

## **Trent Kubasiak – President-Elect**

*U.S. Army, Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois*

I am running for President-Elect of the Nonresident Lawyers Division because I believe our large and diverse community of out-of-state members can play a far more influential role in the life of the State Bar. Although we live and practice across the country and around the world, we share a continued commitment to Wisconsin's legal tradition. My goal is to strengthen that connection and ensure our division has a strong, consistent voice in Bar leadership. I hope to build on the excellent work already underway. First, I will continue expanding our out-of-state chapters and outreach efforts so more members feel a genuine sense of belonging and engagement, no matter where they live. Second, I will preserve and enhance our division's support for the annual conference, which has become a valuable anchor for professional development and networking. Finally, I will represent our interests with dedication at the Board of Governors, making sure the concerns of nonresident lawyers remain visible, understood, and prioritized. The NRLD is one of the largest and most capable segments of the State Bar. With better communication, broader participation, and a renewed focus on service to each other, we can transform our size into real momentum—creating more opportunities for networking, leadership, and connection. I am grateful for the chance to serve, and I would welcome your support. Together, we can build on our division's strong foundation and ensure nonresident lawyers continue to contribute meaningfully to the vitality of our profession and our State Bar.



**Emily Kelchen – Secretary, Incumbent**

*Kelchen Consulting, Clinton, Tennessee*

I am interested in continuing my service as the NRLD secretary. I am committed to sending out draft minutes the same day as each NRLD board meeting. And I would like to continue serving on the NRLD’s communications committee. By doing both of these things I can help make sure information about the Division and the Bar in general gets out to members. NRLD members cannot connect with each other or the Bar if we don’t communicate well. I currently run Kelchen Consulting, a government affairs and legal marketing firm from the mountains of East Tennessee.



**Will Baynard – Secretary**

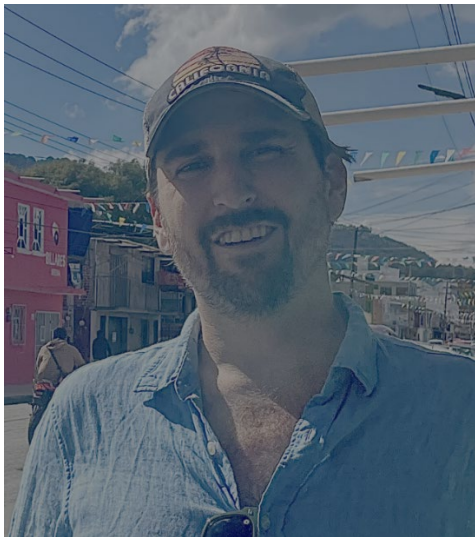
*Immigrant Defenders Law Center, Los Angeles, California*

I am thrilled by the prospect of serving the Non-Resident Lawyers Division. I spent several years practicing as a Wisconsin lawyer and now practice across several jurisdictions, with Wisconsin as my only full-time active license. I also maintain an inactive emeritus license in Alaska, which allows me to take pro bono or low bono cases.

Using my Wisconsin license, I was admitted to two separate tribal courts in different corners of the country. I now practice full time in federal immigration court based on my Wisconsin admission.

The truth is, I first wanted to run for president of the Division, but I know I need to learn more before doing that. Serving as secretary would allow me to learn while also being useful to the Division. In this role, I would ensure proper recordkeeping and look for ways the Board can better convey information to the membership.

I have had many questions throughout my time as a non-resident lawyer, and I want to help the Board be better positioned to answer those questions for others.



**Teghan DeLane – Secretary**

*Ingerman Smith LLP, Hauppauge, New York*

I am running for Secretary of the Wisconsin Bar Nonresident Lawyer Division. I live in New York and, as a nonresident member, I understand the particular needs of colleagues who live and work outside Wisconsin: staying connected to the Bar, accessing Wisconsin CLE and ethics resources, and participating in Division governance from afar.

Though I do not practice Wisconsin law regularly, I bring strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and experience managing remote communications and records.

If elected I will:

Maintain accurate, timely minutes and accessible records so all members can follow and participate in Division business.

Streamline communications with concise summaries and searchable archives to make information easy to find across time zones.

