards, skiing, and hiking. He also enjoys performing, and has in recent years done so with the Colorado Symphony Chorus in *Too Hot to Handel*; in local community theater productions, including *Catch Me If You Can* (Roger Strong) and *Next to Normal* (Dr. Fine/Dr. Madden); and in numerous Ethics Revues put on by the Law Club of Denver.



Lino Lipinsky de Orlov

Date of Judicial Appointment: Sept. 4, 2018



Career

Immediately prior to joining the Court of Appeals, Lino S. Lipinsky de Orlov was chair of the Denver litigation department of Dentons US LLP, an international law firm. He was previously a partner in VanderWerf & Lipinsky, P.C., and was associated with Holme Roberts & Owen in Denver and Willkie Farr & Gallagher in New York.

Civic and Professional Activities

Judge Lipinsky is a member of the Colorado Bar Association's Board of Governors, the First Vice President of the Denver Bar Association, and a Board member of the Colorado Judicial Institute. He also serves on the Standing Committee on the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct and the Executive Committee of the Our Courts Colorado civic education program. He is a former President of the Faculty of Federal Advocates, where he co-authored the United States District Court for the District of Colorado's civil pro bono panel initiative. He formerly served on the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association. In 2006, Judge Lipinsky co-founded the Colorado Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society. Judge Lipinsky was a member of the Electronic Discovery Committee of the United States District Court for the District of Colorado and the Rule 502 Subcommittee of the Colorado Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Evidence. While in private practice, he volunteered at the Colorado Lawyers Committee's Legal Night program, which assists indigent individuals who are seeking pro bono counsel.

Awards and Recognitions

Judge Lipinsky received the "Legal Luminary" award from the Colorado Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society, the Colorado Bar Association's award for the best litigation article published in Colorado Lawyer magazine in 2003, and the Edward Sherman Award from the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado. Judge Lipinsky was honored with the United States District Court for the District of Colorado's pro bono award for his role as court-appointed counsel in a Fourth Amendment case. He was recognized as one of Colorado's top commercial litigators in publications such as Chambers USA, Best Lawyers in America, and SuperLawyers.

Speaking and Writing

Judge Lipinsky frequently speaks and writes on legal issues relating to technology, discovery, employment law, and ethics. His recent articles include A Shift in Accommodating Employee Medical Marijuana Use, Law360 (Oct. 3, 2017) (co-author); Work Product Immunity, in N. Hanlon-Leh, et al., Discovery in Colorado (2017 and 2018 eds.) (co-author of book chapter); Managing Risks When Working with Experts and Consultants, Colo. Law. (June 2017) at 61 (co-author); Attorney-Witnesses Face a Host of Hazards, Colo. Law. (Dec. 2016) at 67 (co-author); 5th Circ. Raises Questions About Workplace Gun Policies, Law360 (Oct. 31, 2016) (co-author); and Colorado Rule of Evidence 502: Preserving Privilege and Work Product Protection in Discovery, Colo. Law. (Oct. 2016) at 19 (co-author).

His recent speaking engagements include "Where Do You Discover? Discovery in Different Forums" at Colorado Bar Association CLE, October 16, 2018; "What Every Attorney Should Know: Information Security and Document Management" (program chair) at Colorado Bar Association CLE, July 25, 2018; "The District of Colorado's Civil Pro Bono Panel Initiative" at the 2018 Mid-Year Meeting of the Association of Corporate Counsel, April 24, 2018 (panel discussion); "Experts v. Opinion Testimony" at the "Straight Talk with Judges" seminar sponsored by the Colorado Judicial Institute, March 1, 2018



(co-presenter); “What Every Lawyer Must Know About the Latest Developments Concerning Ethics and Electronically Stored Information” at the 35th National CLE Conference, January 6, 2018; “Discovering Discovery” at Colorado Bar Association CLE, July 28, 2017; “Electronic Evidence and E-Discovery 2017” (program chair) at Colorado Bar Association CLE, June 21, 2017; and “The Ethics of Electronic Information: Competence, Confidentiality & Other Ethical Implications” at Colorado Bar Association CLE, March 23, 2017.

Education

Judge Lipinsky received an A.B. magna cum laude, with honors, from Brown University. He served as Managing Editor of the Brown Daily Herald newspaper. He earned his J.D. from the New York University School of Law, where he was a member of the New York University Law Review.

