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ANDREW J. ALATIS is a principal assistant attorney general in the Ohio Attorney General’s Workers’ Compensation Section and has practiced law for more than 28 years. Because the vast majority of his cases resolve short of litigation, a large percentage, if not most, of his time is spent in conflict resolution, mediation, and negotiations. Alatis spent a number of years working for a large, nationwide corporate insurance company, where he was able to develop and apply his mediation skills. Through professional training, and with daily negotiation responsibilities, he obtained great skill and practice in various venues within and outside of the court system. Alatis subsequently served the state of Ohio in various litigation and mediation roles, including representing the State Medical Board of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Insurance, and the Ohio Department of Health, and resolving matters in the Department of Health’s radiation, asbestos, hospital, and other health care programs.

On an interesting note, Alatis has a degree in international relations and studied at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. He traveled throughout Eastern Europe in the days of the Iron Curtain, crisscrossed the equator in East Africa, climbed the pyramids in Mexico and Egypt, and travelled in the West Bank. He survived being buried alive in a snow avalanche in the Colorado Rockies, and swayed in a high-rise office tower in Tokyo during an earthquake. He’s shot blow guns with poisoned-tipped darts in the rain forests of Southeast Asia, and negotiated swaying rope bridges spanning raging rivers in the jungles of Borneo. More notably, he holds the two-year consecutive title of watermelon seed-spitting champion at the Oldtime Farming Festival in Centerburg, Ohio.

HON. DEBORAH ALSPACH received her Bachelor of Science in business administration from The Ohio State University in 1985 and her Juris Doctor from Ohio Northern University in 1988. She began working as a law clerk for the Law Aid Society in Columbus, Marion Branch in 1987. Upon admission to the bar in 1988, Judge Alspach opened a private practice. In 1992 she was appointed magistrate for Marion County Juvenile and Probate Court. Judge Alspach was elected and re-elected to the Marion County Court of Common Pleas Family Court in 1999, 2006, and 2012. She serves as the presiding judge for the common pleas court, and as the administrative judge of the family court in odd-numbered years.

RICHARD L. “DICK” ALTMAN is a magistrate of the Fulton and Henry County (Ohio) Common Pleas courts, and has worked in the dispute resolution field for more than 30 years. During his career, he has mediated matters in all areas of civil and family law. Altman is president-elect of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and the current chairperson of the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution. He’s a nationally known speaker on issues of dispute resolution, having made presentations for groups such as the Supreme Court of New Mexico, the Ohio Supreme Court, the Ohio Judicial College, Ohio state and local bar associations, the Wisconsin Association of Mediators, and AFCC. He’s a member of the Ohio State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Ohio Mediation Association, and the Fulton and Henry county bar associations.
AMY ARMSTRONG is an independently licensed social worker through the Ohio Counselor, Social Work, and Marriage and Family Therapy Board, with degrees from Miami University of Ohio, and The Ohio State University. She has taught “The Art of Positive Parenting, a program of Action for Children,” since 1996, and became a Certified Parent Coach® in 2006. Armstrong has extensive mediation training and serves families as a family mediator, parenting specialist, and coach for divorcing clients. She’s committed to providing education, inspiration, and support as clients take important steps toward wholeness and happiness, even in the midst of difficult situations and relationships.

JENNIFER C. BATTON, M.A., Conflict Education Consultants, LLC, has worked with more than 600 schools, 73 colleges and universities, and hundreds of government agencies and nonprofits across the country and in 22 countries around the globe. She is the former director of education programs for the state government agency, the Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management, and director of the Global Issues Resource Center at Cuyahoga Community College. She is the current chair of the Peace Education Working Group for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict. Her recent publications include a training manual for Minnesota’s Bureau of Mediation Services, Office of Collaborative Dispute Resolution: “Bridging Divides: What to do When People Disagree (2017).”

SASHA BLAINE is the conference attorney/appellate mediator for the Twelfth District Court of Appeals. Since joining the court in 2014, Blaine has successfully mediated more than 100 civil cases in diverse practice areas. In May 2017, Blaine served as a faculty course assistant for the civil mediation course at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev.

SUE BRONSON, M.S., has been a mediator, trainer, and psychotherapist in private practice in Milwaukee, Wis., since 1983, mediating family, elder, workplace, special education, and other disputes. As a mediator and facilitator, Bronson has more than 30 years of experience helping people engage in quality conversations. Her clients include private individuals, nonprofits, businesses, and government agencies. Bronson teaches basic and advanced mediation courses at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. She’s an advanced practitioner member of the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) and an approved continuing education trainer. She authored numerous articles on conflict resolution and is a national speaker on skills for improving how we engage in conflict and find resolution when it is desired. Bronson is co-chair of the ACR Elder Justice Initiative on Eldercaring Coordination and serves on the American Bar Association Task Force on Elder Abuse Screening to develop a screening tool for elder mediators. She was a charter member of the Wisconsin Association of Mediators, served on the Academy of Family Mediators board, past chair of the ACR Family Section and past co-chair of the ACR Elder Section, and actively participated in the Milwaukee Family Court Improvement Program.

HON. JAMES BROWN received his undergraduate degree in 1979 and his Juris Doctor in 1982 from The Ohio State University. Thereafter, Judge Brown practiced exclusively in the area of family law as a private practitioner for 32 years until 2014 when he was elected to the Franklin County Common Pleas Court - Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch bench. Judge Brown served on the Supreme Court of Ohio Domestic Relations Bench Card Workgroup from 2016 until 2017, creating bench cards for use by Ohio domestic court judges. In 2017, he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ohio Advisory Committee on Domestic Violence by
Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor. In the same year, the judge began serving on the Supreme Court of Ohio Domestic Relations Curriculum Committee by request of the Ohio Judicial College. Recently, Judge Brown was appointed trustee on the Board of the Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges.

ELAINE S. BUCK is a partner in the firm of Buck & Fish Ltd. and is certified by the Ohio State Bar Association as a family relations law specialist. She is trained in collaborative practice, mediation, and co-resolution. Buck also provides representation in adoption/surrogacy and probate. She served on the Ohio Supreme Court’s Subcommittee on Alternative Dispute Resolution: Collaborative Law, which drafted the Ohio Collaborative Family Law Act, and she actively supported its passage by providing testimony and other assistance for its enactment. Buck meets the standards for collaborative practice trainers of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. She has served as a co-trainer since 2015 for the Central Ohio Academy of Collaborative Divorce Professionals’ introductory interdisciplinary collaborative practice training, an annual two-day training. She’s presented to the Ohio House Judiciary Committee, the Ohio State Bar Association, the Columbus Bar Association, Capital University Law School, and the Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys. Buck is a graduate of Brown University and The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She is a fellow of the Ohio State Bar Association Foundation and a member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. She was awarded the designation of “Super Attorney” and is listed on the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers. Buck is president of the Central Ohio Academy of Collaborative Divorce Professionals. She’s a life member of First Community Church and has served as chair of the Board of Northwest Counseling Services, the Brown Alumni School Committee, and the Upper Arlington Education Foundation Board of Trustees, and served as trustee of the Upper Arlington Community Foundation.

MICHAEL L. BUENGER brings more than 25 years of experience working with and in courts in the United States and other countries. He began his legal and judicial administration career in Ohio, working as a law clerk for the Second District Court of Appeals in Dayton after graduating from law school. Since then, he has worked as senior counsel at the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), senior rule of law adviser in Kosovo and Egypt, and as Missouri’s and South Dakota’s state court administrator. He returned to Ohio in January 2015 to assume his current position as Ohio Supreme Court administrative director.

Buenger has served as president of the national Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA), vice-chair of the NCSC board of directors, and as a trustee for the National Judicial College. He has participated in the drafting of several interstate compacts, most notably with the Interstate Compact on Adult Offender Supervision, the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, and the most recent version of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. He recently was named to the National Judicial Opioid Task Force and invited by the United Nations Development Programs to join a working group implementing the Bangalore Principles on Judicial Conduct. He holds a J.D. from St. Louis University School of Law, and an LL.M. in public international law, with distinction, from the Brussels School of International Studies.
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KELLY CAPATOSTO is a full-time research associate working to expand the Kirwan's Race and Cognition work. Capatosto's work focuses on applying research on implicit racial bias to inform education policy and practice. Much of her work addresses issues of school discipline, disability, and racialized trauma. Her most recent reports can be found on the implicit bias and school discipline website. Beyond education, Capatosto has written several inter-disciplinary reports linking implicit bias insights to other domains, including housing and criminal justice. She co-authors the annual literature review, the State of the Science. Her research interests include exploring how humans’ conceptualization of race influences outcomes in the following area: social and emotional cognition, education, housing and lending, predictive analytics, and other big data applications.

JEFFREY CLARK, ESQ., serves as the public records special master in the Ohio Court of Claims Public Records Dispute Program. He began his career with the Ohio Attorney General’s Office in 1982. In 1995 he was appointed chief of the Corrections Litigation Section, and in 2004 he was named to lead a new section for child and elder protection. In 2007, Clark joined the Constitutional Offices Section to focus on public records and law enforcement issues. For the next 10 years he edited the Ohio Sunshine Laws Manual, trained elected officials and law enforcement personnel, defended state agencies, and mediated public records disputes. His current position in the Court of Claims includes determination of public records claims, and advising court mediators.

CARRIE CONNELLY has been the mediation attorney and assistant court administrator at the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals since 2012. She previously served as the court’s staff attorney. Connelly has completed 18 hours of basic mediation training in addition to 14 hours of domestic abuse mediation training through the Ohio Supreme Court. She routinely attends advanced mediation seminars and is a member of the Ohio Mediation Association.