Support virtual programming and CLE distribution that accommodate nonresident schedules and needs.

Work with leadership to provide transparent reporting on finances and membership trends.

I welcome member input and will be responsive to concerns and suggestions. I would be honored to serve as Secretary and help strengthen the Division's connection to nonresident members.

Thank you for your consideration.



## **Kathryn Bullon – Director, Incumbent**

*Deerhaven Consulting Services, Sombra, ON, Canada*

After 20+ years in private practice in Fond du Lac, WI where I represented farmer cooperatives, as well as private clients with complex estate planning matters, I moved to Ontario where I work without pay in public legal education training on behalf of a small (but mighty! ) nonprofit.

I have been an NRLD Board member since 2016. I have, at various times, represented our Division on the State Bar Board of Governors (BOG), and its Executive Committee. I acted as Chair of the BOG Strategic Planning Committee for several years and have been a member of the State Bar Finance Committee since 2016. I have also served as a member of the Wisconsin Law Foundation Fellows Board since 2020. As an Emeritus Task Force member, I worked to ensure nonresident members a smooth transition into Emeritus status. And working with Bar staff and leadership, we secured a WI Supreme Court Rule amendment to ensure NRLD members receive full comity for CLE earned in their jurisdiction of practice if they are moving from Inactive to Active status in Wisconsin.

As an Officer and Board member I worked to update our Bylaws to reflect current practices and to encourage diversity outreach for the Board. I have chaired our Member Outreach and Nominations Committees, and currently serve on our Diversity Committee, and our Awards & Elections Committee. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to work on behalf of our members. Whomever you support in the upcoming election, please exercise your opportunity to choose your Board members and vote! Thank you.

J.D. (Wisconsin, 1980); M.Ad.Ed. (St. Francis Xavier, 2011).



## **Melodie Wiseman – Director, Incumbent**

*Stride, Inc.*, Reston, Virginia

I am Melodie Wiseman, and I have had the privilege of representing you since 2020. Serving our community of out-of-state lawyers has been a genuine honor, and I am grateful for the opportunity to represent you. Throughout my time on the board, I have worked thoughtfully and consistently to advocate for the interests of non-resident lawyers – first as a director and then as the NLRD president.

I am in-house counsel for an Education Technology company. My practice feels wide, as I suspect some of your practices do too! I focus on education/school law, employment law, and technology law. Most recently, I helped businesses with new products used by kids in schools and AI product safety.

I am a Michigan native, a former 15-year resident of Chicago and the burbs, and a graduate of Marquette Law. I am barred in Wisconsin and Virginia. I have worked remotely, full-time, for a suburban DC-based company. I've advocated for your interests in front of the State Bar's Board of Governors (2021-2024), represented the NLRDs on committees (such as the search committee for the new State Bar Executive Director), and then served as Chair of the State Bar (2024-2025).

I respectfully ask for your vote and continued support, as I hope to carry your voice forward over the next term!



**Desmonde X. Bennett - Director**

*DXB Legal Services, New Orleans, Louisiana*

I am an attorney licensed in both Louisiana and Wisconsin. After living in Hayward, WI for several years, I now reside primarily in Columbus, Ohio. Before leaving Wisconsin, I worked with Wisconsin Judicare for 2.5 years as the Tribal Benefits Supervising Attorney. Now, my practice focuses on providing general counsel services to small businesses, with a focus on outdoor recreation. I also offer consulting services to other lawyers, including research, aggressive motion practice, effective appeals, and strategy sessions. I have practiced remotely for nearly ten years, and I am excited about the opportunity to connect with other non-resident attorneys through service on this Board.