Bar Admissions

He is a member of the Colorado, New York, and Washington, D.C. bars, and was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.

Judge Lipinsky is married and has two adult daughters.



Matthew D. Grove

Date of Judicial Appointment: Nov. 29, 2018

Career

Assistant Solicitor General and Senior Assistant Attorney General, Colorado Department of Law, State Services Section (2009-2018)

Assistant Attorney General, Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia (2009)

Associate, Bjork Lindley Little, PC (2007-2008)

Assistant Attorney General, Colorado Department of Law, Appellate Division (2003-2007)

Law clerk to Colorado Supreme Court Justice Nathan B. Coats (2002-03)

Education

University of Colorado School of Law, J.D. (2002)

Duke University, A.B. (1998)

Bar Admissions

Colorado (2002); United States District Court for the District of Colorado (2004); United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (2010); United States Supreme Court (2013); Supreme Court, Federated States of Micronesia (2009); Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia (2009)



Neeti Vasant Pawar

Date of Judicial Appointment: Feb. 21, 2019



The Hon. Neeti Pawar was appointed to the Court of Appeals in March, 2019. Before her appointment, Judge Pawar ran her own solo law firm for twelve years, and prior to that, she was a partner with a small boutique law firm. In her private practice, Judge Pawar practiced in the areas of family law, employment law, and criminal defense. She also served as a mediator for over a decade. Early in her career, Judge Pawar worked as a public defender for the City of Denver.

Professional Involvement

During her 25-year career before joining the bench, Judge Pawar was actively involved in the Colorado legal community. She served as 1st Vice President, representing Denver, with the Colorado Bar Association; an Executive Council member for the Colorado Bar Association; 2nd Vice President for the Denver Bar Association; and a member of the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association. She is also a Fellow with the Colorado Bar Foundation. Judge Pawar is a past president of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association and the founder of the South Asian Bar Association of Colorado. She was a member of the Colorado Women's Bar Association, and a board member of the Colorado Lawyer's Committee and Colorado Legal Services. Her service to the legal profession also included pro bono representation and assistance to individuals in need through Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network, Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver, Project Homeless Connect, and various community legal aid nights. She graduated in the inaugural class of the Colorado Bar Association's Leadership Training Program. She currently serves on multiple working committees within the Colorado Court of Appeals and continues to volunteer her time speaking on legal matters, leadership, and community service.

Professional Recognitions

Judge Pawar has been recognized by her peers through her inclusion the SuperLawyer list for over ten years, including "Top 50 Women Lawyers" for three of those years, and 5280 Magazine's "Top Lawyers" list for three years. She was selected by the Denver Business Journal as a "Forty Under 40" in 2007, and received the Minoru Yasui Community Service Award from the Asian Pacific American Bar Association in 2018. After her first year on the bench, Judge Pawar was selected as "Barrister's Choice" for Best Court of Appeals Judge in Law Week Colorado's Barrister's Best 2020.

Public Service

Public service outside of the legal profession has also been a cornerstone for Judge Pawar. She volunteered for fifteen years with the Colorado Heritage Camps, guided young leaders through Colorado Dragon Boat Festival's Emerging Leadership Program, mentors countless young people, and teaches dance to children at an Indian dance studio in Aurora, Colorado.

Personal

Judge Pawar grew up in a small, rural, farm community in central western Illinois, which she credits with having instilled down-to-earth values. She left the Midwest in 1994 to launch her career in Colorado, which, she believes, provides an ideal balance of city energy and mountain life, and reminds her of her midwestern roots. In her free time, Judge Pawar enjoys dancing, skiing, cooking, and playing Scrabble with her husband whether at their dining room table or various spots throughout the world.



Jaclyn Casey Brown

Date of Judicial Appointment: Feb. 21, 2019



Judge Jaclyn Brown was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals in June 2019. From 2016 - 2019, Judge Brown served as a District Court Judge in the 17th Judicial District (Adams and Broomfield Counties) where she presided over domestic relations and civil matters.

Before being appointed to the bench, Judge Brown was a litigation partner in the Denver office of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP, where she litigated complex matters in several states. Her areas of practice included complex commercial litigation, real estate, construction, and eminent domain matters, as well as appeals in both state and federal courts. She is admitted to practice before all Colorado state courts, the United States District Court for the District of Colorado, the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the

United States Supreme Court.

