

About the Authors

Mary Beth Arnett holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She was elected senior managing editor of the *Wisconsin Law Review* and earned the Posner Foundation pro bono award for work as public member and vice-chair of a Wisconsin health profession licensing board. She then pursued public interest law in Washington, D.C., as staff counsel for the Electronic Frontier Foundation and associate attorney/editor for the *Environmental Law Institute/Environmental Law Reporter*, including as press at U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments. Before entering private law practice, Ms. Arnett served as project director of a Wisconsin public and private advisory committee implementing a legislative initiative to increase access to quality health care in rural communities. She has participated in Wisconsin's Indian Child Welfare Act continuous quality improvement project and serves as guardian ad litem for children and adults.

Mitchell Hagopian is an attorney with Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW), Wisconsin's protection and advocacy agency for people with disabilities and mental illness. Before joining DRW, he worked at the Elder Law Center, the Center for Public Representation, and Western Wisconsin Legal Services. He is a 1985 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School. He received his undergraduate degree in history from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Phi Beta Kappa, 1981). His expertise is in the field of public benefits for people with disabilities, including finding and funding appropriate settings in Wis. Stat. ch. 55 protective placements, and in other civil matters for people with disabilities. In 2002, he co-represented Judy K. in *Dunn County v. Judy K. (In re Guardianship of Judy K.)*, 2002 WI 87, 254 Wis. 2d 383, 647 N.W.2d 799, the Wisconsin Supreme Court case that established the county's obligation to "find and fund" appropriate placements.

Casey A. Holtz, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at Wisconsin Lutheran College and has a private clinical psychology practice. He obtained his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Marquette University. Dr. Holtz teaches a variety of classes related to child abnormal psychology, child development, and learning and memory. His private practice focuses on supporting families through divorce as a child specialist and therapist, parent coach, or family

therapist. He also conducts psychological testing for school- and legal-related purposes and provides therapy for children and adolescents. Dr. Holtz publishes frequently, with the majority of his research in the area of early childhood assessment.

James R. Jansen was the managing partner of the Madison office of Habush, Habush & Rottier, S.C., for many years. He received his B.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1979 and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1982. He is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin. He has been elected to fellowship in the American College of Trial Lawyers and the Wisconsin chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Mr. Jansen has represented many children in personal-injury-related matters.

Kristin Kerschensteiner is the director of legal and advocacy services at Disability Rights Wisconsin, the state protection and advocacy agency for people with disabilities, and has been an attorney there in various capacities for more than 20 years. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, the University of Washington School of Communications, and Seattle University Law School. Before coming to Wisconsin, she practiced disability law in Chicago, Illinois, for many years.

Kate A. Neugent is an associate with the Milwaukee law firm of Burbach & Stansbury S.C. She focuses her practice in family law, serving as a guardian ad litem or as advocate counsel. Ms. Neugent has an undergraduate degree in social welfare and is a graduate of Marquette University Law School. Before joining Burbach & Stansbury S.C., she was employed with the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee as a guardian ad litem in the Family Division. She is a member of the Collaborative Family Law Council of Wisconsin, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, and the State Bar of Wisconsin Family Law Section, and she is the treasurer of the Leander J. Foley Society of Family Lawyers.

Chantelle Ringe is a partner with Hill Glowacki, LLP, practicing in the areas of estate planning, special needs law, estate and trust administration, guardianship matters, elder law, and real estate transactions. Chantelle obtained her Juris Doctorate from DePaul University College of Law (Chicago) in 2006, and a Bachelor of Arts in English and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003. Chantelle is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the

National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the Madison Estate Planning Council, and the Forum of Women Estate Counselors. She sits on the board of the SSM Health at Home Foundation of Wisconsin and is a regular presenter on issues related to estate and benefits planning. She is also a member of the Elder Law and Special Needs and the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Sections of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Eric J. Ryberg is a shareholder in the Madison office of Habush, Habush & Rottier, S.C. He received his B.A. from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School. He serves on the board of directors of the State Bar of Wisconsin Litigation Section. He is a past president of the Dane County Bar Association. He is also a member of the Wisconsin Association for Justice and the American Association for Justice. He has represented many children in personal-injury-related matters.

Jeffrey Spitzer-Resnick graduated from Boston College Law School in 1985, cum laude. He is currently the principal and owner of Systems Change Consulting. For more than 35 years, he has engaged in effective systems change advocacy, initially on behalf of elderly individuals and for the past 25 years on behalf of children with disabilities, including in the area of special education and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. He has done this in nearly every forum and method possible, including individual litigation and class actions, state and federal lobbying, grassroots organizing, consumer and professional training, and producing publications.

Gretchen G. Viney is a clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she is the director of the Lawyering Skills program (formerly General Practice). She previously practiced law in Baraboo. She received her B.A. with highest honors from the University of Wyoming and her J.D. with honors from the University of Wisconsin Law School. Professor Viney is the author of chapter 6 (Guardianship: Wis. Stat. Ch. 54) in the *Guardian ad Litem Handbook* and coauthor of *Guardianship and Protective Placement for the Elderly in Wisconsin* and of chapter 16 of *Advising Older Clients and Their Families*, all published by the State Bar of Wisconsin. She is a frequent speaker at continuing legal education seminars, generally focusing on guardian ad litem work. Among her other duties at the law school, Professor Viney teaches Guardian ad Litem Practice in Wisconsin so that her students are eligible to take guardian ad litem appointments upon graduation and licensure.

Samantha S. Wagner is the lead assistant corporation counsel for Brown County. She completed her B.A. degree (with honors) in international relations and with a minor in peace and justice studies at the University of San Diego. She then received her J.D. with a concentration in civil litigation and a certificate in health law from Saint Louis University. While at Saint Louis University, she was a lead editor for the *Journal of Health Law and Policy* and the co-president of the Women Law Students' Association. She also received a graduate certificate in clinical health care ethics from the Albert Gnaegi Center for Health Care Ethics. Since 2012, Ms. Wagner has been prosecuting cases in children's court in Brown County, among other legal responsibilities for the county. She has served on the executive board of the Wisconsin Professional Society on the Abuse of Children since March 2015 and is the current president. Ms. Wagner has conducted many trainings and seminars on the children's court and how to facilitate a working relationship with a multidisciplinary team for child abuse and neglect matters.

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