VERONICA CRAVENER, ESQ., is the supervisor for small claims and dispute resolution at the Franklin County Municipal Court. Cravener mediates all civil case types for the court and assists the division manager in developing and implementing appropriate procedures for the court’s dispute resolution programs. Her previous ADR roles include teaching alternative dispute resolution as an adjunct faculty member at Columbus State Community College and mediating eviction cases at the Franklin County Municipal Court as a mediator for Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio. Cravener is a graduate of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

SHELBY J. CULLY is the legal manager of Lucas County Children Services. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Toledo and obtained a Juris Doctor from the University of Toledo, College of Law. She was admitted to the practice of law in 2005, and began as a sole practitioner representing parents and children in dependency, neglect, and abuse cases. Cully also served as a GAL in these cases. In 2008, she was trained as a mediator and facilitated dependency, neglect, and abuse mediation. In 2010, she joined Lucas County Children Services as a staff attorney and was promoted to legal manager earlier this year. Cully has four children and enjoys volunteering with their 4-H Club.
CHRISTY CUMBERLANDER WALKER has more than 18 years of experience in the field of mediation. She is currently employed at the Neighborhood Justice Center in Las Vegas, Nev., where she mediates temporary protection order cases (among others). She formerly served as a mediation services program coordinator at the Franklin County Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court in Ohio. She has taught classes on screening and safety in mediation for the Nevada Supreme Court mediation program and the Ohio Supreme Court. She has developed and conducted various trainings for mediators in Las Vegas and conducted training sessions and workshops for the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR). She has been a member of the ACR Board of Directors for six years and currently serves as treasurer. Cumberlander Walker earned her master’s degree in public administration from Central Michigan University and her bachelor’s degrees in accounting and public fiscal management from Franklin University. She has authored several articles, including, “The Art of Passionate Listening” and “The Myth of a Colorblind Society.”

Professor BENJAMIN DAVIS, a faculty member since 2003 and tenured since 2008, is a graduate of Harvard College (B.A.) and Harvard Law School and Harvard Business School (JD-MBA) where he was articles editor of the Harvard International Law Journal. Professor Davis teaches in the areas of contracts, alternative dispute resolution, arbitration, public international law, and international business transactions. Prior to joining the faculty, Professor Davis was an associate professor at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. Between 1983 and 1986, he worked in Paris, France, as a development consultant in West Africa, and as a strategic business consultant with Mars and Co in Europe. In 1986, he became the American legal counsel at the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, where he directly or indirectly supervised more than 5,000 international commercial arbitration and mediation cases, made filings before courts around the world on behalf of the ICC, assisted with the drafting of arbitration laws in countries such as India and Sri Lanka, and led conferences in Eastern and Western Europe, North America, and Asia. In 1996, he was promoted to director, Conference Programmes and manager of the Institute of World Business Law, where he organized training sessions on international contracts, dispute resolution, project finance, and electronic commerce. He is the creator of fast-track international commercial arbitration and the creator of the International Competitions for Online Dispute Resolution, by which students from around the world competed in online negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and litigation. He is a board member of the Society of American Law Teachers, council member of the ABA Section on Dispute Resolution, and member of the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline (Pipeline Council). Until recently, he was a member and subcommittee chair for the Arbitration Competition for the ABA-Law Student Division Competitions Committee helping develop the arbitration moot court of the ABA. He led the successful effort in the American Society of International Law to pass only the eighth resolution in its history, entitled the ASIL Centennial Resolution on Laws of War and Detainee Treatment. Professor Davis has given numerous presentations and speeches around the world. He is a contributing editor at Jurist and the SALTLAW Blog. He has published dozens of articles on topics related to international and domestic arbitration, online and offline dispute resolution, and international law.
ELLEN E. DEASON is the Joanne Wharton Murphy/Classes of 1965 and 1973 Professor in Law at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, where she teaches mediation and other dispute resolution courses. In 2016, she was honored with an OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. Deason’s recent publications focus on judicial mediation and combinations of mediation and arbitration. She has also written extensively on the topic of confidentiality in mediation. Deason served on the advisory committee for the drafting of the Uniform Mediation Act and participated in training mediators after it was enacted in Ohio. She co-authored a civil procedure casebook, an alternative dispute resolution casebook, and a book on global issues in mediation. Deason is a graduate of Michigan Law School. She served as a law clerk for the Hon. Harry T. Edwards, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and the Hon. Harry A. Blackmun, U.S. Supreme Court, and as a legal advisor at the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in the Netherlands. She practiced as a litigation associate at Morrison & Foerster in Washington, D.C., and began her teaching career at the University of Illinois College of Law. Prior to attending law school, Deason worked as a research scientist in biological oceanography.

RICHARD A. DOVE is the director of the Ohio Board of Professional Conduct, and serves as the board’s chief legal and administrative officer. Prior to his appointment as secretary, Dove served for more than 22 years on the Ohio Supreme Court staff, the last four as assistant administrative director. He is an instructor for the Ohio Judicial College, Institute for Court Management, and other professional associations, and authored “Judicial Campaign Conduct: Rules, Education, and Enforcement,” published in the Loyola (L.A.) Law Review. He received the 2007 Award of Merit from the Columbus Bar Association and the 2014 Founders Award from the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education. Dove is a member of the Ohio State Bar Association’s Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer Legacy Committee, a distinguished life fellow of the Ohio State Bar Foundation, and past-president of the National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards. He is a graduate of Wittenberg University and Capital University Law School and is admitted to practice in Ohio, before the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

LENNY ELIASON has been an Athens County commissioner since August 1998. He is trained as a public sector dispute resolution mediator and serves as a mediator for the Athens Area Mediation Service. Eliason is a member of the Board of Directors of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (president, 2006), an Appalachian Development Corporation board member, and a County Employee Benefit Consortium Board member (president, 2009–2014). He served as a board member for the County Risk Sharing Authority from 2002 until 2008. He is vice president of the Buckeye Hills Hocking Valley Regional Development Executive Committee and president of the Buckeye Hills Resource Conservation and Development Council. Eliason has served on the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors since 2005. He served as president of the NACo board from July 2011 to July 2012, and institutionalized his successful Healthy Counties presidential initiative to NACo committee status with creation of the Healthy Counties Advisory Board. The advisory board is a public-private partnership to provide information, training, and assistance to counties. Eliason serves as the team coach for the Athens County Community Health Coalition and is in his second term on the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution. He earned a Master’s of Public Administration from Ohio University in 2002. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in the city of Athens. They have a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.
SERPIL ERGUN is the administrator for judicial operations and chief magistrate of the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court in Cleveland, Ohio, one of the largest trial courts in the state. She has more than 30 years of experience as a judicial officer, deciding pre- and post-decree parenting, support, interstate parentage, and property division matters. Magistrate Ergun’s objectives for the court are to enhance access to justice and transparency, and to increase efficiency and promote public trust and confidence through technology and case management practices that improve customer experience. She holds a special interest in therapeutic jurisprudence, and is committed to alternative dispute resolution and problem-solving processes that produce beneficial outcomes for individuals involved in the legal process. She is trained in mediation, parenting coordination, and collaborative law models of dispute resolution. Magistrate Ergun holds nationally recognized certifications as a court manager and court executive from the National Center of State Courts (NCSC), and is a fellow of NCSC’s Institute of Court Management (ICM). She is certified to teach the Purposes and Responsibilities course in the Court Management Program curriculum offered by ICM and the Ohio Judicial College. Magistrate Ergun received the 2016 Ohio Association of Magistrates’ Education Award “in recognition of extraordinary contributions to the education of Ohio’s Judiciary.” Magistrate Ergun is a member of the Ohio Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Children & Families and co-chair of its subcommittee on Family Law Reform Implementation. She is a current member of the Ohio Association of Magistrates, the Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges, the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, the Center for Principled Family Advocacy, and the National Association of Court Management, the National Association of Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers, and is a life member of the Judicial Conference of the Eighth Judicial District. She is also a member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and was founding president of its Ohio Chapter. Magistrate Ergun has served on the Ohio Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Case Management’s subcommittee on Time Guidelines and Civil Justice Grant Program Review Committee, the 2013 Ohio Child Support Guidelines Advisory Council, and the Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency Advisory Board. She is active in judicial branch curriculum development and course planning for the Ohio Judicial College, and is a frequent lecturer and writer on civil justice and court reform, case management, parenting coordination, child support and medical support, best practices, and other issues for judges, magistrates, attorneys, and others in the legal community.

BRIAN FARRINGTON joined the Supreme Court of Ohio in August 2002 as a judicial assignment officer, where he was responsible for administering Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer’s visiting judge program. In November 2007, Farrington was promoted to statistics analyst in the Court’s Office of Court Services. From 2011 through 2017, he served on the Conference of State Court Administrator’s Court Statistics Committee, providing guidance and leadership to the Court Statistics Project staff at the National Center for State Courts. Farrington serves as faculty for the Supreme Court’s Court Management Program, teaching the “Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts” module to certified court manager candidates. Prior to joining the Supreme Court, Farrington worked for 10 years as a litigation paralegal at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease in Columbus. He graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, in 1987.

LINDA FIELDSTONE, M.Ed., former supervisor of Family Court Services, worked within the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Florida, for 26 years and was instrumental in the development of parente coordination in Miami-Dade County, statewide and nationally. She is past president of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and its Florida Chapter (FLAFCC), secretary of the AFCC Task Force on Parenting Coordination, which provided Guidelines for Parenting Coordination in 2005 and is on their current task force to update
those standards. She also serves on the Florida Supreme Court Rules and Policies Committee. Most recently, she initiated the creation of the ACR and FLAFCC Task Forces on Eldercaring Coordination, which used the Parenting Coordination model to develop a process to benefit elders involved with high conflict families. She is co-chair of the Association for Conflict Resolution Elder Justice Initiative on Eldercaring Coordination. Fieldstone has been involved in research concerning parenting coordination, eldercaring coordination and collaborative law, provided numerous trainings both statewide and nationally, consulted on court services implementation to international program providers, and written articles on high conflict families, family court services, empirically based parenting plans, parenting coordination and eldercaring coordination. She is currently servicing the community through Family Resolutions, LLC, to provide conflict resolution opportunities directly to families before, during or after court actions.

