

2018



AWARDS  
PROGRAM



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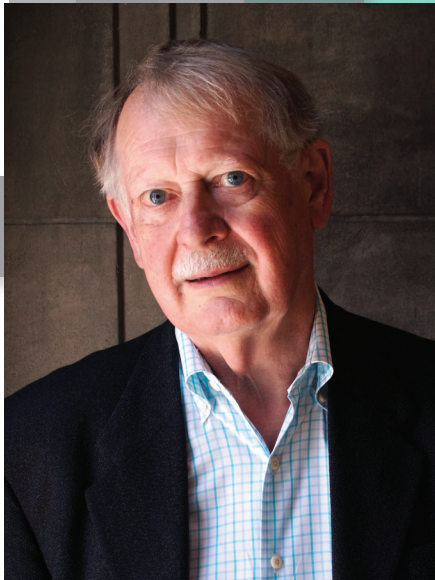
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# DISTINGUISHED LAWYER

## EDWARD D. AHRENS | BOISE



Having grown up on a farm near Caldwell, Edward D. Ahrens believes he became an attorney at just the right time. Shortly after he earned his law degree at the University of Idaho College of Law, tax law and estate planning began to get significantly more complicated. These areas of law had typically been handled by a general practitioner, but in 1976 and again in 1981, new laws created numerous exemptions, shelters, and credits.

Shortly after beginning his practice Ahrens studied up on tax law and his client volume hasn't slowed since. "I always try to think about what the client wants," he said.

"I happened to have the good fortune to get in before tax law became a specialty," Ahrens said, adding that he is largely self-taught in the tax field. In 1990 he joined Arthur Andersen, the world's largest accounting firm, which helped him develop his expertise. He was on Andersen's 12-partner National Family Wealth Planning Specialty Team. These experiences "fulfilled [his] desire to work on more complex matters."

4 "To achieve the goals for my high-asset clients, I developed a formula

to help us look more holistically at our clients' needs," says Ahrens. "It includes looking at the generation before and after the client, to see how tax and estate decisions could impact the rest of the family over time."

"Estate planning calls for a high degree of intellectual creativity. You take the factual situation to do what the client wants. I created a planning technique that is still effective to protect and transfer family wealth to a new generation."

Ahrens said he enjoys the estate and tax practice over other areas of law because he encounters little conflict and even less litigation. "Other fields of practice are much more transactional," he said, "and there is not the intimate relationship one finds with an estate practice." It's not unusual for Ahrens to be invited to his clients' weddings and anniversaries. His personal goal is to address the family's concerns proactively to reduce conflict when wealth is passed along to a new generation.

As a tax attorney, Ahrens said he must earn the complete trust of his clients, who depend on him to present options that reflect their values. With some clients, "I have worked with them so long I feel like I'm part of the family," he said, adding that he tries to learn what he can about all the members of a client's family so he can offer the best advice.

"That's the nature of estate planning. You need to employ some empathy and warmth to see what is truly going on and how to best serve the family."

Over the course of his career,

Ahrens found that tax and asset management services were changing dramatically. With ubiquitous air travel, teleconferencing and the internet, clients could be anywhere in the country. One-third of Ahrens' client base is in Seattle, one-third in Idaho, and the rest in other states. "I am a million-mile flier on two airlines," he mused.

Ahrens said he's grateful for his unique vantage point from which to view human nature. Throughout his career he's had many interactions with high-asset individuals who have interesting lives. Over the years he has noticed more concern from clients about privacy, thus he developed methods to store assets through LLC's and other instruments not easily tied to the clients' name.

Ahrens has seen continued trends over his career and has learned much from his clients. For instance, everyone loves their grandchildren," he said. "They haven't had the chance to mess up yet" – so he offers caution when clients want their wills to skip over the children.

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***"You need to employ some empathy and warmth [...] to best serve the family."***

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While not working or traveling, Ahrens can be found duck hunting or working on conservation issues. He was inspired by his clients to do his own bit of charitable activity. "The charitable-giving world is huge to estate planners," he said.

"I enjoy helping other people achieve their goals," he said. "I've had the pleasure of meeting enjoyable people. At least I found what I really like."

# DISTINGUISHED LAWYER

## RANDALL C. BUDGE | POCATELLO

Randall C. Budge grew up on a cattle ranch near Soda Springs, where he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and everything to do with the outdoors. After earning his law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1976, he returned to his hometown in hopes that the rural area could support a law practice. "I stayed close to home," he said, which pulled at him with its family ties, history, and abundant recreation.

"My great-grandfather was one of the early Mormon pioneers who moved to the Bear Lake Valley near Paris," he said. "My father, Reed, was a county commissioner, then a state senator for many years. Everyone knows everyone and looks out for each other," Budge said of the ranching and farming community.

Budge worked with attorney Wallace Transtrum, who was a mentor in several practice areas. "My practice was a mile wide and an inch deep," he said. "After four years of small town practice I figured I had seen every kind of case that I would likely ever see if I stayed there. If I wanted to specialize and have expanded opportunity, I thought that maybe I should move to a larger city."

After being recruited by Lou Racine and Mark Nye of Racine, Huntley, Olsen and Nye, Budge moved to Pocatello. He focused on estate and succession planning, business, real estate, and water law. "A more narrow focus can lead to a higher level of competency," he said.

Budge also enjoyed a close working relationship and extensive mentoring from Lou Racine. "I learned from Lou how to disagree without being

disagreeable, to always be civil, and to respect others regardless of their circumstances," Budge said. "Moreover, Lou was an accomplished litigator and very charismatic."

With his law practice stable and thriving, Budge was appointed by then acting Idaho Gov. Jim Risch to serve as a Fish and Game Commissioner, a high-profile and sometimes difficult job. He was reappointed by Gov. Butch Otter to serve the maximum eight years allowed, including a period as chairman.

**"We learn to respect people's strong and diverse opinions..."**

Established in 1936 by a citizen initiative, the mission of the Fish and Game Commission is to manage wildlife largely uninhibited by politics.