Judge Brown obtained her law degree from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Order of the Coif. Among other activities, she was part of nationally recognized trial and moot court teams and served as an editor for the Washington University Journal of Law and Policy. Judge Brown earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder, Summa Cum Laude. She graduated from Ponderosa High School in Parker, Colorado.

Judge Brown is an active member of the National Association of Women Judges and the Colorado, Denver, Adams Broomfield, and Colorado Women's Bar Associations. She is a graduate of the Colorado Bar Association Leadership Training Program and a fellow of the Colorado Bar Foundation. Judge Brown regularly volunteers for the Sean May Memorial Run, Judges Fighting Hunger through the Food Bank of the Rockies, and for mock trial tournaments. Judge Brown has been involved in several community organizations over the years, including the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and Curious Theatre Company.

Among other distinctions, Judge Brown has been recognized as a Denver Business Journal "Forty under 40" honoree, earned the Denver Bar Association's Young Lawyer of the Year Award, and was a Colorado Super Lawyers Rising Star in Business Litigation from 2011-2016. She was part of a team of pro-bono lawyers that was named Lawyer of the Year by Law Week Colorado and which received the American Bar Association Death Penalty Representation Project Exceptional Service Award.



Sueanna P. Johnson

Date of Judicial Appointment: Dec. 2, 2019



Judge Sueanna P. Johnson was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals on December 2, 2019, and sworn in on February 13, 2020. Before her appointment, she was employed with the Colorado Attorney General's Office from 2004-2019, first as an Assistant Attorney General, then in 2017 as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Business and Licensing Section. While at the Colorado Attorney General's Office, she also worked in the State Services Section and served on the internal Ethics and Fellowship Committees. Before working at the Attorney General's Office, she clerked for the Honorable John Coughlin in Denver District Court from 2003-2004.

Judge Johnson has been admitted to practice before the Colorado courts, the United States District Court for the District of Colorado, the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

She obtained her Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2003 and earned her B.A. in Political Science from Colorado College in 1997. During her junior year in college, she studied abroad at the University of Manchester in Manchester, England.

She is active within the Colorado Asian Pacific American Bar Association and is a member of the Thompson G. Marsh Inn of Court. She previously served on the Board for the Young Lawyers Division of the Colorado Bar Association. As a person with albinism and a visual impairment, she is a member of the National Organization of Albinism and Hypopigmentation. For that organization, she speaks to parents who have children with albinism, and was a featured adult in the book *Raising a Child with Albinism: A Guide to the School Years*.

Judge Johnson was born in Seoul, South Korea, and adopted when she was three years old. She is married with two school-aged children.



Christina F. Gomez

Date of Judicial Appointment: Dec. 2, 2019



Career

Private practice at Holland & Hart (Associate, 2004-2011; Partner, 2012-2020) – Chaired the Appellate Practice Group from 2017-2020; served as Administrative Partner for the Denver Office from 2018-2020; was a founding member and served for three years as Co-Chair of the Women’s Forum; served on the Diversity Committee and various other committees. During her time in private practice, Judge Gomez focused on complex appellate litigation and worked on hundreds of appeals in a wide variety of areas in state and federal appellate courts. She also spent hundreds of hours on a variety of pro bono matters.

Judicial clerkship for the Honorable Charles A. Pannell, Jr., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (2002-2004)

Education

Millsaps College (B.A. 1996, *summa cum laude*) – Founders Medal recipient; Phi Beta Kappa; Honors Program; Ford Teaching Fellow; Circle K International Society of Distinguished Collegians (based on academics, commitment to local club, and completion of at least 250 hours of service); officer and member of various leadership, academic, and service organizations; various other academic awards

Harvard Law School (J.D. 2002, *cum laude*) – Board of Student Advisors; editor and contributing author to the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*; officer and volunteer for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program; student advocate at Hale & Door Legal Services Center

Civic/Charitable Activities

- Colorado Bar Association Appellate Pro Bono Task Force – Formed and now chair this task force working to create and implement proposals to expand pro bono services in Colorado’s appellate courts, particularly through the formation of a civil pro se appeals clinic and the expansion of the current Appellate Pro Bono Program
- Colorado Bar Association Appellate Pro Bono Program – Served on the five-member formation committee that created the program in 2009-2010; chaired the program’s screening committee from 2010-2019
- Meals on Wheels – Long-time volunteer
- Capitol Hill Community Services Soup Kitchen – Long-time volunteer
- Girl Scouts of America – Troop Co-Leader
- Boy Scouts of America – Former Cub Scout Den Leader
- Organized and participated in various service projects and public interest speaking events