**ROSA LIND C. FLOREZ** has served as a magistrate in Hamilton County Domestic Relations Court since November 2006. She was appointed director of the Dispute Resolution Center of the Domestic Relations Court on Sept. 2, 2015. In March 2016, Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor appointed Florez to a three-year term to the Advisory Committee on Language Services. She serves on the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution Subcommittee on Education, Training and Experience for Mediation and has been a board member of the Ohio Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts since 2015. Florez began mediating in 1999 when the Ohio Supreme Court funded common pleas court projects to provide another means to resolve litigation. She trained Hamilton County area attorneys when the Uniform Mediation Act was enacted. She is a faculty member of the Ohio Supreme Court on family law mediation, Early Neutral Evaluation and parenting coordination. Florez received a Bachelor of Science in journalism from Ohio University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati. She is presenting with assistance from members of her staff: Kimberly Kent, LISW-S, supervisor; Katie Porter, LISW, JD, services facilitator; and Patrick Magill, LISW, social worker.

**WILLIAM “BILL” FROEH LIC H** is the current Langdon Fellow in Dispute Resolution at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. He graduated cum laude from Moritz in 2011 and served on the Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law while in law school. In addition, he worked on public policy consensus building projects as a research fellow with the Election Law @ Moritz program, and served as research assistant in the areas of nonprofit law and professional responsibility. He has an undergraduate degree in math and political science from Denison University. Prior to commencing the fellowship, Froehlich worked in labor relations and practiced labor law as an associate attorney with Muskovitz & Lemmerbrock, LLC. Before law school, he worked as a legislative aide in the Ohio Senate.

Retired Judge **PEGGY FOLEY JONES** is a partner at Giffen & Kaminski, and has led the firm’s ADR practice for the past 10 years. She is a mediator, arbitrator, and private judge. Her judicial and ADR experience have helped clients nationwide resolve litigation, troubled business relationships, and other disputes through private, convenient, and practical methods. Foley Jones was born and raised in Milwaukee Wisc., as a middle child of seven. “I was always the compromiser because I got along with both the older and younger kids,” she says. She went on to graduate cum laude from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., and earned her law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. She is a member of numerous prestigious ADR panels, including the
American Arbitration Association, where she serves on the employment and commercial panels and was recently selected as an AAA master mediator. She is also on the panels of the Resolute Systems Inc., Ohio Supreme Court Dispute Resolution Committee, and the U.S. EEOC Pro Bono Mediation Panel. Foley Jones is a member of the American Bar Association ADR section and a frequent presenter at their annual conferences. She is a member and former chair of the ADR section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) and former chair of the Judicial Qualifications Committee. She has extensive ADR training and is renown for her commitment to the process, which has inspired her to be a frequent speaker on ADR topics for the AAA, ABA and CMBA. She was awarded the William H. Rehnquist award at the Republican Judicial Salute and her article, “Faulkner and Reaching Higher in Today’s ADR World” was published in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal.

HEATHER J. FOURNIER is the Lucas County Juvenile Court mediation director. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in political science at Bowling Green State University and obtained a Juris Doctor from Whittier Law School, where she was a Center for Children’s Rights fellow and the Public Interest Law Foundation president. Fournier was admitted to the practice of law in 2002, and for 10 years, she worked as a family law attorney representing children and parents in juvenile, domestic relations and appellate court. She served separate terms as the Toledo Bar Association Juvenile Court secretary and president. For five years, she worked at a medical supply company serving as in-house counsel and as a human resource and quality associate. Fournier was privileged to work in the Court Appointed Special Advocates office as a trainer and an emancipation specialist from 2015 to 2016. She enjoys volunteering as a track and cross country coach and values time with her husband and two children.

HON. ROBERT D. FRAGALE was born and raised in Butler, Penn., graduating from Butler High School in 1973. He received a Bachelor of Science from Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Penn., in 1978, and his Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School in 1982. He began working in private practice in 1983 and from 1992 to 2004, held the position of magistrate of the Marion County Common Pleas Court, Probate and Juvenile Division. From May through December 2004, he held the position of Marion County Common Pleas Court Judge - General Division. From December 2004 through January 2009, he held the position as Marion County Common Pleas Court Magistrate, Family Court. He was elected to his first term as judge of the Marion County Family Court in November 2008.

DR. JAN MARIE FRITZ is a professor in the School of Planning (and affiliated with the Department of Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies and the Department of Sociology) at the University of Cincinnati as well as a visiting professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Johannesburg. She will be a Fulbright U.S. Scholar at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences beginning in August 2016. She has received many other grants and awards. For instance, she was the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Human Rights and International Studies at the Danish Institute of Human Rights in Copenhagen, Denmark (2011-12) and a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. (2012-13) She received the DAAP College Award (University of Cincinnati) for Outstanding Research and Creative Work in 2008, the American Sociological Association’s Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology in 2010 and the Ohio Mediation Association’s Better World Award for a distinguished career in mediation in 2011. She is a past Vice-President for Finance of the International Sociological Association (ISA) and has represented the ISA,
many years, to the United Nations. She has organized ISA sessions at the parallel events connected with the meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. She was the president of ISA’s RC46 Clinical Sociology and a past vice president of RC26 Sociotechnics-Sociological Practice. She now is a board member of both ISA groups and was the founder and convener of the Cincinnati for CEDAW Community Coalition (CCCC). She has written or edited more than 120 publications including the award-winning International Clinical Sociology (Springer, 2008), “Special Education Mediation in the United States” (People with Health Limitations in Modern Society, 2010), “Women, Peace, Security and the National Action Plans (Journal of Applied Social Science, 2011), “Addressing Environmental Racism” (SOCIOIIPOCTIP, 2011), “Including Sociological Practice” in The Shape of Sociology for the 21st Century, 2012), “Practicing Sociology: Clinical Sociology and Human Rights” (Handbook of Sociology and Human Rights, 2012), Moving Toward a Just Peace: The Mediation Continuum (Springer, 2014) and (with Jacques Rhéaume) Community Intervention: Clinical Sociology Perspectives (Springer, 2014).

DOUGLAS N. GODSHALL commenced his mediation and arbitration practice in 2014, after more than 37 years of civil jury trial practice in Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Encouraged by lawyers and judges, he added mediation to his practice 10 years ago. In 2012, Godshall was appointed court mediator by Judge Elinore Marsh Stormer of the Summit County (Ohio) Probate Court, mediating litigated cases as well as selected guardianship cases. In 2014 he was appointed court mediator by Judge Dixie Park with the Stark County (Ohio) Probate Court. He was appointed court mediator in the Stark County Common Pleas Court in 2017. Godshall mediates cases privately with Attorneys Mediation Services LLC in Canton, Ohio. He’s served as a labor arbitrator for more than 30 years. In 2016, Judge Park appointed him eldercaring coordinator. Ohio is a pilot state and Stark County is a pilot county for this national program designed to serve elders in need and their families in situations not amenable to mediation. Godshall was appointed by Justice Cook and reappointed by Chief Justice Moyer to serve on the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Certification of Attorneys as Specialists. He later served as chair. Last year, the OSBA president and Chief Justice O’Connor appointed him to the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution. Godshall served on the Board of Governors of the the OSBA, also serving as chair of the Committee on Legislative and Governmental Affairs. He is a fellow of the Ohio State Bar Association. He served on the OSBA Commission on Judicial Candidates on two occasions. He has served the Stark County Bar Association as chair of the grievance committee and for 20 years, chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, and has served on the executive committee. He serves as chair of the Access to Justice Committee of the Akron Bar Association, where he received the Liberty Bell Award in 2015 for pro bono service. He is a fellow of the Akron Bar Foundation. He has served on grievance committees in the Ohio State, Stark and Akron Bars. Godshall currently serves as president of the Scanlon Bell Inn of Court in Akron. He received his Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude from Temple University. He is a graduate of the Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where he served as an editor of the Law Review. Godshall served in the U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam, and was awarded the Bronze Star “v,” one oak leaf cluster, and the Purple Heart.
DWIGHT GOLANN is professor of law at Suffolk University and a leading teacher and writer on dispute resolution. He has authored numerous books and publications, including the American Bar Association’s leading texts on mediation technique, “Mediating Legal Disputes,” and advocacy, “Sharing a Mediator’s Powers,” as well as an ebook on advocacy for the European Commission, which appears in nine languages. Golann is the co-author of textbooks on dispute resolution and co-creator of videos on negotiation, mediation, and counseling, which are available to teachers at no cost at www.adrvideo.org. He’s been a visiting professor at Boston, Oregon and Pepperdine universities and the Harvard Program of Instruction for Lawyers. Golann has mediated hundreds of legal disputes. He is a certified mediator for the International Mediation Institute, scholar in residence at the International Academy of Mediators, and the recipient of the American College of Civil Trial Mediators’ Lifetime Achievement Award. Golann was formerly a civil litigator, and served as chief of the government and trial divisions of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, where he supervised all litigation against state officials and agencies and tried and argued cases at every level of the American court system. He is a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School.

CHERISE D. HAIRSTON, M.A./ABD began her career with the center as an intern in 1996, and joined the staff full-time in 1999 as a mediation specialist. She’s now a conflict intervention specialist with more than 21 years of professional and academic expertise in conflict coaching, communication-based team building, conflict competency training, and conflict intervention process design for individuals and organizations. In addition, Hairston is the volunteer and outreach coordinator. She is a Certified Transformative Mediator™ and fellow with Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation, Inc. She completed doctoral level studies at Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in the Department of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, earning honors as an advanced practitioner in conflict analysis and resolution, a Master of Arts in conflict resolution from the Department of Conflict Resolution at Antioch University McGregor, Yellow Springs (Ohio), and a Bachelor of Arts in political science with a minor in women’s studies from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

WENDY HAWBAKER, J.D., has been involved in the dispute resolution field since 1991 when she began providing mediation services as part of her legal practice. She has been a mediator in a wide variety of cases in private and public practice; has trained mediators, lawyers and others for the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio Judicial College, and other private and nonprofit organizations in northeast Ohio; presented on a range of dispute resolution topics at regional, state, and national conferences; assisted in training at the National Judicial College; and was an adjunct professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Law’s Legal Clinic. Hawbaker is the manager of Ashtabula County’s Mediation and Conflict Management Services, where she has been employed since 1998. This program handles mediation in a large range of cases, including personal injury, medical malpractice, construction, business, real estate, foreclosures, domestic relations, juvenile, probate, and small claims matters. As program coordinator, her duties include administration and oversight of the department, mediation of cases in the various courts, parenting coordination, and facilitating restorative justice meetings. She is on the advisory board of Cleveland Mediation Center, is a founding member and past president of the Mediation Association of Northeast Ohio, past president of the Ohio Mediation Association, and a member of the ABA Dispute Resolution Section and the Association for Family and Conciliation Courts.
DAVID A. HEJMANOWSKI has been a juvenile and probate court magistrate for Delaware County since January 2003. Prior to this, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Delaware County, handling more than 400 felony cases. He graduated as a public service fellow from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 1999 where he also received the Joseph M. Harter Memorial Award. He received his B.S. in political science from Hiram College in 1996. He was appointed in 2005 by Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer to the Ohio Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Interpreter Services. He is the attorney coordinator for the Delaware County Interfaith Legal Services Clinic and a member and past secretary of the Ohio State Bar Association Juvenile Justice Committee. He is a frequent presenter for the Ohio Judicial College. Hejmanowski, his wife, Ashley, and their two children, Catherine and Nicholas, reside in Delaware.