Serving in this capacity taught Budge a great deal about the biology, ecology, and science of managing wildlife. While on the

Commission, Budge also dealt with increasing wolf populations and their ensuing controversy. "While science is the guiding light, sociology and many other factors are involved in wildlife management," he said. "We learn to respect people's strong and diverse opinions in the very public process."

Among his legal accomplishments, Budge stated he was fortunate to have played a role in the Snake River Basin Adjudication process. Through more than 20 years of litigation, the process established water rights in the Snake River Basin.

Budge's public service also includes 48 years on the National Ski Patrol, including eight years on its National Board and a term as Assistant National Director. Budge, his wife, Becky, and son, T.J. (also a lawyer), regularly ski and patrol at Pebble Creek Ski Area.



An avid fly fisherman, Budge is especially fond of fishing in the Fort Hall Bottoms inside the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Reservation and on the South Fork of the Snake River. He enjoys hunting upland game birds and makes an annual bird hunting trip to North Dakota.

He thanked his wife for her support during law school, throughout his 42 years of practice, and in raising three successful children, Jason, T.J., and Hailey, who have blessed them with 15 grandchildren.

Budge has been a member of the Business & Corporate Law, Real Property Law, Taxation, Probate & Trust Law, and Water Law Sections. He earned the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 2008. He is also actively involved in Rotary, his church, and several wildlife organizations.

# DISTINGUISHED LAWYER

## PETER C. ERBLAND | COEUR D'ALENE



Peter C. Erbland grew up in a military family that moved frequently. One of eight children, Erbland graduated from high school in Italy and later decided in his third year of undergraduate studies that he wanted to be a lawyer.

"An uncle, Charles Carroll, was a lawyer and he inspired me," Erbland said. "He was very bright, wise, deliberate, and focused on a client-centered practice. He was well-respected."

After completing his studies at Gonzaga University School of Law, Erbland worked as a deputy prosecutor in Pocatello and Coeur d'Alene. From 1988 to 1989 he worked as the Criminal Law Division Chief for then Idaho Attorney General Jim Jones. Erbland recounts: "Jim Jones is an inspiring leader and he demonstrates what a true public servant should be."

As a deputy prosecutor and deputy attorney general, Erbland worked extensively with law enforcement and made relationships at several agencies. Increasingly he found himself wishing he could represent those agencies in civil cases. To do so he determined he would need to transition into private

practice, which he successfully took on.

Erbland is a member of the Lake City Law Group, one of the larger firms in North Idaho, where, amid other work, he finds himself representing law enforcement agencies against civil rights lawsuits. Typically, these cases involve some question of excessive force.

He said that 99% of officers are idealistic and just want to preserve the peace. "Things will happen and the officer must make a judgment call. In almost every case, the use of force is justified."

The caseload has increased over the years, he said, perhaps because people's respect for law enforcement has decreased. Erbland said Idaho's POST curriculum includes training for new officers to deescalate conflict. The training aims to decrease the number of officer-involved shootings, civilian deaths, and civil rights lawsuits.

He added that in use-of-force cases, many people forget that the officer and his or her family usually suffer as well as the family of citizens involved. "People often don't see that side of it," he said.

Erbland summed up his practice philosophy by stating: "At the heart of every case there is a human story. As advocates, if we can find that, that's the best way to serve our clients."

About half of his clients are governmental entities, but Erbland has also represented a variety of farmers in environmental cases. He is a member of the tribal bars of the Colville, Coeur d'Alene, and Nez Perce Tribes. About 30% of his work is mediation, which

he finds "very satisfying to serve as a neutral. People are motivated to find a solution."

He summed up his philosophy for advising clients this way:

"When clients are in the stress of litigation, they need an objective view. We do a disservice when we just know the cold hard facts of a case and

ignore the human side. I try to understand a case from the ground up. Just like

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***"Those I work with have been a key to what I have been able to do."***

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a pilot goes through a checklist, I study the law and the facts from the ground up. As soon as you get comfortable and complacent, it's time to look over your shoulder."

Erbland added that he enjoys the small town atmosphere of practice in Idaho. "We really are lucky there's still a great deal of civility," he said. "And our lawyers are blessed to have an excellent judiciary. This is a relatively small bar so this is a pleasant environment in which to practice."

Erbland gives credit to his partners and co-workers. "Most of us, if we've had success, it's because of support from others. Those I work with have been a key to what I have been able to do. I never looked at it as work, I just try and focus on the best I can do for my client."

In service to the profession, Erbland served on the Idaho Pro Bono Commission from 2008 to 2013. He also served on the Professional Conduct Board from 1993 to 1996. He earned the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 2016. He and his wife, Tiffany, live in Coeur d'Alene.

# DISTINGUISHED JURIST

## HON. N. RANDY SMITH | POCATELLO

Despite a steady stream of honors, awards, and public adoration, Judge N. Randy Smith of Pocatello insists he is “just an old country lawyer.” When he took a phone call in May from Idaho State Bar President Kent Higgins telling him he had been selected as this year’s Idaho State Bar Distinguished Jurist, he asked, “Are you sure you have the right number? I am honored, but this is converging on shock.”

“This is more than I could have ever imagined or hoped for,” he added. “Only the best lawyers and judges are selected. They are my heroes. I just try to do a good job. I had no expectation of such an honor.”

Born in Logan, Utah, Judge Smith received his B.S. in 1974 from Brigham Young University and his J.D. from BYU’s J. Reuben Clark School of Law in 1977. He worked as staff counsel for J.R. Simplot Company until 1981. He later joined Merrill & Merrill in Pocatello, where he focused on corporate civil litigation and insurance defense. Judge Smith has served as an adjunct professor at Idaho State University since 1984 and was an adjunct professor at Boise State University from 1979 to 1981.

Judge Smith was appointed as District Judge by Idaho Gov. Phil Batt in 1995. He was reelected in 1998 and again in 2002. He served as the District Court’s Administrative Judge from 2004 to 2007. In 2007, he was nominated by President George W. Bush to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Senate voted unanimously to confirm him and he filled the position formerly held by the late Judge Thomas G. Nelson of Boise.

The Ninth Circuit is the nation’s largest and busiest appellate court. The Court hears appeals of cases decided by federal trial courts and certain Executive Branch administrative agencies in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions.