## **Guy Campion Charlton – Director**

*Charlton and Morgan, Sheboygan, Wisconsin*

I would be honored to serve as a Board member on the Non-Resident Lawyers Division. I am originally from Milwaukee. I have held a Wisconsin State Bar License since 1995 after I graduated from the University of Wisconsin. I have practiced law across Wisconsin with the firm Charlton and Morgan which is based in Sheboygan and Milwaukee. While full time at Charlton and Morgan, I was a general practitioner, handling all types of legal matters, including torts, criminal defense, workers compensation and corporate law. I received my PhD in Law (my PhD Dissertation was "Indigenous Usufructuary Rights in Canada, United States and New Zealand"] from the University of Auckland (New Zealand) and a Masters Degree in International Relations from the University of Toronto. Besides practicing law, i am an Associate Professor of Law at the University of New England Law School (Australia) and Auckland University of Technology Law School (New Zealand) where i teach corporate law, torts, American Constitutional Law, local government law and Comparative Indigenous law. I am on the management committee of the North and Northwest Community Legal Services which provides free legal services across northern NSW to indigent and Aboriginal clients. I believe that my experiences and work internationally coupled with my Wisconsin background and work would enable me to assist the Nonresident Lawyers Division Board as it navigates the needs and challenges that confront practitioners and the public across jurisdictions.



**Nairobi A. Cratic – Director**

*Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, District of Columbia, Washington*

As a Wisconsin native currently living in Washington, D.C., I am submitting my name to serve on the Board of Directors for the Nonresident Lawyer Division. My personal and professional ties to Wisconsin continue to shape my career, and I am eager to give back to the State Bar by ensuring that out-of-state members at every stage of practice receive the support and resources they need to thrive, regardless of location.

Currently, I am active in the Washington, D.C. legal community as a member of the D.C. Women’s Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and a volunteer with the Workers’ Rights Clinic. I value being of service to my colleagues, and if selected for this role, I will bring that same enthusiasm to working with leadership to keep division members informed about developments within the State Bar and Wisconsin law. As a nonresident lawyer, I understand the importance of staying connected to the state bar, especially as the profession faces layoffs, shifting career paths, and evolving expectations around how attorneys build and sustain their practice. I am committed to contributing my time and energy to foster meaningful engagement with out-of-state members, support their interests, represent the unique challenges they face, and strengthen the nonresident bar network.



## **Rory Dilweg – Director**

*Ocotillo Law and Policy Partners, LLP, Fountain Hills, Arizona*

Rory Dilweg is a partner in Ocotillo Law and Policy Partners. Rory currently serves as the Chairman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Gaming Commission and the Buena Vista Rancheria Gaming Commission, and he provides legal representation to several other Tribal Gaming Commissions. He represents Indian tribal governments throughout the United States in all aspects of the law, including gaming, gaming regulation, taxation, corporate issues, health care, child welfare, grant writing and compliance, and negotiations with state and local governments. Rory has participated in and led gaming compact negotiations in Arizona, Wisconsin, and California, and he has served as lead negotiator for over ten intergovernmental agreements on behalf of multiple tribes.

In private practice, Rory provided expert representation to tribal governments in all areas affecting Indian tribes. He assisted tribes in California, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Wisconsin with land-into-trust applications, gaming management and development agreements, and environmental issues associated with large-scale gaming and development projects. Rory worked on discreet issues for individual Indian tribes as well as broad policy affecting all of Indian Country.

Rory received his BA from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1993 and his JD from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1996. Rory is currently admitted to the State Bars of Arizona, California, and Wisconsin, as well as to various Federal courts throughout the United States. He is a member of the Navajo Bar Association, the Wisconsin Bar Association, the California Bar Association, and the Arizona Bar Association.



**Aaron Frederickson – Director**

*MSP Compliance Solutions, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota*

Please accept my application for a Board of Director position. If selected, I would use this as an opportunity to get more involved in the bar association and its ideals.

I started practicing law in 2002, and was sworn into the Wisconsin bar in 2008. Since my admission to the Wisconsin bar, I have been active in presenting at a number of continuing legal education programs. This included co-chairing multiple in-person programs. I have also been a frequent contributor to the Wisconsin Lawyer.

If selected as a director, I would use it as an opportunity to promote the bar for all attorneys residing outside Wisconsin. I would use my experiences in my pro bono practice to demonstrate to others why they should be involved in giving back to their community. I would also seek opportunities to engage members like me and promote their involvement within the Wisconsin bar.

**Adam Hagedorn - Director**

*Hagedorn Law Firm, P.L.L.P., Minneapolis, Minnesota*

I have been an attorney for almost 15 years mainly in the insurance law realm. My wheelhouse is plaintiff side first party property damage claims. I am a member of the AI Committee for the Minnesota State Bar Association. My interest in AI involves not only using it in a solo/small firms setting, but also helping the bar implement best practices to use this new technology ethically and how it will impact firm billing.