STEPHANIE ELLIOTT HESS is the deputy administrative director of the Supreme Court of Ohio. She is licensed to practice law in the state of Ohio as well as the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. Hess is a past president of the National Association for Court Management (NACM) and a member of the International Association for Court Management, the Ohio Association for Court Administration, the American Bar Association, the Ohio State Bar Association, and the Columbus Bar Association. Additionally, she serves as faculty for the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), Institute for Court Management, and is a NCSC board member. Prior to joining the Ohio Supreme Court, Hess worked for the Franklin County Common Pleas Court – General Trial Division for 11 years as a bailiff and then as the director of human resources. She received her bachelor’s degree and Juris Doctor from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

HON. JEFFREY A. HOOPER has been judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Muskingum County Domestic Relations Division since 2003 when he was elected as the first judge in that court. Prior to that, he served 22 years as judge of the Muskingum County Court. Judge Hooper received his Bachelor of Arts from Miami University and his J.D. from Washington & Lee University School of Law. In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Hooper has served as the past president of the Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges, serves on the Domestic Relations Law and Procedures Committee of the Ohio Judicial Conference, is a member of the Supreme Court of Ohio Advisory Committee on Domestic Violence, past chairman of the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Professionalism, and serves on the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution.

SHELISA JOHNSON is a diversion counselor and mediator with Erie County Common Pleas Court. She is also a mediator for the Truancy Mediation Program (TEMP), which is designed to identify and address barriers to a student’s school attendance, and foster consistent communication between parents and the schools. She regularly facilitates an anger management group for youth. Johnson holds a Master of Arts in family studies from Spring Arbor University and is a family life educator, specializing in marriage, family and workplace communication, which is where her passion lies. She received her Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice studies from Kent State University. Johnson has been working with individuals and families of diverse backgrounds, providing support and intervention for 21 years, positioned as a juvenile probation counselor (1996-2013), a career services consultant (2013-present) and a mediator (2016-present). She served as co-chair of the Attendance Supports of Children & Families Workgroup for the Ohio Supports Attendance: A Community Collaboration Subcommittee for the Supreme Court of Ohio.
MONICA KAGEY, MBA, LSW, is manager of the Specialized Dockets Section at the Supreme Court of Ohio, where she provides support services and resources to Ohio trial courts; monitors and assists in the research, development, and continuation of various specialized docket programs; and manages the budget, staffing, and policies within the section. Prior to joining the Court, Kagey spent eight years as program director for the Franklin County Family Drug Court, and eight years with Franklin County Children Services, where she served in many capacities, including positions within the legal, recruitment, and direct service departments. Kagey graduated summa cum laude from Ohio Dominican University, where she majored in social work. She is a licensed social worker with the state of Ohio. She earned her MBA, with a focus in nonprofit and government agencies, from Franklin University.

DORON M. KALIR is a clinical professor of law at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Before joining the C-M Law faculty, he practiced in New York with Skadden, Arps and other firms. Since joining Cleveland-Marshall, he has represented clients before all levels of federal courts (including the U.S. Supreme Court), as well as all levels of Ohio courts (including the Ohio Supreme Court). Kalir holds an LL.M. (James Kent Scholar – highest honors) from Columbia Law School, and an LL.M. (summa cum laude) and LL.B. (cum laude) from the Hebrew University Law School in Jerusalem, Israel.

JONETTA KAPUSTA-DOROGI is a certified specialist in family relations law, certified by the Ohio State Bar Association. Kapusta-Dorogi’s experience includes both analysis and litigation of complex domestic relations issues, including business evaluation, treatment of retirement assets in divorce, tax considerations involved in the payment and receipt of spousal support and custody issues. Kapusta-Dorogi is committed to developing client awareness of alternative process options in seeking to terminate their marriage and restructure their family. She is committed to helping her clients identify and prioritize their interests, and providing legal information and counsel, which allows them to take control of the decisions within the process they select, in an effort to obtain enduring peaceful and equitable results. Kapusta-Dorogi trains lawyers and other professionals in the techniques and theory of collaborative law and mediation practice. As a mother of two college students and a medical student, she is sensitive to child-related issues at every developmental stage and has an analytical and practical approach to problem solving. Kapusta-Dorogi’s commitment to understanding her clients’ interests and priorities has enabled her to achieve successful results. She offers the skills of a seasoned family law attorney and an accomplished collaborative practitioner, parent coordinator, and family law mediator.

HON. JOYCE V. KIMBLER graduated magna cum laude from Evangel College in Springfield, Mo. She obtained her Juris Doctor from the University of Akron School of Law and was licensed as an attorney in Ohio in November 1982. She worked in private practice and as a judicial attorney for the Ninth District Court of Appeals before joining Nationwide Insurance Company in December 1985. She spent 29 years with Nationwide as a trial attorney before retiring in December 2014. During that time, she participated in more than 100 jury trials, handled more than 50 appellate cases and argued five cases before the Ohio Supreme Court. She also participated in hundreds of mediations in counties throughout Ohio. She has practiced in federal courts in both the Northern District and the Southern District of Ohio and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. In November 2014, she was elected as a judge for the Medina County Common Pleas Court – General Division. Since assuming the bench on Jan. 1, 2015, Judge Kimbler has presided over numerous civil and criminal cases, including a death penalty case. She operates a mental health court and a drug court — both of which are Ohio
MARYA CODY KOLMAN is the director of mediation services for the Franklin County (Ohio) Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court and an adjunct instructor with The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, where she teaches negotiations, mediation advocacy, and interprofessional collaboration. She was previously a mediator and an attorney in private practice. As an attorney, Kolman represented many domestic violence survivors in civil protection order and divorce cases and, as a mediator, she has implemented domestic violence screening and other safety measures in her court’s programs. Kolman is the past president of the ACR and was a member of the ACR Safety Task Force. She holds a law degree from Yale Law School and an undergraduate social work degree from the Pennsylvania State University. She frequently provides training for mediators, court personnel, attorneys, and social workers on screening, safety, domestic abuse issues, and other conflict resolution topics.

ED KRAUSS has provided about 3,000 hours of service in his 21-year mediation career, working with private citizens, courts, school districts, cities, counties, and other government units. Although Krauss has mediated divorce and parenting disputes, his emphasis lies in two fields — employment/personnel and financial. He has mediated about 200 cases for the U.S. Postal Service — all EEO and personnel disputes — and has mediated other non-EEO employment issues for state and county agencies. Krause also has mediated financial cases from state agencies and courts in Franklin and Delaware counties and the Franklin County auditor, with the largest case totaling $15 million dollars. Krauss continues to build his skills, and has completed more than 200 hours of training through the Ohio Mediation Association, the Supreme Court of Ohio, the U.S. Postal Service, FINRA, and the University of Wisconsin Extension Service, among others.

PAM MANNING is a magistrate with the Juvenile Court of Lucas County. Prior to being appointed magistrate, she was in private practice as a sole practitioner, with the bulk of her practice being in juvenile and domestic relations courts. She holds a B.A. from the University of Toledo and a J.D. from the University of Toledo College of Law. She is licensed to practice law in Ohio and Michigan. She is a current member of the Ohio Association of Magistrates and a past member of the Ohio State Bar Association and the Toledo Bar Association, serving on the juvenile and domestic relations court committees of each, as well as the Toledo Bar Association grievance investigation committee.

SHARON MAERTEN-MOORE is court administrator and magistrate of the Fourth District Court of Appeals. She served as the founding mediator for the Fourth District’s program from 2005 to 2012. In that capacity, she completed basic mediation training and many other continuing education classes.

TAMMY MARTIN KOSIER has more than 23 years of experience in mediation, facilitation, conflict management, mentoring, and training. She has experience in all aspects, including program development, mediation, training and consulting. She’s a mediation coordinator and mediator for the Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court. She has mediated all case types in the county including civil, parentage, domestic
relations, foreclosure, juvenile delinquency, truancy and truancy prevention, and small claims. She specializes in juvenile court and foreclosure cases. Prior to working for the court’s general division, she was the director of unruly/delinquency mediations and was primarily responsible for the development of programming for juvenile cases — most notably the Truancy Prevention through Mediation Project and Juvenile Domestic Violence Program. She also mediated and mentored mediators for status, misdemeanor, custody, and visitation matters, and has a special expertise in juvenile domestic violence, truancy, and child protection mediation. She has her B.A. in psychology from Gettysburg College and her J.D. from the University of Toledo College of Law. She has presented numerous trainings and provided consultation extensively throughout Ohio and nationally on topics related to mediation, facilitation, conflict management, negotiation, crisis intervention, and program development. She also has served as faculty for the Ohio Supreme Court in mediation-related training.