Judge Smith now serves as a member of the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit, as a member of the Ninth Circuit ADR Committee, and as a member of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Committee. He has served on the Ninth Circuit Executive Committee, as Administrative Judge of the Northern Area of the Ninth Circuit, as Conference Chairman, Program Chairman, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. He was appointed by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts as a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System.

In December 2017, Judge Smith announced his plans to assume senior status on August 11, 2018 – which just happens to be his 69th birthday. At that time, he will have more than 11 years of active service on the bench.

“It has been my extraordinary honor and a humbling privilege to serve our country in this responsibility,” he wrote in a letter to President Donald Trump.

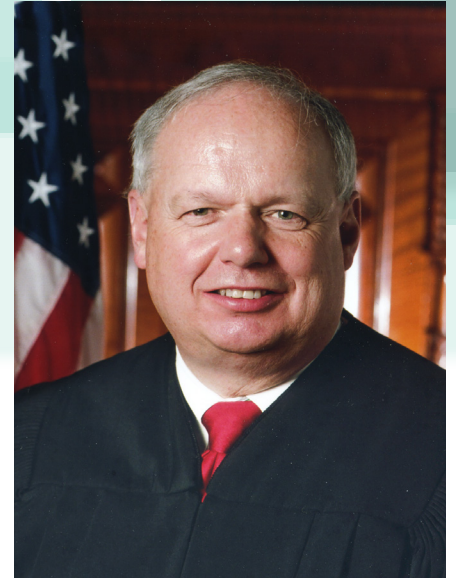
**“It has been my extraordinary honor [...] to serve our country...”**

Despite his humility, or perhaps because of it, the sitting judge has carved a deep legacy at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the federal bar in general.

“He is an Idaho (and a national) treasure,” said Syrena Hargrove of the U.S. Attorney’s Office. She said he frequently tells a couple of jokes, which put people at ease. “He treats his clerks like family. He calls them regularly. If you clerk for him, you have a mentor for life.”

Syrena added that he is the friendliest person on the Ninth Circuit. “He knows how to engage with anyone and find common ground, both personally and professionally. On cases, he frequently uses the standards of review to do so.”

Christine Salmi with Perkins Coie said



Judge Smith is “admired for his down-to-earth and practical approach to cases. He’s extremely bright and he has a great sense of humor. Most of all, he knows how to work a room.”

She added that Judge Smith impresses attorneys who practice before his Court. “He is not pretentious,” Salmi said, “and he genuinely cares about improving the appellate process.”

Judge Smith said that in his senior status he plans to continue to hear cases and serve the Court in other capacities. “I am fortunate to work with wonderful colleagues and an outstanding staff. I truly enjoy what I am doing and I plan to continue making a contribution as a senior judge,” he said.

Judge Smith has served on the Idaho State Bar’s Lawyer Assistance Program Committee, Character and Fitness Committee, and Bar Exam Preparation Committee. He received the Service Award in 2002. In addition to his duties as a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge, he was appointed to hear U.S. District Court and Bankruptcy Court cases in the states of Idaho and Montana.

Judge Smith and his wife, La Dean, live in Pocatello, where he keeps regular office hours.

# PROFESSIONALISM AWARDS

## MICHAEL E. RAMSDEN | FIRST DISTRICT

*Ramsden, Marfice, Ealy & Harris, Coeur d'Alene*



**IDEALS** | "Fellowship, courage, imagination, and your word is your bond; all are key attributes among members of the bar. I respect lawyers who try cases. I admire those lawyers who take on unpopular or underserved clients, sometimes at great personal sacrifice, and those judges who make the tough calls and follow the law, even though they sometimes expose themselves to public obloquy. They inspire me and lift me up. We learn far more from our failures than our successes. So, to have and learn from experience, a lawyer has to have failed."

**INSPIRATION** | "I am inspired by other lawyers who take cases to trial. I have learned how much work it is. I have learned how hard it is to stand up in court, present your client's case and cross examine without making a complete fool of yourself. The lawyers who can do it well are a rare and, sadly, dying breed. They inspire me."

**ADVICE** | "A lawyer shall be courteous to the court, opposing counsel, the parties, and the witnesses. Life is too short to be mean to anyone. Meanness diminishes the lawyer and the profession. For real communication that leads to resolution of conflicts, pick up the telephone and talk to the other lawyer. If another lawyer calls you, honor the other lawyer by promptly returning the telephone call. I suggest, as Judge Blaine Anderson suggested to me, that a lawyer choose to practice law in a community where he or she wants to live."

## MAUREEN E. LAFLIN | SECOND DISTRICT

*University of Idaho College of Law, Moscow*



**IDEALS** | "As lawyers, we should strive to perform above the regulatory floor and to advance the rule of law and equal justice under the law. The role of lawyers in our country is to serve as officers and guardians of the law. Law is an integral part of civilized society because it facilitates the peaceful resolution of conflict. I am honored to be part of this noble profession."

The professional attributes that I admire most are compassion, civility, creativity, intelligence, bravery, perseverance, and integrity. I am inspired by lawyers such as: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and her pioneering work on women's rights; Morris Dees, co-founder and chief trial counsel for the Southern Poverty Law Center; Bryan Stevenson, social justice activist, founder and Executive Director of Equal Justice Initiative; and Anita Hill's willingness to publicly confront sex discrimination at the highest level.

I am also heartened when I see colleagues perform complex pro bono work, volunteer to serve on bar committees and on law reform committees, freely give their time and expertise to mentor others, challenge inequities, and advocate for social justice. Similarly, Idaho has some great judges who wrestle with tough cases and apply the rule of law in spite of controversy. Professionalism is a nuanced balance between zealously representing one's clients while being collegial, ethical, discerning, and emotionally astute."

**INSPIRATION** | "My parents, both of whom graduated from law school in the early 1940s, taught me the value of legal training and the variety of ways lawyers can and do use this training. My father never practiced law in the traditional sense. He used his legal training in business, civic activities, and politics. He taught me the value of building consensus, developing relationships, working across ideological lines, and our obligation to give back. Stories about my mother, who practiced law in the traditional sense and died when I was very young, instilled in me the value of hard work, impeccable ethical standards, and the need to stand up for what is right. From both, I learned the value of determination, the need to not unnecessarily escalate conflict, and the importance of using my legal abilities to help others."

