

## About the Authors

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**Milton Childs**, Marquette University, J.D. 2003, is a circuit court judge in Milwaukee County, currently assigned to the general felony calendar. He formerly was employed with the Wisconsin State Public Defender in the Milwaukee juvenile and mental health office, including as the equal employment opportunity and affirmative action officer. He is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Bar Association, the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers, and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and he is a former member of the Board of Governors for the State Bar of Wisconsin. He has published articles in Marquette *Elder's Advisor Law Review* and in publications of the American Bar Association, and he has updated chapters in the State Bar of Wisconsin's *Wisconsin Juvenile Law Handbook*. He has operated a solo law practice in the areas of bankruptcy, business law, civil law, contracts, criminal law, employment discrimination, estate planning, family law, landlord-tenant law, nonprofit organizations, and small claims. He has facilitated trainings in juvenile law, termination of parental rights, misdemeanors, prison reentry, and implicit bias. He earned a Master of Business Administration from Keller Graduate School of Management. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps.

**Eileen Fredericks** is a staff attorney for the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD). She works in the Madison trial office in the juvenile unit. In addition, she is the juvenile practice group coordinator for the SPD. In this position, she helps with trainings related to juvenile law and is available as a resource to all SPD attorneys taking juvenile cases around the state. Eileen has previously worked in the SPD's Milwaukee juvenile/mental health and Kenosha offices. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame, earning a B.A. in government and international studies with a concentration in public policy. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School and, while attending law school, also earned her master's degree in social work.

**Margaret Johnson** is the racial disparity practice coordinator for the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office. Margaret assesses the presence of racial disparity in criminal justice systems and puts together plans for addressing the disparity. Margaret has presented on issues surrounding racial disparity, including the race discussion circles, responding to racism, implicit bias, and racial anxiety. Margaret has been a frequent presenter, including at the YWCA Madison's Circle of Women Luncheon, the National Legal Aid and Defender Association Annual Conference, and the New York County Defender Services Training. She regularly presents at the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Annual Conference and Trial Skills Academy. Margaret has been published in the State Bar of Wisconsin's *Wisconsin Juvenile Law Handbook*. She has been honored as a member of the Rubin Society of the Wisconsin State Public Defender for her work with children. She is the proud recipient of the 2016 Chiarkas Award, presented by the Wisconsin State Public Defender in recognition of her innovative leadership efforts. At Marquette University, Margaret completed her Jurist Doctor and Master of Arts in public service with an administration of justice specialization. Margaret completed the YWCA Racial Justice Initiative Certificate program. She practices in the Milwaukee trial office. Margaret is also a mock trial and master-rated figure-skating coach.

**Devon Lee** is an attorney in the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Children and Families. Previously, she worked at the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office—first, as a staff attorney representing youth in children in need of protection or services and delinquency cases, and, later, as the agency's legal counsel. She also served as one of the agency's juvenile practice coordinators.

**Gina M. Pruski** is the director of training and development for the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office (SPD). After obtaining both her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, she began her career with the SPD in 1992, serving first as a staff attorney in the Trial Division and then as deputy legal counsel and legislative liaison for the agency. Gina was the 2016–17 chair of the National Alliance of Indigent Defense Educators (NAIDE)—the trainers' section of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA)—and is currently an executive officer of NAIDE. She is a member of the National Association for Public Defense and serves on its education committee. She frequently conducts training for public defender trainers around the country. Since 2017, Gina has served as a trainer consultant for NLADA for the MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice (S+J) Challenge. In addition, on behalf of the U.S. State Department, Gina provided mentoring and technical assistance in the area of training and professional development to the Public Defender's Office in Armenia. In March 2018, she conducted train-the-trainer programs for criminal justice professionals in Yerevan. She has received extensive training in the area of racial justice facilitation, is one of the YWCA of Madison's Race to Equity project facilitators, and conducts workshops and presentations on the topic of unconscious bias for public defender offices around the country (and, in 2016, for the Criminal Lawyers' Association) in Canada. Other subjects for which she conducts training at the national level include poverty, cultural humility, public defender wellness, and leadership. Gina currently serves on the board of directors for the Wisconsin Youth Company and Wisconsin Women in Government. She is a volunteer for the Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program and a member of the Task Force on Wisconsin Lawyer Well-Being. She is an original coauthor of the State Bar of Wisconsin's *Wisconsin Juvenile Law Handbook* and regularly volunteers as a judge for moot court and mock trial competitions around Wisconsin. Gina is a 2011 recipient of the Women in the Law honor bestowed by the *Wisconsin Law Journal*.

**Mackenzie Renner** is the local attorney manager for the Walworth County office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, she has worked in the State Public Defender's Office for more than a decade, focusing much of her practice on juvenile justice and criminal defense. Mackenzie served on juvenile justice coalitions in Kenosha County before her appointment to the Walworth County State Public Defender's Office.

**Diane Rondini-Harness** has worked as staff attorney in the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office representing juveniles for 33 years. She served as the juvenile/termination-of-parental-rights private bar liaison for 7 years and is currently agency legal counsel. She is a 1984 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with a B.A. in political science and a certificate in women's studies, and a 1987 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School. She has served as an adjunct instructor at Bryant & Stratton College and Marquette University, is on the National Juvenile Defender Center Advisory Board, and is the co-chair of the Midwest Juvenile Defender Center. She is a certified Juvenile Training Immersion Program trainer and a committee member of the Student Expulsion Prevention Project.

**Amanda Skorr** practices criminal defense and termination-of-parental-rights law as a partner at Fox River Law, LLC, in Appleton. She formerly was a public defender in the state of Wisconsin, serving as the termination-of-parental-rights practice coordinator and a trial attorney. She is a graduate of the Hamline University School of Law (2005) and Winona State University (2001). Attorney Skorr is privileged to serve as a termination-of-parental-rights and juvenile-law educator for attorneys handling cases throughout Wisconsin.

#### **Authors of Previous Editions**

Andrea Taylor Cornwall  
Shelley M. Fite  
Kellie M. Krake  
Jean M. LaTour

Eryn Menden  
Janice P. Pasaba  
Virginia A. Pomeroy  
Melinda Swartz  
Mary A. Wolfe  
David Zerwick