PROFESSOR ROY J. LEWICKI is the Irving Abramowitz Memorial Professor Emeritus. He is a leading scholar in the study of trust development and trust repair, negotiation and conflict management processes. Lewicki is the author or editor of 40 books, including the leading academic textbooks on negotiation. His most recent books are “Negotiation, 7E” and “Negotiation: Readings, Exercises and Cases, 7E.” Another recent book, “Making Sense of Intractable Environmental Conflicts,” won the Best Book Award from the International Association of Conflict Management. Lewicki is founding editor of Academy of Management Learning and Education and has served as associate editor of the Academy of Management Executive. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Conflict Management in 2013, the Distinguished Educator Award from the Academy of Management, and has been named a fellow of the Academy of Management and the Organizational Behavior Teaching Society. At Fisher, he received the Pace Setters Service Award, the Pace Setters Teaching Award, the Westerbeck Teaching Award and the Bostic Georges Service Award. Companies such as Nationwide, Nestle, Limited Stores, OM Scott, Cora Kokosing, American Electronic Power, Siemens, Tosoh, The Richard M. Ross Heart Hospital and The Ohio State Medical Center have utilized Lewicki’s executive education services on conflict management, negotiation skills and leadership development.

BRANDON CHARLES MCCLAIN was appointed to serve as magistrate in the Dayton Municipal Court in December 2015. McClain received his undergraduate degree, with honors, from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2007, his graduate degree from the University of Cincinnati in 2010, and his law degree from the University of Dayton in 2011. He previously served as a non-commissioned officer in the North Carolina Army National Guard, where he achieved the rank of sergeant prior to being honorably discharged in 2009. From 2011 to 2013, McClain handled cases in the areas of criminal law, general civil litigation and family law. In 2013, he joined the Montgomery County Public Defender’s Office and was assigned to the Dayton Municipal Court and the Montgomery County Common Pleas Veteran’s Court. McClain remains actively involved in a variety of community initiatives and service organizations. He is a member of the Ohio Bar Association, the Ohio Association of Magistrates, the Dayton Bar Association’s Ethics Subcommittee and co-chairman of the Dayton Bar Association’s Diversity Subcommittee. Additionally, McClain serves on the Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyer’s Project Board of Directors, the Mary Scott Nursing Center, Inc. Board of Directors, and the Sinclair Community College Paralegal Program Advisory Committee. In March 2017, McClain was recognized as a rising star in Dayton Bar Briefs magazine.
MICHAEL R. MORAN has been chief counsel, chief bailiff/constable and director of mediation to Franklin County Probate Judge Robert G. Montgomery since 2011. At Judge Montgomery’s request, Moran created and currently directs the court’s mediation program, which has disposed of more than 150 complex cases. He also provides court security and protective services leadership at the court, with the chief guardianship investigator and all bailiffs reporting to him. He is an instructor for the Ohio Judicial College, the Ohio Probate Judge’s Association, and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, training judges, magistrates, mediators, bailiffs, probation officers and court security personnel in mediation, officer safety, defensive firearms usage, and process service. He has more than 30 years of experience in the legal, law enforcement, and security fields, and received advanced training in protective intelligence and threat-assessment from the U.S. Marshal Service and Judicial Security Specialist training. Throughout his career, Moran has held positions as a private practicing attorney, special police officer, inspector general, judge advocate, manager of investigations, state investigator, security supervisor, protective detail team leader, security driver, licensed private investigator, and a prosecuting attorney. He is an adjunct professor at Capital University Law School.

JANET MUELLER, M.S., launched her career at the Dayton Mediation Center in 1995 when she joined the center as an intern. She was hired in 1997 to manage the Police Mediation Project, which she continues to do today. In addition to her role as mediator and case manager, she is one of the center’s lead trainers and has played a key role in developing innovative training programs. Mueller is a Certified Transformative Mediator™ and fellow with the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation, Inc., an international think tank organization. She earned a master’s degree in conflict analysis and resolution from Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and a Bachelor of Arts in applied conflict management from Kent State University.

APRIL NELSON has been a staff mediator at Delaware Probate/Juvenile Court since March 2011. She also is a facilitator for the court’s Juvenile Writing Project. She graduated from Lewis and Clark Northwest School of Law in 1981, and practiced law in Delaware, Ohio, from 1990 until 2005. She retired from practice in 2005, and spent the next five years working as a special projects coordinator for Judge David Sunderman of the Delaware Municipal Court, helping to create the court’s mental health docket and small claims mediation program. She also assisted Judge Duncan Whitney of the Delaware Common Pleas Court in establishing a mental health docket at the felony level. In 2014 and 2015, she again worked with Judges David Sunderman and Marianne Hemmeter of the Delaware Municipal Court to create an OVI specialized docket. Nelson has presented sessions on implicit bias at the AFCC International Conference (2016), the Ohio Magistrates Association (2017), and at her own court as part of in-service training. She also served on the Ohio Supports Attendance: A Community Collaboration Subcommittee for the Supreme Court of Ohio. A huge believer in the power of community, Nelson has volunteered extensively in the greater Delaware area for more than two decades. She has been a volunteer at Delaware’s free monthly legal clinic for most of its 14 years — first as a volunteer attorney, and for the last 10-plus years, as its “jack of all trades.”
LEIGH ANNE NEWCOMER’S practice focuses on corporate and transactional matters. Newcomer works with corporate practitioners across the globe and advises clients across a wide range of industries, including both privately held and public companies, on commercial agreements, corporate formation and governance, mergers and acquisitions, and general business and organizational matters. She also has a developing concentration in securities law.

HAROLD PADDOCK is the court mediator and senior magistrate for the Clermont County Common Pleas Court, General Division, where he mediates all types of civil matters (personal injury, contract, business, land use, employment, etc.), and foreclosures cases. Paddock has a Bachelor of Science in business administration, cum laude, and Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University. He is admitted to practice in the state of Ohio, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to his service in Clermont County, he served as magistrate and Settlement Week coordinator with the Franklin County Common Pleas Court, General Division, in Columbus. In that capacity, he presided over jury trials, jury-waived trials, various other hearings, and hundreds of mediations. Before coming to Clermont County, Paddock had a private practice emphasizing mediation, arbitration, negotiation, litigation, and dispute resolution consulting. Paddock received training in mediation and negotiation through the American Bar Association, the Program of Instruction of Lawyers at the Harvard Law School, numerous seminars and conferences, and training in both foreclosure mediation and the Uniform Mediation Act through the Ohio Supreme Court. He is a member of the Clermont County, Ohio State, and American Bar Associations, and is active in dispute resolution activities of those associations. He has served as a volunteer mediator in Settlement Week for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. He wrote a book on Settlement Week, and has trained mediators in 15 Ohio counties, four other states, and the District of Columbia. Paddock previously served on the Ohio Supreme Court’s Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee. He has also written two science fiction novels, and is self-taught in game theory.

HON. DIANE M. PALOS serves on the Cuyahoga Common Pleas Court, Division of Domestic Relations. She previously served as a magistrate and referee in that court. She was the 2016-17 president of the Ohio Association of Domestic Relations Judges (OADRJ) and served from 2016 to 2017 as chair of the Ohio Judicial College Board of Trustees. Judge Palos chaired the planning committee for the Ohio Domestic Relations Summit in 2014, and later that year, she was appointed by the chief justice to the Task Force on Access to Justice. She serves on the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on the Rules of Superintendence and the Committee on Case Management. She is co-chair of the Ohio Judicial Conference Law & Procedure Committee for Domestic Relations. Previously, she served on the Supreme Court of Ohio Advisory Committee on Children, Families, and the Courts (2002-2008), and the Ohio Judicial College Board of Trustees (2005-2009). Judge Palos has been a faculty planner for continuing legal education for judges and magistrates in Ohio since 1987. She served by appointment on the Ohio Child Support Guidelines Council (1999-2001), and as a proxy to Ohio Child Support Guidelines Council (1995-1997). She has been an executive officer and member of the Board of Trustees for the Center for Principled Family Advocacy since 2000. She was a founding member of the center and has planned and facilitated many of the CLE presentations since its establishment. Judge Palos worked as an adjunct professor at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law for 21 years, where she taught various courses, including Advanced Legal Writing with a Family Law focus, Legal Writing, Family Law, and Bar Strategies and Tactics from 1989 to 2009. Judge Palos is the author of Chapter 19, Child Support, Sowald Morganstern Domestic Relations Law and a member of the editorial advisory board for the Domestic Relations Journal of Ohio.
HON. DIXIE PARK is judge of the Stark County Probate Court. She’s president of the Ohio Association of Probate Judges and chairs the Subcommittee on Adult Guardianship of the Advisory Committee on Children and Families of the Supreme Court of Ohio. Judge Park also serves on the executive committee of the Ohio Judicial Conference. She became interested in mediation while serving as judicial clerk for the Hon. Harry E. Klide, who started the first mediation program in the Stark County Common Pleas Court, General Division in 1996. This was one of three Supreme Court pilot programs. In 2004, Judge Park implemented the Stark County Probate Court’s first mediation rule, which allows families to amicably resolve issues. In 2016, the Stark County Probate Court received an Elder Justice Innovation Grant from the Administration from Community Living. Grant funds were used to implement the Eldercaring Coordination program, which assists elders with family conflicts in addressing elder care and well-being.

PARISA PARSA, executive director, Essential Partners, brings years of congregational, denominational, and non-profit leadership, focused on training and cultivating others as leaders to build strong, healthy organizations. Prior to joining Essential Partners, Parsa served as the director of Congregational Development for the New England Unitarian Universalist Association, providing leadership development, training tools and resources for mission-focused planning and change management for ministers and congregations. An ordained minister, Parisa led a mid-sized congregation in Milton, Mass., for 10 years, and has served in leadership roles for faith-based and social service organizations across the country. She’s an experienced facilitator and intercultural consultant, training nonprofit staff teams and congregations working to develop skills at culture change toward greater intercultural relationships within their communities.

MARCIE PATZAK-VENDETTI began her career at Mahoning County Juvenile Court as a hearing officer and was appointed magistrate by the Hon. Theresa Dellick in July 2007 — the same year she became director of Court Mediation Services. In 2017, Judge Dellick appointed Patzak-Vendetti to serve as magistrate for the Family Dependency Treatment Court, one of Mahoning County Juvenile Court’s six specialized dockets. She has served on the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution since its creation in 2012 and is currently vice-chair. Prior to that, she was a member of the Supreme Court of Ohio Committee on Dispute Resolution and participated in several workgroups covering all areas of dispute resolution. Patzak-Vendetti once served as vice-chair of the Dispute Resolution Committee for the OSBA and has contributed to the OSBA’s Law You Can Use and Legal Basics for Small Business publications. She has also been an instructor in higher education at multiple academic institutions for 16 years. She earned a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Business Administration from Youngstown State University, Juris Doctor from Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Master of Public Administration from Kent State University.