**ADVICE** | "Each of us needs to be deliberate and make choices about how we live and how we engage with people in our professional as well as our personal lives. A satisfying life does not just fall into our laps. It is the result of our choices. It is something that we must create. I have found that those who are happiest seek out opportunities to contribute to the profession, the practice, and their community. Self-reflection is essential. Periodically look in the mirror and determine whether you like the person looking back. Have you taken the time to figure out what is meaningful to you and are you living according to your values? If not, what are you going to do about it? The surest way to enjoy your life is to help others and let values and heart guide you in practice."



## **MATTHEW J. ROKER | THIRD DISTRICT**

*Lovan, Roker & Rounds, Caldwell*



**IDEALS** | "I believe a good work ethic and civility to be the two most important professional attributes."

**INSPIRATION** | "As a young attorney I was fortunate in having the opportunity to work with more senior attorneys whose professionalism was inspiring."

**VALUES** | "Work hard for your clients and value a good working relationship with others."

## **DEBORAH A. FERGUSON | FOURTH DISTRICT**

*Ferguson Durham, Boise*



**IDEALS** | "A reputation for integrity and reasonableness. And a sense of humor never hurts."

**INSPIRATION** | "A desire to do good work and seek justice. I have had some great mentors who cared about me and my professional development and who led by example. I try to follow in their footsteps."

**ADVICE** | "Having a law license is a privilege that give us access to navigate the legal system for others. Use that special knowledge and skill to do good and satisfaction will follow. Also, be kind. What goes around comes around."

## **J. WALTER SINCLAIR | FOURTH DISTRICT**

*Holland & Hart, Boise*



**IDEALS** | "Professionalism and civility. Most Idaho lawyers and most lawyers in general are professional, courteous, and civil. However, when those are missing, it damages the process, it costs our clients' money, and it reduces our profile in the community as well as in the profession and reduces the satisfaction of practicing law."

**INSPIRATION** | "My original senior partner and mentor, Ed Benoit, was a true professional. His word was his bond. He was courteous to his clients, to opposing counsel, the opposing party(ies), to the Judges, and all of their staff and he expected that of everyone with whom he worked. He led by example. While he would zealously defend his clients' rights, he never did so by trying to take unfair advantage of an opposing party. He was a great mentor and true friend."

**ADVICE** | "Be true professionals. As Sandra Day O'Connor said: 'More civility and greater professionalism can only enhance the pleasure lawyers find in practice, increase the effectiveness of our system of justice, and improve the public's perception of lawyers.' Too many attorneys today are forgetting that we are serving a profession. They turn their focus to the 'business' of law. That has a tendency to demean us individually, as well as our profession. To that end, Justice O'Connor adds, 'public service marks the difference between a business and a profession. Giving back to our communities, both legal and civic, can be one of the most rewarding experiences for anyone, in any profession.' Finally, live by the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have others do unto you, treat others as you would like to be treated yourself – with tolerance, consideration, and compassion."

## **WILLIAM G. DRYDEN | FOURTH DISTRICT**

*Elam & Burke, Boise*



**IDEALS** | "The attributes which immediately come to mind include members who are principled, honest, respectful, capable, and straightforward in terms of their assessment of the case and who the litigants actually are."

**INSPIRATION** | "In my youth, I was able to watch my dad (a lawyer of course), his partners, associates, and assistants practice law in their day. They loved what they did. They enjoyed it. I thought to myself many times: if I ever practice law, I want to have the experience they are having."

**ADVICE** | "Private practice and trials require incredibly hard work. You have to put in the time. You have to be prepared. You have to anticipate. Maybe most importantly you have to develop and keep anticipating perspective about your career, your family, and your mental and physical health."

# CONTINUED...



## **LEON E. SMITH | FIFTH DISTRICT**

*Twin Falls*

**IDEALS** | "Remember your word should be good, extend the courtesy of a prompt response, be knowledgeable on our common issues, and be courteous."

**INSPIRATION** | "My inspiration to practice, other than to help people solve problems, comes from the community and the people where I live and work. It and they have been so good to me and my family that I have practiced longer than I had planned."

**ADVICE** | "Get involved in your community; be a volunteer on local boards and commissions; put some effort into your local bar association; possibly run for local office, if time permits; put your family first and your practice second, with important decisions."



## **ALBERT MATSUURA | SIXTH DISTRICT**

*Goicoechea Law Offices, Pocatello*

**IDEALS** | "I work in a litigation practice which naturally revolves around conflicting facts, perspective, and opinions. The majority of attorneys I work with strive to maintain good working relationships. They return phone calls, follow through on commitments and make good faith efforts to resolve disputes through negotiation when possible. The practice of law can be serious business but I appreciate attorneys who do not take themselves too seriously, who maintain a sense of humility, and have some empathy for the people who get caught up in the legal process."

**INSPIRATION** | "Fear. Attorneys shoulder a great deal of responsibility and there are many ways to mess up in this line of work - and we all know that doing things wrong can sometimes lead to serious consequences. When I attend CLE courses, I gain useful knowledge but in many instances it brings me back to the realization that there are things I need to do or should not do to properly maintain my practice and uphold my professional duties. A lawyer needs to be ever vigilant and always consider the ramifications of their actions or inaction, and how such actions impact clients and how they square with the rules of conduct and ethics. So it may be reverse psychology. Fear of not meeting professional metrics and ethical standards is a driving force and inspiration for the way I practice law in hopes that by avoiding pitfalls I may get it right; and that's not a bad thing."

**ADVICE** | "Build professional relationships and ask for help and direction from other experienced attorneys. Consult Bar Counsel when necessary. Extend and acknowledge professional courtesies. Don't take or make conflicts personal. 95% of the time, trust your gut; 5% of the time trust your spouse/significant other. Minimize facial tatoos and piercings."