**Joseph Dale Huser – Director**

*Joe Huser, PC, Los Angeles, California*

My practice is general counsel for privately held companies, family offices, business owners and middle market firms. I enjoy being a member of the Wisconsin Bar and find the annual event to be informative and relevant. I have enough grey hair that on most days my ego is more relaxed than in the past. And, in this position, I would aim to be conduit for ideas from others and to engage in dialogue about quality programming for members.



## **Michael Kawi – Director**

*Clear Path Accident and Injury Law, Lincolnshire, Illinois*

I am a trial lawyer focused on representing people facing serious injuries and complex disputes in state and federal courts. My career began in public defense at the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, where I handled a wide range of serious cases across diverse courts and judges, conducting hundreds of depositions and dozens of trials. As an Assistant Federal Public Defender in Dallas, I litigated complex federal matters in the trial unit and post-conviction proceedings, securing favorable outcomes through jury trials and appeals while training other attorneys in courtroom advocacy.

I am admitted in Wisconsin and several other jurisdictions, regularly navigating multi-jurisdictional practice in trial and appellate courts, including the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. My extensive public service experience uniquely equips me to serve on the Out-of-State Lawyer Division Board: I understand the practical challenges of practicing across state lines, from adapting to local rules and judges to managing ethical issues in high-stakes cases, and I have shared strategies on these topics through trainings for public defender offices, including the Wisconsin State Public Defender. My commitment to mentoring attorneys and improving access to justice would help the board advocate effectively for out-of-state practitioners serving Wisconsin clients and courts.



**Latrice M. Knighton – Director**

*Valor Divorce Firm, Wake Forest, North Carolina*

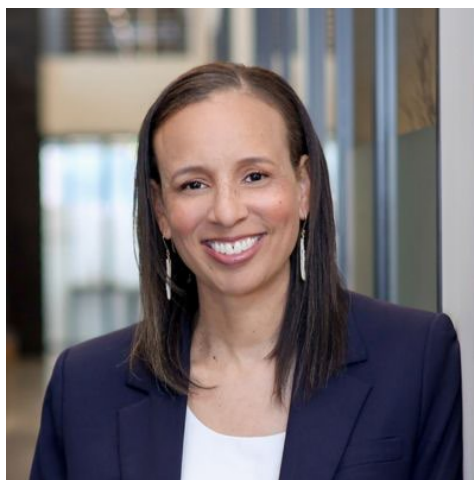
I am seeking election to the Division Board of Directors because my commitment to the Wisconsin legal community has never been limited by geography. I earned both my undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, and Wisconsin remains central to my professional identity. I am — and always will be — a Wisconsin Cheesehead.

My interest in serving is grounded in a genuine passion for the Wisconsin Bar and a desire to help elevate its presence. Now living and practicing out of state, I have the unique opportunity to engage with other bar associations and legal communities across the country. That perspective has only reinforced my belief that what we have built in Wisconsin is truly top notch.

I see real opportunity to strengthen connections between the Wisconsin Bar and the broader national legal landscape — expanding awareness of our leadership, talent, and innovation, while fostering partnerships that can benefit both our members and the profession as a whole.

I previously served as Governor from 2022–2024, where I worked collaboratively to support member engagement, professional development, and thoughtful governance. Earlier in my career, I served as Governor for the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers from 2012–2013, advocating for inclusion, mentorship, and access to leadership opportunities within the bar.

If elected, I will focus on supporting initiatives that strengthen member participation, promote diverse leadership, and continue positioning the Wisconsin Bar as a respected and influential voice.



**Sarah Julia L’Hommedieu – Director**

*L’Hommedieu and McGrievy, LLC, Solon, Ohio*

I am running for the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Nonresident Lawyers Division in the hope of bring a practical, modern perspective to the Board. I practice healthcare and transactional law and understand the regulatory and business challenges facing today’s attorneys. I also bring proven leadership experience as former President of the Student Bar Association at Marquette University Law School. As a younger lawyer, I hope to help diversify the Board’s perspective and ensure the Division remains responsive to the needs of current and future members.