JAMES PETAS has mediated for 22 years and has been the senior mediator and director of Toledo Municipal Court mediation services for the past 19 years. During his time with the court, its mediation program has become the most comprehensive in Ohio. Petas received his bachelor’s degree in psychology and philosophy and master’s degree in counseling from the University of Toledo. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Mediation Association since 2008 and served as its president from 2010 to 2014. He also served as co-chair of the Toledo Bar Association’s Dispute Resolution Committee from 2004 to 2009. He assisted in the implementation of an in-house mediation program in the Oregon Municipal Court and presented at seminars for judges, magistrates, and law students, in areas of civil mediation and domestic abuse issues.
in mediation and fundamentals of mediation. Petas is currently the coordinator for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program for the Sylvania Municipal Court and works as a private practice therapist in Sylvania, Ohio. Lastly, he is extremely proud to be the head lacrosse coach for the Ottawa Hills High School Lacrosse Team, which reached the state quarter finals in 2015!

HON. LAYN R. PHILLIPS, founder of Phillips ADR Enterprises (PADRE), is both a former U.S. attorney and a former U.S. District judge. Judge Phillips joined the U.S. Attorney’s office in Los Angeles in 1980 as an assistant U.S. attorney, serving as a federal prosecutor in the Central District of California for four years. During the Reagan administration, he returned to his home state of Oklahoma, where, at age 31, he was nominated to serve as a U.S. attorney. At age 34, he was nominated by President Reagan to serve as a U.S. District Judge in Oklahoma City. During his tenure, Judge Phillips presided over more than 140 federal trials in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas. He also sat by designation on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Denver, Colo., where he participated in numerous panel decisions and published multiple opinions. In 1991, he resigned from the federal bench and joined Irell & Manella, where for 23 years he specialized in complex civil litigation, internal investigations, and alternative dispute resolution. For his years of commitment to public service, he was named as one of the 10 Outstanding Young Americans by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce. As a result of his trial work, Judge Phillips was elected into the American College of Trial Lawyers. He has the dual honor of being named by LawDragon as one of the “Leading Judges in America” and as one of the “Leading Litigation Attorneys in America.” Judge Phillips received both his B.S. and J.D. from the University of Tulsa. He also completed two years of an LL.M. program at Georgetown University Law Center in the field of antitrust and economic regulation of industry. Judge Phillips has been inducted into the University of Tulsa Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a four-year letter winner in tennis, serving as the captain of the men’s varsity team and winning the NCAA Missouri Valley Conference Championship at #1 singles. Judge Phillips has a passion for travel and has visited every continent. He currently resides in Laguna Beach, Calif., with his wife, Kathryn. He has three grown children Amanda, Parker, and Graham; a granddaughter, Stella; and a grandson, Owen Layn.

HON. DAN POLSTER was appointed as a federal judge by President Bill Clinton on Aug. 3, 1998. Judge Polster assumed the vacancy created by the assumption of senior status by U.S. District Judge David D. Dowd Jr. Judge Polster is stationed in Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to his appointment, he served as a federal prosecutor in Cleveland for 22 years, first as a trial attorney with the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, and then for 16 years as an assistant U.S. attorney, handling a wide variety of fraud and corruption cases. Judge Polster is a graduate of Harvard College (A.B. cum laude, 1972) and Harvard Law School (J.D. cum laude, 1976). He and his wife, attorney Deborah Coleman, have three children.

DIANA LUZ RAMOS-REARDON, ESQ., CCM, joined the Supreme Court of Ohio Court Services Division in 2007 as its first full-time domestic violence policy counsel. She provides technical assistance to Ohio courts to strengthen effective judicial response of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence, and promote best practices by leveraging federal grants to support education for judicial officers and court personnel and developing timely and relevant materials. She also serves as the Court’s Violence Against Women point of contact. Prior to joining the Court, Ramos-Reardon spearheaded the family violence prevention initiative at the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). She serves as chair of the OCJS Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council. A native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, she received a
bachelor’s degree from Emory University and master’s degree in public administration from The Ohio State University’s John Glenn College of Public Affairs. She is a graduate of the Michael E. Moritz College of Law at the Ohio State University. In 2017, Ramos-Reardon received the National Center for State Courts’ Institute for Court Management designation of certified court executive.

FRANK A. RAY was ranked as the No. 1 lawyer in Ohio by Super Lawyers Magazine in 2017. For 41 years, Ray practiced as a trial lawyer in federal and state courts in cases involving a variety of legal areas and appeared as lead counsel in more than 125 civil trials. In 2015, he withdrew from the trial practice and transitioned to full-time service as a private mediator for a broad spectrum of civil disputes. Ray began his professional career in 1973 as an assistant Franklin County prosecutor assigned to the criminal division. In 1975, he secured appointment as executive director of the economic crime project of the National District Attorneys Association in Washington, D.C. In 1976, he returned to Columbus as chief civil counsel for the Franklin County prosecuting attorney. Since 1979, he has been engaged in the private practice of law, primarily operating as a small firm owner or solo practitioner.

Ray has been elected president of the Columbus Bar Association, the Columbus Bar Foundation, the Ohio Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Central Ohio Association for Justice, the Ohio Association for Justice, and the Hon. Robert Duncan Chapter of Inns of Court. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Legal Aid Society of Columbus. Ray has been inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers. He is a member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. From 2003 through 2010, Ray taught the trial practice course as an adjunct professor at his alma mater, the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University.

JOHN J. READY is a graduate of John Carroll University (1984) and The Franklin Thomas Backus School of Law of Case Western Reserve University (1988). The Law Office of John J. Ready was founded in 1991, with an emphasis in family law in Cuyahoga and surrounding counties. Ready is admitted to practice in the state of Ohio (1988); the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio (1989); and, the U.S. Supreme Court (2001). Ready is a certified specialist in family relations law, and was among the first group of specialists certified in family relations law by the Ohio State Bar Association in 1999. He is also a board-certified domestic relations mediator and is likewise certified in general mediation. Ready has served as a domestic relations arbitrator, and as a panelist for the Cuyahoga County Arbitration Project. Ready is a charter member of the Center for Principled Family Advocacy and is trained in collaborative divorce, advance collaborative divorce, and interdisciplinary collaborative divorce. He has held each position on the executive committee of the Center for Principled Family Advocacy, and served as president of the Center for Principled Family Advocacy during 2007. He is currently a member of the board of trustees, co-chair of the parent coordinator practice group, co-chair of the peer committee and webmaster for the Center for Principled Family Advocacy. He is a member, and the treasurer (2016, 2017, 2018), of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Ohio Chapter. He is also a member of the Cuyahoga County Guardian Ad Litem project and frequently represents the interests of minors in litigated disputes regarding the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities (custody and visitation).

Ready is an arbitrator and acts as a parent coordinator in high-conflict custody and visitation matters. He was a member of the Ohio Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution Options, and a member of the subcommittee that developed standards, protocols, court rules, and legislation for parenting coordinators statewide, which was eventually codified in Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence 90 through 90.12. Ready was selected by his peers in 2009, 2011-2017, and again in 2018 as an Ohio Super Lawyer award recipient in Family Law, published by Northern Ohio Live, Cincinnati Magazine and Law and Politics.
NANCY ROGERS teaches and writes primarily in the dispute resolution area. Her co-authored treatise on mediation received the CPR Legal Program Book Prize in 1989 and her co-authored short text on mediation received the same national prize in 1987. The Emeritus Michael E. Moritz Chair in Alternative Dispute Resolution, she also co-authored a leading law school textbook in dispute resolution, now in its sixth edition, and in 2013 co-authored a textbook on dispute system and process design. Since joining the Moritz faculty, she has served as Ohio attorney general, dean of the Moritz College of Law, vice provost for academic administration of The Ohio State University, visiting professor of law at Harvard Law School, and associate dean for academic affairs for Moritz. Prior to joining the faculty, she was a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Thomas D. Lambros in Cleveland and practiced in the Glenville-area office of the Cleveland Legal Aid Society. Professor Rogers was president of the Association of American Law Schools in 2007 and was a member of its executive committee for five years. She served for nine years on the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation, a presidential appointment that requires U.S. Senate confirmation. Professor Rogers received a gubernatorial appointment as one of Ohio’s five commissioners on the National Conference of Commissioners of Uniform State Laws for seven years and was reporter for the conference’s Uniform Mediation Act, now enacted in 11 jurisdictions. She chaired the Judicial Advisory Committee, which reviewed candidates for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio for U.S. Senators Brown and Voinovich. Her awards include: James F. Henry Award (International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution) in 2014; Making a Difference Award (Ohio Mediation Association) in 2014; Community Service Award (Columbus Bar Association) in 2012; Judge Robert M. Duncan Award for Progressive Public Service (American Constitution Society/Columbus) in 2010; Ohio Bar Medal (Ohio State Bar Association) in 2008; President’s Award (Columbus Bar Foundation) in 2008; Women of Achievement Award (Columbus YWCA) in 2008; Mortar Board Alumni Achievement Award in 2008; D’Alemberte-Raven Award (American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution) in 2002; Ritter Award (Ohio State Bar Association) in 1998; the College of Law Alumni Association’s Outstanding Professor Award in 1996; Legal Aid Society of Columbus’ Service Recognition in 1996; and Whitney North Seymour, Sr. Medal (American Arbitration Association) in 1990.

BRUNO G. ROMERO is the manager of the Language Services Program at the Supreme Court of Ohio. His primary responsibilities include: testing and certification of court interpreters, training on matters related to language access, policy development, and language access compliance. Prior to managing the Language Services Program, Romero was a program manager in the Supreme Court of Ohio Dispute Resolution Section, and before that, he was a court interpreter for five years in the Sixth Judicial District of the New York State Unified Court System and a mediator with the Community Dispute Resolution Center in Ithaca, N.Y. He holds a B.S. in economics and an M.A. in labor and policy studies from the State University of New York.