## **JAMES C. ARNOLD | SEVENTH DISTRICT**

*Petersen, Parkinson & Arnold, Idaho Falls*

**IDEALS** | "Flexibility, courtesy, candidness, and not making requests that create unnecessary work (get to the heart of the matter)."

**INSPIRATION** | "When I was a young attorney I had the opportunity to litigate cases with and against many different older and experienced attorneys. That gave me the opportunity to view different attributes and styles of these attorneys. I decided early that I wanted to emulate the attorneys who could litigate in an efficient and congenial manner."

**ADVICE** | "The practice of law and in particular litigation is hard and stressful. I believe in efficiency and candidness. I believe this can be accomplished in a spirit of congeniality. I strongly believe cases should be resolved or decided on the merits and not on legal technicalities. Because of that belief I am flexible to the extent possible with deadlines and other considerations that will bring about a just result."

# SERVICE AWARDS

**JOSHUA C. BODE**  
VA Medical Center, Boise



"I have learned that Idaho is a great state with dedicated legal professionals who want to help. These great professionals have been

willing to provide time and energy to assist thousands of veterans and their families in addressing their legal issues. This has provided a great deal of stress relief and support for these veterans and their families."

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS SERVICE

- Idaho Military Legal Alliance – Organizes veteran's legal clinics throughout the state and focuses on providing legal education; Clinics geared toward barriers to housing veterans and wills; Assists with building partnerships that have led to collaborative efforts to improve legal access for military members and veterans

**JANELL J.S. BURKE**  
Coeur d'Alene



"Each attorney must recognize the great privilege and responsibility that comes with being a lawyer. Supporting the Bar and

participating in public service helps attorneys to focus on solutions to legal problems and seeking justice for those that can't seek it themselves. I encourage lawyers to be involved in bar activities, it is important to the civility and pride in the profession."

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HER SERVICE

- First District Bar Association past officer and president
- Kootenai County Bar Association past chair
- John P. Gray Inn of Court former board member and current member
- Settlement Week coordinator
- Law Day activities coordinator
- Idaho State Bar Professional Conduct Board
- Provides notices for bar meetings and events
- Helps plan judicial retirements

**TENIELLE FORDYCE-RUFF**  
Concordia University School of Law, Boise



"I am passionate about learning, writing, and the law. As a law student, I loved learning about the practice of law, and I wanted

to help others find that same passion and share the skills needed to effectively research and write. When I returned to Idaho after teaching at the University of Oregon, I saw an opportunity to reach practicing attorneys with a column in *The Advocate*. I wanted make learning about legal writing a little more fun and interesting. I viewed my contributions as a way for me to still help clients, even if they were the clients of attorneys who read my columns."

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HER SERVICE

- Regular contributor to *The Advocate* with articles on legal writing and research
- Advocate Editorial Advisory Board member

**DAVID P. GARDNER**  
Hawley Troxell, Pocatello



"I have to give credit to my late mother, Patricia, for her inspiration and example of service and the importance of making a difference in the world around us. My mom always instilled in my five siblings and me the importance of doing the right thing for the right reasons. She would not be happy that I am receiving an award for doing service, because she believed in the principle that you did service not so others would see you and recognize you for it. She was a great example of simple, random acts of kindness."

## HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS SERVICE

- CASA volunteer
- Sixth District Bar Association past president and officer
- Workers Compensation Section past Governing Council member and past Section chair
- Access to Justice Leadership Committee member

# CONTINUED...

## **SAVIRAJ GREWAL** *Law Office of Savi Grewal, Coeur d'Alene*



"My inspiration to serve my community developed in my formative years in India. I was very fortunate to have a father who served his country (India)

as a career Army officer and a mother who was a fierce defender of family values and a champion of character-building hard work. They led by example and taught me the importance of participating in the community in a meaningful way and helping the less fortunate. I carried forward these early lessons from my childhood to my new home in California, where I was sworn in as a proud citizen of these United States in 1976."

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF HER SERVICE**

- Law Day/Career Day volunteer
- CASA volunteer
- John P. Gray Inn of Court past president
- Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section Governing Council member and two-time past chair
- First District Bar Association past president and officer

## **LARRY C. HUNTER** *Eagle*



"With regard to the profession, I am proud to be part of a profession that, through promotion of the Rule of Law, makes society and

by extension the world a better, more orderly place within which to live and raise my family. Law is more than a way to make a living; it is a way of life. For law to continue to be a positive force, we, as lawyers, must strengthen and foster the law by giving our time and talents to its improvement. Effective service requires preparation and dedication of one's time. It is usually not just a matter of showing up. When it is done with good intent, voluntary service is very fulfilling."

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS SERVICE**

- Idaho State Bar past commissioner and president
- Bar Exam grader
- IVLP Soundstart presenter
- Professionalism & Ethics Section subcommittee to draft Rule 8.4(g)
- American Bar Association State Bar Delegate, State Delegate, and additional committee involvement

## **CHELSEA E. KIDNEY** *Idaho Attorney General's Office, Boise*



"The leaders and mentors in my life instilled in me the importance of public service and community involvement. I am able to

do this work because of the support provided to me professionally. Yet, I am inspired by those who work tirelessly, without reward and without recognition, to serve those in their community. I learned what we all know but sometimes forget- collaboration, teamwork, and the art of listening are essential elements of progress."

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF HER SERVICE**

- Idaho State Bar Taxation, Probate and Trust Law Section, Governing Council member and past chair – During her tenure as chair the Section provided free learning opportunities and financial assistance to Access to Justice Idaho, the Idaho Academy of Leadership for Lawyers and scholarships to law students at the University of Idaho College of Law and Concordia University School of Law.

# OUTSTANDING YOUNG LAWYERS



**CATHERINE A. FREEMAN**, a Meridian native, received her law degree in 2013 with a B.A. in English in 2009 from the University of Idaho. She serves as director for the University of Idaho Alumni Association representing the West Idaho Region/Ada County. Freeman is a deputy prosecutor for the Ada County Prosecutor's Office Civil Division.