Honors/Awards

- Colorado Women’s Bar Association Foundation, *Raising the Bar* Honoree for “Women Lawyers Who Raise the Bar by Maintaining a Significant and Sustained Commitment to Pro Bono Services (2016)
- *5280 Magazine*, Top Lawyers, Appellate Practice (2015-2020)
- Colorado Super Lawyers, Appellate Practice (2018-2020) (rising star, 2010-2014)



Professional Affiliations/Activities

- Colorado Bar Association Leadership Training (COBALT) program (member of 2020 class)
- Member, Colorado Bar Association, Litigation Section, Appellate Practice Subcommittee (2009-present)
- Chair/Co-Chair, Colorado Bar Association Annual Appellate Practice Update CLE (2011-present)
- Co-Editor, *The Colorado Lawyer* Appellate Practice Column (2014-present)
- Member, Colorado Women's Bar Association
- Member, Denver Bar Association
- Member, Former President & Trustee, Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
- Former Commissioner, Seventeenth Judicial District Nominating Commission (2016-2019)

Bar Admissions

- Colorado
- Georgia (no longer active)
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, Tenth, and D.C. Circuits
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

Publications (partial list)

- "Disposition of Appeal" and "Post-Decision Procedures and Remedies," Colorado Appellate Handbook, Chapter Author, 2009-present
- "The Law of the Case Doctrine and Mandate Rule," Nov. 20, 2019 (co-author)
- "Appellate Review of Unpreserved Issues," Law.com, Oct. 23, 2019 (co-author)
- "Standing Requirements in Federal Court," Law.com, Sept. 18, 2019 (co-author)
- "Staying Enforcement of a Judgment Pending Appeal," *The Colorado Lawyer*, May 2019
- "Vexed and Perplexed: Reviewing Mixed Questions of Law and Fact on Appeal," *The Colorado Lawyer*, March 2018
- "Ten Things Every Trial Lawyer Should Know About Appeals," *Trial Talk*, April/May 2017
- "Canons of Statutory Construction," *The Colorado Lawyer*, February 2017
- "Appellate Traps for the Unwary," *Trial Talk*, April/May 2016
- "Relying on Internet Sources in the Appeals Courts," *The Colorado Lawyer*, November 2015
- "Preserving Issues in Civil Cases," *Trial Talk*, April/May 2015
- "Finality and Attorney Fee Issues," *The Colorado Lawyer*, July 2014
- "Outlines for Effective Brief Writing," *Trial Talk*, April/May 2014
- "Whether, What and When to Appeal," *Trial Talk*, April/May 2013



- “Ten Ways to Lose an Appeal,” *Trial Talk*, April/May 2012
- “When to File an Appeal,” *Trial Talk*, April/May 2011

Presentations (partial list)

- “Stayin’ Alive: Civil Stays and C.A.R. 21 Proceedings,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Co-Moderator and Session Co-Moderator, November 2019
- “Effective Oral Argument,” *Colorado County Attorneys Association Winter Conference*, Session Co-Presenter, November 2019
- “A Chat with Justice Jean Dubofsky: The Law, Civil Rights, and Appealing for Justice,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Co-Moderator and Session Moderator/Interviewer, November 2017
- “Effective Appellate Writing,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Co-Moderator and Session Co-Moderator, November 2016
- “Trial Versus Appellate Advocacy,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Co-Moderator and Session Co-Moderator, November 2015
- “Access to Justice/Appellate Pro Bono Program,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Co-Moderator and Session Co-Presenter, December 2014
- “Civil Law Update,” *Colorado Judicial Conference*, Session Co-Presenter, September 2014
- “Effective Oral Argument,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Moderator and Session Co-Moderator, December 2013
- “Oral Argument: Mock Argument and Discussion,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Moderator and Session Co-Presenter/Co-Moderator, December 2012
- “Issue Spotting,” *Colorado Parent Representation Appellate Training*, Co-Presenter, May 2012
- “Stays, Bonds, and Trial Court Proceedings During the Appeal,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Program Moderator and Session Presenter, December 2011
- “Appellate Advocacy and Issue Spotting,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Subcommittee Seminar on Handling Pro Bono Appeals*, Presenter, June 2011
- “Finality of Judgments – When Does the Time to Appeal Start Running?,” *Colorado Bar Association Appellate Practice Update*, Co-Presenter, November 2010
- “Pro Bono – When, Where, and Why,” *Doyle Inn of Court*, Co-Presenter, September 2010

Personal

Judge Gomez is married with three children. She loves camping, hiking, reading, and playing board games with her family. She grew up in Huntsville, AL.