COLLEEN ROSSHIRT is an attorney in the Supreme Court of Ohio Case Management Section. This section of the court works to improve access to justice to Ohio citizens across the state. Case Management staff travel to local courts to provide training and operational oversight. Prior to working for the Court, Rosshirt managed the dispute resolution program at Franklin County Municipal Court and coordinated the foreclosure mediation program for the Franklin County Common Pleas Court. Rosshirt is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Law and holds a B.A. in international human rights studies from the University of Dayton.
COLIN RULE is vice president for Online Dispute Resolution at Tyler Technologies. Tyler acquired Modria.com, an ODR provider Rule co-founded, in 2017. From 2003 to 2011 Rule was director of online dispute resolution for eBay and PayPal. He has worked in the dispute resolution field for more than 25 years as a mediator, trainer, and consultant. He is currently co-chair of the Advisory Board of the National Center for Technology and Dispute Resolution at UMass-Amherst and a non-resident fellow at the Gould Center for Conflict Resolution at Stanford Law School. Rule co-founded Online Resolution, one of the first online dispute resolution (ODR) providers, in 1999 and served as its CEO (2000) and president. In 2002, he co-founded the Online Public Disputes Project (now eDeliberation.com), which applies ODR to multi-party, public disputes. Previously, Rule was general manager of Mediate.com, the largest online resource for the dispute resolution field. He also worked for several years with the National Institute for Dispute Resolution (now ACR) in Washington, D.C., and the Consensus Building Institute in Cambridge, Mass. Rule has presented and trained throughout Europe and North America for organizations including the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the Department of State, the International Chamber of Commerce, and the CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution. He also has lectured and taught at UMass-Amherst, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Pepperdine, Southern Methodist University, and Santa Clara University. Rule is the author of Online Dispute Resolution for Business, published by Jossey-Bass in September 2002, and The New Handshake: Online Dispute Resolution and the Future of Consumer Protection, published by the ABA in 2017. He has contributed more than 50 articles to prestigious ADR publications such as Consensus, The Fourth R, ACResolution Magazine, and Peace Review. He serves on the boards of the Consensus Building Institute and the PeaceTech Lab at the United States Institute of Peace. He holds a master’s degree from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government in conflict resolution and technology, a graduate certificate in dispute resolution from UMass-Boston, a B.A. from Haverford College, and he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Eritrea from 1995 to 1997.

HON. JOHN J. RUSSO is the administrative and presiding judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Ohio in Cuyahoga County, which serves the Greater Cleveland Metropolitan Area. It is home to 1.2 million people (2010 census). Judge Russo has been unanimously elected by his colleagues to lead the Court every year since November 2013. He is responsible for appointing committees, coordinating the development of court policies, and overseeing the administration and dockets of the General Division, the highest-level trial court in the state. He has chaired or participated in numerous justice system boards and committees since beginning his judicial career on the Common Pleas Court. They include: chair, Lawyers Fund for Client Protection (appointed by the Ohio Supreme Court); co-chairman, Ohio Judicial Conference Court Administration Committee; trustee, Cleveland Marshall Law Alumni Association; chairperson, Cuyahoga County Security Committee; trustee, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association; trustee, Westshore Bar Association; committee person for the Judicial Advisory Committee; committee person for the Trends in State Court Committee (appointed by the National Center for State Courts); member of the Public Health Committee; member of the Death Penalty Task Force; member of the Board of Commissioners of the Clients Security Fund of Ohio (all being appointed by the chief justice of Ohio); and past president, Legal Eagles St. Edward High School Community. In 2016, Judge Russo served as president of the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO), a national organization of court chief judges and court executives. Judge Russo brought the inaugural annual meeting in Cleveland. In addition, Judge Russo has taught at numerous court conclaves, judges’ conferences, community programs and bar association meetings, including the National Center for State Courts; the Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College; the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association; the Ohio Association for Justice; the National Business Institute; the Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys; the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar
Association; the Cleveland Marshall Alumni Association and St. Edward High School. He is a member of the Ohio State Bar Association, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Bar Association, Westshore Bar Association and Cleveland Marshall Law Alumni Association. Prior to the bench, Judge Russo was a civil and criminal litigator for 12 years in his private practice. Judge Russo earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration at John Carroll University and his Juris Doctor at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

TASHA RUTH is the manager of the Case Management Section with the Supreme Court of Ohio. The Case Management Section provides a wide range of integrated resources and support to help Ohio’s judges and court staff enhance their ability to deliver high quality judicial services in a timely manner. Ruth is a graduate of the Ohio State University and Capital University Law School. She is currently a member of the National Association for Court Management, the Ohio State Bar Association, Ohio Association for Court Administration, and the Ohio Jury Management Association. Prior to joining the Supreme Court, Tasha served as a staff attorney with the Franklin County Public Defender’s Office, which provides legal representation to indigent defendants in the criminal court system. While there, she was a strong advocate for clients suffering from mental illness and drug addiction and an active supporter of the specialty dockets.

ALEX SANCHEZ, ESQ., is the manager of small claims and dispute resolution at the Franklin County Municipal Court. Sanchez mediates all civil case types for the court. Prior to joining the municipal court, he worked with the State of Ohio, the Ohio State University, and nonprofit organizations across the country. In his spare time, Sanchez serves as an officer for a large private foundation that awards more than a quarter-million dollars annually through an international student STEM competition. Sanchez is a graduate of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and received his undergraduate degree from Loyola Marymount University.

JENNIFER SHACK has been director of research at Resolution Systems Institute since 2000. In this role, she conducts complex evaluations of court-based mediation programs and researches the effectiveness of mediation in court settings. As part of RSI’s efforts to help courts monitor the functioning of their mediation programs, she has designed data collection systems that are in use around Illinois. This includes the cloud-based case management and monitoring system used by the Illinois Attorney General-funded foreclosure mediation programs. Program evaluation is Jennifer’s passion. During her time at RSI, she has evaluated the performance of six foreclosure mediation programs in Illinois, conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the Child Protection Mediation Program in Cook County, Illinois and examined mediation programs in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois as well as others in the state courts in Illinois. In cooperation with the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution, Jennifer led a national committee of the top court ADR researchers in developing the RSI/ABA Model Mediation Surveys. This toolkit provides field-tested surveys of parties, lawyers and mediators that can be used by any court to evaluate its civil case mediation program or modified for programs involving other case types. Jennifer has also written a number of articles, including “Mediation in Courts Can Bring Gains, But Under What Conditions?,” published in the Winter 2004 issue of Dispute Resolution Magazine, and “Judicial Settlement Databases: Development and Uses,” co-authored with Magistrate Judge Morton Denlow and published in the Winter 2004 issue of Judges’ Journal. Most recently, she co-authored two articles on foreclosure mediation: “Foreclosure Dispute Resolution Programs: Do They Work?” in Probate and Property, December 2013, and “A (Mortgage) Crisis in Communication: Foreclosure
Dispute Resolution as Effective Response?” in Arkansas Law Review, Spring 2013. Jennifer also discusses issues related to court ADR on RSI’s blog, Just Court ADR, and summarizes research for RSI’s e-newsletter, Court ADR Connection. Additionally, Jennifer serves on the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Research Task Force. She has presented on program monitoring and evaluation at numerous national and regional conferences. Jennifer was first drawn to ADR by seeing it in action in Benin, West Africa, during her Peace Corps service. She is thrilled to be involved in assuring its effective use here in the US.

PETER SILVERMAN has extensive experience in the area of commercial litigation and general business counsel. He has substantial experience in a number of specialty areas, including franchising, alternative dispute resolution, intellectual property, securities, and antitrust. Silverman has been an active arbitrator since 1986 and mediator since 1990. He is a member of the AAA’s Large, Complex Case Arbitration Panel, the CPR Panel of Distinguished Neutrals, and the Ohio Chapter of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He teaches seminars nationwide and writes widely on alternative dispute resolution. In 2016 and 10 prior years, Franchise Times® recognized him as one of the nation’s top 100 franchise lawyers. Best Lawyers lists him as one of America’s best Arbitration, Commercial Litigation, Franchise Law, Litigation - Intellectual Property, Litigation - Securities, and Mediation lawyers, and Ohio Super Lawyers® and the International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers recognize him in franchise law. In 2017, Chambers USA, named Silverman a recognised practitioner in franchising (Nationwide). He currently serves on the Early Dispute Resolution Committee of the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution. He was chair of the Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and on the Governing Committee of the ABA Forum on Franchising. In 1989, he received the Ernst and Young/Inc. Magazine Entrepreneur of the Year Award for his work in helping business owners start and grow their businesses, and is a member of the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University Entrepreneurial & Business Excellence Hall Of Fame. In 2014, his business partnership owning the Oasis restaurant chain was also elected to the Entrepreneurial & Business Excellence Hall of Fame. He formerly served on the Toledo City Council, the Toledo School Board, and the Ohio Casino Commission.

COZETTE SNEAD has been a mediator and magistrate with Montgomery County Domestic Relations Court since 2003. She has received specialized and domestic abuse training through Supreme Court-sponsored trainings. She designed and implemented Clark County’s mediation program in 1996. She received her basic mediation training (40) in Coram, N.Y., and participated in community mediation programs in Coram, N.Y., and Springfield, Ohio. She has more than 100 hours of continuing education training in the area of mediation.

THOMAS J. STIPANOWICH is William H. Webster Chair in Dispute Resolution and Professor of Law at Pepperdine University, as well as associate dean of the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution (ranked number one among academic dispute resolution programs in 11 of the past 12 years by U.S. News & World Report), where he teaches courses in negotiation theory and practice, mediation, arbitration practice and advocacy, international commercial arbitration, and international dispute resolution. He has also taught contracts, commercial law, remedies, Anglo-American legal history and property. He is a leading scholar, speaker and trainer on conflict resolution topics as well as an experienced arbitrator and mediator. Professor Stipanowich was co-author, with Professors Ian Macneil and Richard Speidel, of the groundbreaking five-volume treatise Federal Arbitration Law: Agreements, Awards & Remedies Under the Federal Arbitration Act, cited by the United States Supreme Court and many other federal and state courts, and named Best New Legal Book by the

**KYLE STRICKLAND** is the Senior Legal Analyst at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race & Ethnicity. His work focuses on local and national civil rights issues, criminal justice reform, fair housing policy, and equitable access to education. In addition, Kyle assists in project development for the My Brother’s Keeper initiative in Columbus, which provides educational and community opportunities for boys and young men of color. Prior to joining Kirwan, Kyle earned his law degree from Harvard Law School, where he served as Student Body President. Kyle, a native of Columbus, earned his B.A. in Political Science from The Ohio State University.