A former chair of the Young Lawyers Section, Freeman is also active with the Professionalism & Ethics Section and serves on its Ethical Happy Hour CLE committee. She served on the Section's subcommittee that studied Model Rule 8.4(g) and ultimately drafted a rule for consideration in Idaho. She chaired the Fourth District Bar Association's Law Day Committee for two years and organized their annual "Ask-a-Lawyer" Day. Freeman serves as a mentor to incoming law students during the University of Idaho College of Law's Orientation on Professionalism.

Freeman is a member of Idaho Women Lawyers, Inc. and the Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association. In her free time she volunteers for Recreation Unlimited as a ski instructor at Bogus Basin.

**HON. JESSICA M. LORELLO**  
*Idaho Court of Appeals, Boise*



"So many youth activities and organizations depend on volunteers, and the positive impact those activities and organizations have on kids

cannot be overstated. Every child/young adult deserves to have the time and attention from someone interested in their development – that's how we build a better citizenry. I have learned - or at least reinforced what I knew based on my own experiences – that devoting time to helping someone else can change that person's life, and can improve your own outlook on life in the process."

**HIGHLIGHTS OF HER SERVICE**

- Pro bono efforts assisting with cases related to the Violence Against Women Act
- Boise Senior Center, VA, and IVLP legal advice clinics volunteer
- Attorneys for Civic Education co-chair and founding member - Supporting civic education programs, including the high school mock trial competition, We the People, and Youth in Government
- Appellate Practice Section Governing Council member and past vice chair

**MICHAEL R. MCBRIDE**  
*McBride & Roberts, Idaho Falls*



"People come in all shapes and sizes, political and religious background and beliefs, but there is always a thread of commonality and it

includes the desire or 'right,' if you will, to 'function' injury free in both the mind and body. If injured, one of life's necessities is returning to optimum functionality. I have been blessed to be able to give, to help, to guide, to educate, and to correct or prevent injuries. This is the real blessing of my legal work. It boils down to this query: What can you give away that guarantees you will have more? Answer: It is love for humanity. The more love you give, the more you get. It is summed up in this exchange when I gave a helmet to one of my client's children and she said, "Thank you, Mr. McBride, I promise I will wear it." Hopefully that is one less person in the medical/legal system!"

**HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS SERVICE**

- Helped establish the 'Get Government' Scholarship awarded to high school seniors based upon their academic and service related efforts
- Helped established the 'Head Smart' Campaign, a children's bicycle helmet 'giveaway'
- Workers Compensation Section Kid's Chance scholarship fund past president

**HON. GENE A. PETTY**  
*Third Judicial District Court, Caldwell*



"I've learned a great deal from the lawyers and judges I served with in these activities. Our Bar is full of kind and

intelligent lawyers and judges who care tremendously about our community and the clients we serve. It has truly been an honor to work closely with the Idaho State Bar."

**HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS SERVICE**

- Idaho Academy of Leadership for Lawyers Steering Committee member and past chair
- Professionalism & Ethics Section Governing Council former chair
- Advocate Editorial Advisory Board former member
- Orientation on Professionalism mentor to first year law students at University of Idaho College of Law and Concordia University School of Law



**TYLER S. ROUNDS** of Star graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law in 2007 where he served as a member of Idaho Law Review. Upon graduation, he clerked for the Hon. Thomas J. Ryan of the Third Judicial District Court. Born in Boise and raised in Middleton, Rounds is a partner with the law firm of Lovan Roker & Rounds, P.C. in Caldwell where he focuses on family law, including but not limited to divorce, child custody, guardianship, adoption, and child protection.

Rounds is a former officer of the Third District Bar Association and a former Governing Council member of the Family Law Section. He is a graduate of the Idaho Academy of Leadership for Lawyers.

A founding member of the Caldwell Young Professionals, Rounds volunteers his time coaching youth sports (soccer, baseball, and flag football) and serving on the executive board of the Middleton Baseball Association.

# DENISE O'DONNELL DAY



**M. SEAN BREEN** considers taking pro bono cases as “just part of a being an attorney.” He and his wife, Lora, are both military officers with a strong commitment to serving their country and their fellow citizens. Breen is grateful for the opportunity to help his neighbors by using his legal talents. He is a regular volunteer at the Idaho Trial Lawyers Association’s Street Law Clinic, which provides much needed legal assistance to the Boise community. In addition to the time he dedicates to legal clinics, Breen was nominated for giving 200 hours of his time representing an Iraqi refugee who is a domestic violence survivor in a contested divorce and custody case. Breen started his practice in 1994 and has participated in numerous service-oriented activities in Idaho. When he is not practicing law or donating his time, you can find him rafting Idaho’s wild and scenic rivers in the summer and skiing the majestic mountains in the winter.



**MICHAEL T. HOWARD** was a bit of a reluctant pro bono enthusiast. He doesn’t practice in the typical pro bono areas of law and he wasn’t convinced he could provide the type of help needed by most pro bono clients. However, in 2017 Howard eased out of his comfort zone and took on a guardianship case. He represented a maternal aunt who petitioned for guardianship of her nephew, whose mother was battling drug addiction. Howard experienced deep satisfaction knowing that, with his help, the aunt was able to take on the important role of a legal guardian in order to keep her nephew safe and provide stability for him during a difficult time. In addition, Howard came to appreciate the difficulties individuals face when unexpected legal issues interfere in what are often already stressful lives. He also realized how the skills attorneys use every day

can be life-changing in these situations. Howard understands that workloads and fear of the unknown can make it difficult to say ‘yes’ to a pro bono case but states that, “once you do, you’ll be glad you did.” Howard is an Idaho native and has been practicing law since 1999. His philosophy is “work to live, not live to work,” and he is grateful that his profession allows him a balanced life, as well as the opportunity to give back.



**ALAN F. JOHNSTON** is an Idaho Falls native who has been practicing law in the Seventh District for 10 years. He makes a concerted effort to have at least one pro bono case on his desk at all times. In 2017, he completed two significant pro bono cases. He represented a domestic violence survivor in her custody case and also represented a man in an administrative law case. The first client had been subjected to years of abuse and although she knew she needed a formal custody agreement to protect herself, she was fearful of pursuing a case on her own. Johnston stepped in and successfully fulfilled the client’s objectives. In the second case, Johnston represented a man who had been wrongfully forced by the State to register as a sex offender. Again, Johnston was successful as he was able to correct the State’s error. Johnston’s advice to other lawyers is to “listen to the young law student within telling you the profession is more important than the paychecks.” When he is not practicing law and volunteering his time, Johnston keeps busy with his three children.