David H. Yun

Date of Judicial Appointment: Dec. 2, 2019



Judge David Yun was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals on December 2, 2019 and was sworn in on March 2, 2020. Born in South Korea, Judge Yun immigrated to the United States with his family when he was eight years old. He grew up in the Denver suburbs, graduating from Arapahoe High School. In 1989, he graduated from the University of Colorado in Boulder earning a Bachelor of Arts in economics and political science. He graduated from the University of Colorado School of Law in 1993.

Before joining the Court of Appeals, Judge Yun was a partner at Messner Reeves from 2019-2020, a partner at Jaudon & Avery from 2001-2019, and an associate and then a partner at Long & Jaudon from 1993-2001. He focused his law practice primarily on civil appeals, health care law, and medical malpractice law. He regularly argued cases before the Colorado Supreme Court, the Colorado Court of Appeals, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and was part of a team that successfully appealed a case to the United States Supreme Court. He was recognized as one of the top appellate lawyers in publications such as the Best Lawyers of America, Super Lawyers, and 5280 Magazine. He is a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America.

Judge Yun has co-authored several law journal articles in the First Amendment area, which have been republished in several books. He has written op-ed columns on race and civil rights, and has taught constitutional law and contracts at a local college. He has served on the Colorado Civil Jury Instruction Committee since 2011. He has also volunteered his time serving on the board of a nonprofit health clinic and tutoring disadvantaged children.



W. Eric Kuhn

Date of Judicial Appointment: June 4, 2021

Career

Prior to joining the court, Judge Eric Kuhn served as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Colorado Attorney General's Office from 2010 until the date of his appointment. He held positions in both the Health Care Unit and the Public Officials Unit. Judge Kuhn's practice involved representing government clients at all stages of litigation and appeal before state and federal courts. His practice was substantively focused on healthcare, public health, litigation, and the complex constitutional and legal questions faced by government agencies. Before joining the Attorney General's Office, Judge Kuhn was an associate attorney at the Law Offices of Bradley J. Frigon from 2006 to 2010, where he practiced probate and trust law.

Education

- University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D., Order of St. Ives (2006)
- Colorado College, B.A. (1995)

Bar Admissions

- Colorado
- California (inactive)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon (only during government service)

Honors/Awards

- Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Performance, 2011, 2015, 2019, 2020
- Governor's Public Service Recognition Award, 2019 (selected for award by client agency)

Professional Affiliations/Activities

- Colorado Supreme Court Hearing Board, Board Member, November 2015 – August 2021
- Liaison to the Chief Justice's Commission on the Legal Profession, 2011

Publications

- Identifying Emerging Public Health Issues in States with State-Level Marijuana Legalization, National Association of Attorneys General Training & Research Institute (2013)
- Which SNT, When and Why?, with Bradley J. Frigon, 5 NAELA J. 1 (2009)

Presentations

- Enforcing Executive and State Public Health Orders, Colorado County Attorneys Association Winter Conference, December 2020
- New Paradigms for Marijuana Regulation in the US, American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics, Public Health Law Conference, October 2014
- AGs and Public Health Law, National Association of Attorneys General, December 2013
- Expanding Medical Marijuana Laws: Current Policies and Implications for Public Health, Network for Public Health Law Webinar, May 2014
- Identifying Emerging Public Health Issues in States with State-Level Marijuana Legalization, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Conference, November 2013

Personal

Judge Kuhn was born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he attended high school. He enjoys cooking, gardening, and travel.