**Jessica M. Moeller – Director**

*Charleston School of Law, Charleston, South Carolina*

Jessica Marie Moeller is an Assistant Dean of Experiential Learning at the Charleston School of Law in South Carolina, where she oversees clinical, externship, and skills development programs. She maintains an active Wisconsin bar license and serves on multiple Wisconsin Bar committees, including the Civil Rights and Liberties Section and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section.

Jessica's legal career prior to academia spans diverse areas of public service for a decade as both a Senior Attorney for Waukesha County Corporation Counsel and a Wisconsin State Public Defender. Since entering academia, Jessica created an experiential learning program for the Criminal Justice Department at a local college in Milwaukee, as well as at the law school here in Charleston. Jessica has been asked to teach International Child Advocacy in the Hague and will be teaching the Comparative Laws of Dissent and Protest in Madrid this upcoming summer.

Jessica is a published scholar with articles in the Wisconsin Lawyer and international journals, with others pending publication nationally. She presents regularly at continuing legal education programs as a way to give back to the Wisconsin legal community. She is a leading advocate in South Carolina against the death penalty and serves as an academic presence in human rights.

She hopes that by becoming a board member of the Non-Resident Lawyers Division, she can further help new lawyers gain that connection nationally by advocating for access to justice and international and national human rights.



## **Robert William Murphy – Director**

*Murphy Law*, Charlottesville, Virginia

Robert W. Murphy is a complex consumer and class action litigation attorney. He has served as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Florida College of Law in Gainesville, Florida from 2009 to 2021 and served as a visiting professor at the University of Virginia School of Law from 2023 to 2025. He is a past chair of the Consumer Protection Law Committee of The Florida Bar and was a Board Member, Secretary and Florida State Chairperson for the National Association of Consumer Advocates. He has served as a Board Member of the Florida Bar Foundation as well various legal aid organizations. He has been the Faculty Chair of the Practicing Law Institute's Consumer Pro Bono Program in San Francisco since 2009.

In 2016, the Florida Bar recognized Mr. Murphy as the Consumer Attorney of the Year.

Mr. Murphy attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and received his B.A. cum laude from Wake Forest University in 1984 and his J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law in 1987. He is admitted to practice in Florida, Virginia, Wisconsin and Georgia as well as various US District Courts. He has served as lead or co-lead counsel in over 200 certified class actions providing over a billion dollars in settlement benefits. The range of his class litigation includes actions against auto manufacturers, mortgage companies, banks, telemarketers, and most recently fin-tech lenders.



**Jenny Thomas – Director**

*Law Office of Scott C. Stratman, San Diego, CA*

Jenny Thomas was raised in the village of Francis Creek, WI, and now resides in San Diego, CA. She has a BA from UW-Milwaukee and JD from Western Michigan Cooley Law School.

Jenny is currently employed with Farmers Insurance focused on insurance defense work with cases in Los Angeles.

Recently, Jenny completed service as the NRLD president and previously served on the AMC committee, among others. The AMC and NRLD sponsored speaker are of particular interest to Jenny, both bring the community together. Further, service to the NRLD board fosters camaraderie, professional growth, and support for division members. Jenny brings awareness of the State Bar's resources to NRLD members and strives for efficiency for those practicing in multiple jurisdictions.

In her spare time, Jenny enjoys reading, walking by the beach, and traveling with her family, husband, Tim and son, Vincent. She is also a volunteer for the Miss America Opportunity and engaged with mentorship for professional development.



**JoAnne (Smith) Williams – Director**

*Holden Industries, Inc.* Deerfield, Illinois

I am interested in serving as a Director on the NRLD Board. I value its role in strengthening professional connection and mentorship within the legal community. As an engaged alumna of the University of Wisconsin/Madison School of Law (Class of 1987), I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my passion, experience and connections working as both a private firm and in house attorney in numerous industries in support of NRLD's mission and its members. I am keenly interested in working with the NRLD to develop and expand programming and support membership of nonresident lawyers, promoting a strong foundation and legacy for the current and next generation of lawyers.