**SARAH A. MCDOWELL-LAMONT** was nominated by Idaho Legal Aid Services (ILAS) for her generous support of the organization. McDowell-Lamont began her involvement with ILAS as a law student and has continued to volunteer since becoming a member of the Idaho State Bar. She serves on the ILAS Board and also provides pro bono services to ILAS clients. In 2017, ILAS was without a managing attorney in their Lewiston office and the staff was understandably worried about how to serve the many clients who desperately needed representation. McDowell-Lamont stepped up without hesitation to take on five domestic violence family law cases. She believes that providing pro bono representation is crucial to supporting vulnerable families in her community. She encourages other attorneys to consider taking on a pro bono case or two because it is rewarding to fight for children and families who would otherwise be forced to navigate a complex legal system by themselves.



**CATHY L. NAUGLE** has decades of experience as a family law practitioner. As a former Ada County family law judge, she understands the life-changing impact of providing pro bono representation in family law matters. Naugle’s pro bono resume is long and impressive. She has consistently donated her time and skills to vulnerable clients in need of a family law attorney. This year, Naugle was nominated for donating over 200 hours of her time on a custody

# PRO BONO AWARDS

(continued) modification case. The client was seeking a custody modification based on the opposing party's willful neglect of the children, who suffered from various mental health conditions that required adherence to a medication schedule as well as close supervision. Naugle took the case to trial and secured a favorable custody determination for her client. Naugle, who has been a private practice family law attorney since 1994, is inspired to volunteer when she sees that someone is in a situation where they are overwhelmed and being railroaded.



**LISA D. NORDSTROM** has built her regulatory law career over the past two decades. She serves as lead counsel for Idaho Power Company and represents the company before Idaho and Oregon utility regulators. Beyond her career, Nordstrom volunteers for a variety of organizations that support children and law-related education. She is particularly passionate about protecting children and currently serves on the Board of Family Advocates, Inc., the Fourth Judicial District's CASA program, and as a volunteer attorney for CASA guardian ad litem. Nordstrom states, "I never feel as grateful, inspired, balanced, and appreciated as I do when 'fighting the good fight' to provide a voice for those who wouldn't otherwise have one." Nordstrom balances the emotional toll of working with vulnerable children by participating in the Idaho High School Mock Trial Program. She reports that seeing "empowered teenagers in suits arguing the law never ceases to renew my

faith in Idaho youth."

**EDWARD SIMON** was nominated for his tireless work on a custody case involving a mother and five children. He ranks the case as his most rewarding and keeps a photograph of the family in his office to remind him of the experience and the importance of giving back. He also displays the touching thank you card he received from the children, which reads, "Thank you so much for all you have done in keeping us safe and happy with our mom," to remind him of the invaluable impact pro bono work has on the lives of clients lucky enough to receive representation. Simon has been a dedicated volunteer attorney during his 40 years in Idaho and his experience has taught him that sometimes the most rewarding cases are those that look the bleakest at the onset. He encourages other lawyers not to be daunted by pro bono and particularly family law cases because although these cases may "require a lot of hours and involve a lot of emotion, great rewards come to those who take on just causes."



**J. ALEXANDER SPAYD** interned at his local legal services organization while in law school on the East Coast and later worked as a public defender in Montana prior to moving to Boise. Consistent with this history of public service, as soon as Spayd secured his Idaho license to practice law, he contacted the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program and began taking pro bono cases. Just days before Christmas, Spayd agreed to assist a disabled man who was in the middle of an eviction proceeding that was set for trial on January 5th. Spayd put his trial skills to good use and was able to favorably settle the case for the client on the courthouse steps. In another case, Spayd served as guardian ad litem for three children whose mother was addicted to drugs. Spayd represented the best interests of the kids so that they could remain with their grandmother. For attorneys new to practice or new to a city, Spayd recommends taking on pro bono cases as a way to learn new areas

of law, meet lawyers and judges, and learn the ins and outs of the local courtrooms. In his experience, "the majority of cases seem to be relatively simple matters for lawyers, but mean the world to the clients." Spayd is currently employed as a public defender in Canyon County where he lives with his wife, one year-old daughter, and two dogs.



**JARED A. STEADMAN** has always believed in the importance of giving back to one's community and pro bono service has been one of the ways he has fulfilled this mission. Steadman has worked for Farm Bureau of Idaho for the last three years and he credits his company's commitment to community service as one of the main reasons he is able to regularly take on pro bono assignments. Steadman keeps at least one CASA case open at all times and also takes on other pro bono matters when the need arises. He states that CASA cases are his favorite. "The responsibility of the guardian to look out for the best interests of the child irrespective of the opinion of the State or the child's parents is an admirable position for the guardian to be in and I am pleased to be able to represent them as they fulfill that duty." Steadman has been impressed with the many great CASA volunteers he has represented, who take their responsibility seriously and work hard to obtain a result that is truly best for the child. When he leaves court after appearing

in a CASA case his mood is lifted because he knows he has done something especially meaningful that day. When he is not serving the community he spends time with Erin, his wife of 17 years, and their five children.

# SECTION AWARDS

## SECTION OF THE YEAR

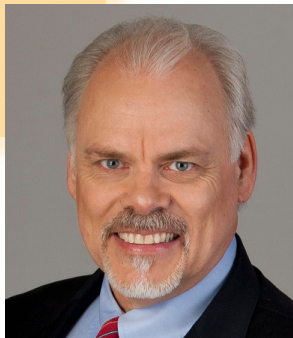
### *Appellate Practice Section*



Established in April 2014, the Appellate Practice Section of the Idaho State Bar advances appellate practice and professionalism before the state and federal appellate courts, increases awareness of appellate practice in Idaho, and enhances the skills of its members. In 2017, the Section's membership increased 6.6% from the previous year. The Section provides weekly Op-Clips from the Idaho Supreme Court, the Idaho Court of Appeals, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court as a service to its membership. A new edition of the Idaho Appellate Handbook was released in October 2017 to coincide with the "Appellate Advocacy: State and Federal Practice Tips" CLE, co-sponsored with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Charitable donations have been made to the University of Idaho College of Law Appellate Clinic and to the Access to Justice Idaho Campaign. The Section sponsored the May 2018 issue of *The Advocate* and has co-hosted, with the University of Idaho College of Law, an annual Meet and Greet featuring Idaho Appellate Judges.