Timothy J. Schutz

Date of Judicial appointment: Oct. 28, 2021

Timothy J. Schutz received his Juris Doctorate, with distinction, from the University of North Dakota in 1987. While in law school, he served as Editor in Chief of the North Dakota Law Review, and was selected to membership in the Order of the Coif. Upon his graduation, Judge Schutz joined the law firm of Holland & Hart. In 1991, he joined Richard W. Hanes and soon thereafter the two formed the law firm of Hanes & Schutz. Over the next two decades, the firm gained a reputation for excellence in the areas of intellectual property, civil litigation, land use disputes and the representation of special districts.

Judge Schutz was appointed to the El Paso County District Court bench by Governor Ritter, effective November 1, 2010. During his eleven years in the trial court, Judge Schutz managed active criminal, civil, juvenile, and domestic dockets. He has presided over criminal trials ranging from allegations of simple assault to first degree murder. His juvenile, civil, and domestic dockets were similarly varied and vigorous.

Judge Schutz co-chaired the Fourth Judicial District Minority Overrepresentations Committee from 2012 until 2020. The Committee is devoted to interacting with community stakeholders to address the existence, causes, and remediation of disproportionate numbers of minorities in the social welfare, school disciplinary, and criminal justice systems. To that end, Judge Schutz has been a frequent writer and communicator on issues surrounding race and the justice system. These opportunities have been central to Judge Schutz's service as a judicial officer.

Judge Schutz has also been extensively involved in access to justice issues at a local and statewide level. Working with members of the Bench and Bar, as well as local stakeholders, Judge Schutz has endeavored to make our courts more accessible to all citizens, regardless of their economic circumstances or station in life.

In October 2021, Judge Schutz was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals by Governor Jared Polis, with an effective date of January 1, 2022. Judge Schutz considers it a great privilege and honor to serve the residents of the State of Colorado from the Bench. It is his goal to bring equal measures of humanity, diligence, and scholarship to his judicial calling.

Judge Schutz and his wife Kristi have been married for more than four decades. They are blessed with four children and eight grandchildren. In his spare time, Judge Schutz enjoys gardening, birding, hunting, whittling, Red Rocks concerts, reading, and jogging.



Karl L. Schock

Date of Judicial appointment: Sept. 15, 2022

Date of Swearing In: November 7, 2022

Career

Before his appointment to the court, Judge Karl Schock served for seven years as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Appellate Division of the District of Colorado, where he handled criminal and civil appeals before the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Before that, Judge Schock was a shareholder and associate attorney at the law firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, where he practiced commercial litigation. Judge Schock began his career as a law clerk for the Honorable Michael R. Murphy of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Education

- University of Colorado School of Law, J.D., Order of the Coif (2006)
- Northern Arizona University, B.S., Public Relations, summa cum laude (2003)

Community Involvement

Judge Schock has served in various capacities with multiple organizations that provide support and resettlement services to newly arrived refugees, including as a board member of Colorado African Organization (2017-2020) and as a volunteer with African Community Center and Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountain Refugee and Asylee Programs. He also served as a board member for Food Bank of the Rockies (2014-2015) and Growing Home (2011-2014). He is a longtime coach of his children's baseball and soccer teams.

Professional Activities

Judge Schock is a member of the Model Criminal Jury Instructions Committee.

Before his appointment to the court, Judge Schock served as a board member of the Faculty of Federal Advocates from 2019 to 2022. He has been a frequent presenter on legal writing and appellate practice.

Personal

Judge Schock is a marathon runner and triathlete, and he enjoys spending as much time as possible in the mountains with his family, snowboarding in the winter and hiking and camping in the summer.



Katharine E. Lum

Date of Judicial appointment: Sept. 15, 2022

Date of Swearing In: Nov. 16, 2022

Career

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Lum was Of Counsel with Cooper Ramp Cage Bucar Lewis (and predecessor firms), where she specialized in domestic relations law at the trial and appellate levels. During her career, Judge Lum served as a member of the Family Law Section Executive Council, where she formed and co-chaired the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Committee. She was additionally appointed to serve on the Supreme Court Standing Committee on Family Issues, a position she continues to hold. Before entering private practice, Judge Lum was a law clerk for former Justice Gregory Hobbs of the Colorado Supreme Court.

Professional Associations

Judge Lum is a member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado, the Colorado Women's Bar, the Colorado LGBT Bar Association, and the Minoru Yasui Inn of Court. She is also a Bar Fellow with the Colorado Bar Foundation.