**JOSEPH B. “JOSH” STULBERG, J.D., PH.D.,** the Michael E. Moritz chair in Alternative Dispute Resolution at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, was a former vice president of the American Arbitration Association in charge of its Community Dispute Services. Stulberg regularly conducts mediation training programs for court-annexed programs, government agencies, and professional and community groups in the United States and internationally. He has published 11 books, including “The Middle Voice,” a primer on mediating disputes. He served as co-chair of the editorial board of the ABA’s Dispute Resolution Magazine (2012-2017) and as reporter for the joint committee that developed the Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators (2005).

**CAROLYN TAGGART, ESQ.** As a trial attorney for more than 35 years, Taggart has extensive jury and bench trial and appellate experience in both state and federal courts. She has substantial experience in the areas of product liability, legal malpractice, complex commercial cases, and has defended youth organizations in cases involving child sexual abuse. Taggart has been recognized for her litigation skills through her induction into the American College of Trial Lawyers as a fellow, and is also a past president of the Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys. She is a faculty member for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. She has been recognized among the top 10 attorneys in Ohio and the top five attorneys in Cincinnati by Ohio Super Lawyers®. In 2012 and 2017 she was named Best Lawyers® Cincinnati, Ohio “Lawyer of the Year” – Product Liability Litigation-Defendants.

**LENA TENNEY** is coordinator of public engagement at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. They direct the facilitation portfolio of the Race and Cognition Program, which includes traveling around the nation to facilitate workshops and presentations about implicit bias, structural racism, and being an active bystander. A trained intergroup dialogue facilitator, Lena has a background in inclusive education and coalitional activism work. Lena graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Master of Education and a Master of Public Administration. They also hold a Bachelor of Arts in religious studies and history from the University of Oklahoma.
ROBERT C. VAN SCHOYCK has served as a magistrate in the Ohio Court of Claims since 2007. His duties include hearing civil actions against the state of Ohio and acting as a court-provided mediator. He is a member of the Ohio Association of Magistrates, the Columbus Bar Association, and the Bexley Lions Club. He is a graduate of Capital University and the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

ELIZABETH J. WATTERS is a magistrate with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas in Columbus, Ohio. She works for Judges Charles Schneider and Michael Holbrook. As a magistrate, she presides over jury and jury-waived trials in a variety of civil cases. She conducts evidentiary hearings and arguments on motions, including preliminary injunctions, discovery disputes, and determinations of damages. Additionally, she mediates approximately 30 to 40 cases every year. Prior to becoming a magistrate, she was in the private practice of law, first as an associate at the New York law firm of Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts (now Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP), and then for 18 years as a partner at Chester, Willcox & Saxbe, LLP in Columbus. For nearly 22 years she practiced as a trial attorney, representing clients in all aspects of commercial and employment related legal matters. For seven years ending in 2012 when she became a magistrate, she was a mediator for the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio.

ROBIN WEAVER is currently president-elect of the Ohio State Bar Association. Prior to becoming president-elect, Weaver was a litigation partner at Squire Patton Boggs, where he represented clients in federal and state courts in numerous jurisdictions throughout the United States. His practice includes extensive appellate work in the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Sixth, Seventh, and Eleventh Circuits, as well as several state supreme courts and a multitude of state courts of appeal. Robin is a Fellow of both the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers. He was named “lawyer of the year” by Ohio Lawyers Weekly and is listed in Benchmark: Litigation, Chambers USA, and Ohio Super Lawyers. He has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America since 2006. He is past president of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and is a master commissioner and past chair of the Supreme Court of Ohio Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline. Weaver was a member of the Supreme Court of Ohio’s Task Force on Rules of Professional Conduct, and the Court’s Task Force on Racial and Ethnic Fairness. He is a life member of the Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference and the Eighth District Judicial Conference and a master bencher in the John M. Manos Inn of Court. In 2010 he served as foreperson of the Cuyahoga County grand jury. Weaver is a longtime faculty member of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and currently serves on its board.

JERRY WEISS received his undergraduate degree from Syracuse University and his Juris Doctor from Case Western Reserve University. His strong reputation as a Cleveland commercial mediator, with broad subject matter and facilitation expertise, is based in large measure on a previous law practice that emphasized civil litigation in a variety of cases including representation of parties in antitrust, RICO/fraud, general commercial, civil rights litigation, employment, tort and injury and other complex issues and subjects. He is the first lawyer in Cleveland, Ohio, to dedicate his practice entirely to ADR and mediation-related activities. He has successfully mediated a broad range of state and federal disputes, both regionally and nationally. Weiss also is an adjunct professor of law at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where he co-teaches Mediation Representation: Theory, Principle and Practice, a course he conceived and designed. He frequently lectures at local and national educational events and has been a perennial presenter on mediation topics for the ABA and various litigation bar functions. He serves on numerous ADR sections and committees in several professional
associations, including service as a trustee of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and chair of that association’s ADR committee, and he’s listed in the Best Lawyers in America®, Ohio Super Lawyers® and in the Martindale Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers as AV preeminent — Martindale’s highest rating. He’s listed in U.S. News-Best Lawyers® Best Law Firms Tier 1 in ADR. He has written extensively on mediation-related topics and has lectured throughout the United States and internationally. Weiss has mediated cases in various jurisdictions throughout the United States. He also has mediated for international companies, from Asia to throughout the EU. He holds dual U.S. and German citizenship. Weiss is on many lawyers’ and disputants’ short list of go-to neutrals for the most difficult and complex disputes.

ALAN WIENER, ESQ., is the Court Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) resources director at the Maryland Judiciary’s Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO). His primary responsibility is to promote and support ADR programs in Maryland’s circuit courts (trial courts of general jurisdiction). Wiener consults with circuit courts and helps them utilize best practices to plan, implement, administer, and improve ADR programs. He also designs, organizes, and presents trainings for judges, court staff, and ADR practitioners. Wiener is also one of the staff to the Judicial Council ADR Committee, and helps the committee develop statewide rules, standards of conduct, policies and forms to promote the availability, use and quality of court-connected ADR programs throughout Maryland. He also coordinates and participates in a variety of other projects to advance ADR in and beyond Maryland. Alan previously worked for the California Administrative Office of the Courts for 12 years, where he had similar responsibilities for promoting and supporting court-connected ADR programs throughout that state and participated in the development of ethical standards for ADR providers. Alan is Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Dispute Resolution Court ADR Committee. He is a past member of the California State Bar ADR Committee and past chair of its Legislation, Ethics and Standards of Practice Subcommittee. He previously served as president of the San Diego Chapter of the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR), as a co-chair of the ACR Online Dispute Resolution Section, and as a co-chair of the San Diego County Bar Association ADR Committee. Alan received an L.LM. in Dispute Resolution from Pepperdine University School of Law in 2003 (subsuming a Masters in Dispute Resolution received from Pepperdine in 2000) and a Juris Doctorate from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1979. Before becoming fully engaged in ADR, he practiced law in San Diego, Calif., for 20 years.

DR. ROSELLE L. WISSLER is research director of the Lodestar Dispute Resolution Center at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. In this role, she conducts empirical research on mediation, arbitration, and other ADR processes. Her research and writing address various policy issues relating to the use and effectiveness of ADR. She was a member of the recent Task Force on Research on Mediator Techniques of the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution and was principal author of the task force report. Dr. Wissler has served as a research consultant to several state and federal courts, including in Ohio, to conduct empirical research to assess the effectiveness of their mediation and arbitration programs and to address questions regarding program policy and design. She also was a member of the panel of consultants in the Federal Judicial Center’s Program for Consultations in Dispute Resolution, providing federal courts with technical assistance on evaluating ADR programs. She has served on the advisory board of numerous academic, agency, and court-based ADR empirical research projects.
C. DAVID WITT is the ADR specialist at the Cleveland Housing Court. He is also, presently, an adjunct professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where he teaches basic mediation. Witt formerly worked as a Cleveland Housing Court magistrate, and before that, as chief counsel at the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame and Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

HON. GARY L. YOST has been a judge of the Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court since 1991. Prior to this, he served as judge for the Ashtabula County Court, Eastern Division from 1983 to 1990. His service in Ashtabula County also included assistant prosecutor from 1979 to 1982, assistant solicitor for the city of Ashtabula from 1977 to 1979, and staff attorney for the county public defender from 1975 to 1977. Judge Yost has handled the drug court docket since January 2015, and he currently serves on the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Interpreter Services and the Ohio Judicial Conference Committees for Jury Service and Specialized Dockets. He received his B.A. from Findlay College, J.D. from Case Western Reserve University, and a master’s degree from Youngstown State University.

ZENA D. ZUMETA is president of the Mediation Training & Consultation Institute, Zena Zumeta Mediation Services, and The Collaborative Workplace in Ann Arbor, Mich. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School. Zumeta is a former board member and president of the Academy of Family Mediators (now merged into the Association for Conflict Resolution), past president of the Michigan Council for Family and Divorce Mediation, and past regional vice president of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution. She is a member of the editorial board of the American Bar Association’s Dispute Resolution Magazine. Zumeta has extensive experience as a trainer, mediator, facilitator, and consultant. She has been providing mediation services since 1981. She is an approved civil and family mediator in Michigan, and an approved mediation trainer for Michigan and many other states. She has taught at Hamline University School of Law, and is an adjunct professor at Pepperdine University School of Law’s Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, and Cooley Law School. Zumeta is the recipient of the the Family Mediation Council-Michigan Lifetime Achievement in Mediation Award; the National Education Association/Saturn Corporation Award for Union-Management Collaboration; the John Haynes Distinguished Mediator Award from the Association for Conflict Resolution; and the Kumba Award from the National Conference on Minorities in ADR.