Public Service

Judge Lum is an avid supporter of organizations providing pro bono legal services to the public. During law school, she was a student volunteer with Community Legal Outreach, assisting clients at a women's shelter with legal issues. During her career in private practice, Judge Lum was a frequent volunteer with Metro Volunteer Lawyers (MVL). In 2020, Judge Lum received MVL's award for outstanding participation in the post-decree program, and in 2021, she was recognized as a Denver Bar Association Pro Bono Star.

Education

Judge Lum obtained a J.D. from the University California Berkeley School of Law and a B.A., magna cum laude, from Northwestern University.

Personal

In her free time, Judge Lum enjoys hiking, climbing, baking, knitting, and playing the cello.



Pax Leia Moultrie

Date of Judicial appointment: Jan. 1, 2024

Prior to her appointment to the Colorado Court of Appeals, Judge Moultrie served as a district court judge for Denver Juvenile Court (April 2020 to December 2023), presiding over a docket of varied matters including adoptions, dependency and neglect cases, and juvenile delinquency cases, and as a magistrate in the 1st Judicial District (December 2018 to April 2020), presiding over a docket of domestic relations and juvenile matters. Prior to being appointed to the bench, she represented county departments of human services in dependency and neglect and juvenile delinquency matters.

Judge Moultrie is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, the Sam Cary Bar Association, Colorado Women's Bar Association, is a Colorado Bar Foundation Fellow, and has served as an appointed member of nonprofit organizations and law-related organizations, including the Colorado Office of the Child Protection Ombudsman and the Respondent Parent's Counsel Work Group. Judge Moultrie earned her B.A. in Anthropology from Washington University in St. Louis and her J.D. from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.



Grant T. Sullivan

Date of Judicial appointment: Nov. 9, 2023

Professional Background

Before his appointment to the court, Judge Sullivan practiced law as a trial and appellate litigator with the Colorado Attorney General's Office from 2011 to 2023. He served in both the Public Officials Unit and the Tax Unit, specializing in constitutional law, voting rights, election law, tax, administrative law, and appeals. Judge Sullivan previously practiced law with the Denver office of a national firm and served as a Supreme Court Fellow with the National Association of Attorneys General. He clerked for Judge John Webb on the Colorado Court of Appeals and Justice Nathan Coats on the Colorado Supreme Court.

Judge Sullivan is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, and all Colorado courts.

Education

Judge Sullivan received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Colorado Law School. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration degree, majoring in finance, from the University of Texas at Austin's McCombs School of Business.

Professional Activities and Civic Engagement

Judge Sullivan is active in many professional organizations. He is a member and past president of the Minoru Yasui American Inn of Court, which is dedicated to improving the skills, professionalism, and ethics of the bench and bar. He is also a member of the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations and is active in the CBA's Appellate Subsection. Before his appointment, Judge Sullivan served as a volunteer attorney with Metro Volunteer Lawyers' post-decree clinic, providing pro bono counsel to unrepresented litigants in domestic cases.

Judge Sullivan also serves his community outside of the legal profession, volunteering for the Food Bank of the Rockies and A Little Help.

Personal

Judge Sullivan was born and raised in a rural farming community in Kansas. He enjoys spending time with his family skiing, backpacking, hiking fourteeners, and finding Colorado's best hot springs.



Judge Melissa C. Meirink

Date of Appointment: Jan. 14, 2025



Biography

Judge Meirink was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals by Governor Polis in January 2025. Before that, she served as a staff attorney for the Colorado Supreme Court for over ten years. Prior to beginning her career in public service, Judge Meirink worked as an environmental regulatory compliance attorney, where she specialized in federal Indian Law and historic preservation for eight years at Greenberg Traurig and Holland and Hart. In this capacity, she collaborated with clients, Indian tribes, and federal and state agencies to build natural resource projects in a way that preserved historic properties, Indigenous cultures, and sacred tribal sites.

Judge Meirink earned her B.A. from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2001, and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Seattle University in 2005, where she served as the Secretary for the Native American Law Students Association and the Executive Editor of the *Seattle Journal for Social Justice*.

Judge Meirink is Indigenous Mexican (Sonoran Yaqui). She was born in Torreón, Coahuila, Mexico, and is extremely active in the Hispanic and Native communities. She serves on the State's Access to Justice Commission and is the co-chair of the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association's (CHBA) Access to Justice taskforce.