## FAMILY LAW SECTION AWARD OF DISTINCTION

### *Charles B. Bauer, Boise*



Charles B. Bauer has primarily practiced in the area of family law throughout his illustrious 39-year career. He is widely regarded as one of the most experienced and effective family law attorneys in Idaho. Calling Bauer an institution in the area of family law would be an understatement – he is a lion.

Bauer's notable achievements include arguing numerous precedential cases before the Idaho Supreme Court and representing thousands of clients in domestic relations actions. Additionally, Bauer teaches Family Law at the University of Idaho College of Law as an adjunct professor, presents numerous seminars and CLE's spanning the gamut of legal issues in the area of domestic relations law, has held office as chair of the Idaho State Bar Family Law Section, and has authored numerous

articles and publications in the area of domestic relations law.

Bauer is a native of Idaho and has resided in the greater Boise area with his family since 1979.



## COMMERCIAL LAW & BANKRUPTCY SECTION

### *Professionalism Awards*

Robert L. Brower | Lewiston  
*Jones Brower & Callery*

D. Blair Clark | Boise  
*Law Office of D. Blair Clark*

Hon. Jim D. Pappas | Pocatello  
*U.S. Courts, District of Idaho*



## WORKERS COMPENSATION SECTION

### *Professionalism Award*

Michael R. McBride | Idaho Falls  
*McBride & Roberts*



# ***THE ADVOCATE AWARDS***



## **BEST COVER PHOTO**

*Paul Dawson, March/April 2018*

Paul Dawson's photo of the Deep Creek in the Owyhee River Canyonlands on the cover of the March/April 2018 issue took the award for Best Cover Photo. He sent this photo from a 2017 float trip in Southwest Idaho. The image shows the vertical walls of column basalt canyon as floaters make their way downstream. Dawson's wife, retired attorney Mary Jo Butler, receives *The Advocate* and Dawson took note of the magazine's open invitation for photo submissions. Dawson is professor emeritus from the College of Engineering at Boise State University, having retired in 2013.

## **BEST ARTICLE**

*Expert Testimony, May 2017*

The writing team of Dr. Mary Barros Bailey and Bobbi Dominick took top honors in this year's selection of Best Article with their piece, "Weaving Together Expert Testimony in Employment Cases." *The Advocate's* Editorial Advisory Board selected this article based on its practical relevance, clarity, timeliness, and original thought. This particular article was built from the authors' presentation to a conference of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals and Vocational Rehabilitation Transition Services.

The writers skillfully condensed material to make a practical and logical presentation. Specifically, the article explored the role of experts in vocational and employment law cases, especially looking at Idaho Rule of Evidence 702 and utilizing the testimony of experts in social science, human resources, and rehabilitation psychology.

## **BEST PRACTICE SECTION SPONSORSHIP**

*Appellate Practice Section, May 2018*

The Appellate Practice Section impressed the Editorial Advisory Board with its set of articles informing members of the Bar of new and interesting issues relevant to an appeals practice. The issue started out with a general primer for those who do not regularly take on appellate work. Authors Leslie Hayes and Bryan Nickels creatively told their story with a generous use of lyrics from songs by the Wu Tang Clan.

Helping to round out a diverse and helpful set of articles, Stephen Adams articulated the "How's and When's of Permissive Appeals," focusing on Idaho case law and practical considerations. Cory Stegelmeier and Kolby Reddish showed "How to Properly Structure an Abuse of Discretion Argument," which shows how difficult it can be to use the abuse of discretion standard in appeals. Finally, Deb Kristensen offered her view on "Opportunities for Lawyers to Work with the Federal Courts."

# 50 YEARS OF ADMISSION

ADMITTED TO THE IDAHO STATE BAR IN 1968

**WALTER H. BITHELL | BOISE** Bithell is a senior litigation attorney who has published and lectured extensively. Bithell received the Idaho State Bar Distinguished Lawyer Award in 2013 and the Professionalism Award in 2006. The Idaho Trial Lawyers Association created an award in his name, the Walter H. Bithell Professionalism Award, which honors an attorney each year for excellence and professionalism in their practice. Bithell has served in the capacity of Idaho State Bar Commissioner and President (1998), on the Board of Directors for the Idaho Law Foundation, Inc., as well as President of the Idaho Trial Lawyers Association (1981-82). He and his wife, Sherry, live in Boise.

**R. ROMER BROWN | COEUR D'ALENE** A graduate of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Brown followed in his father's footsteps to become an attorney. Brown practiced as a deputy prosecutor for six years and boasts having been the first full time prosecutor in Kootenai County. After helping to start the North Idaho College Foundation, Brown was the first chairman of the board for two years and served on the board for a total of 31 years. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Coeur d'Alene.

**EDWARD H. BRUNE | HAZELTON** Brune is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Gail, reside in Hazelton.

**HON. GEORGE D. CAREY | BOISE** Judge Carey received his law degree from Fordham University after receiving an undergraduate degree in history. His father, having been an attorney, encouraged him to become one as well. Judge Carey received the Idaho State Bar Service Award in 1985. He served as a Senior District Judge. He and his wife, Jean, have four children and eight grandchildren.

**WARREN S. DERBIDGE | BOISE** Derbidge is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Boise.

**ROBERT S. DRUMMOND | SPOKANE, WA** Drummond received a law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Jean, live in Spokane, Washington.

**LYLE D. ELIASSEN | SALOME, AZ** Eliassen went into the practice of law to challenge himself and to serve people. He returned to Idaho Falls after law school and after serving five years as a Judge Advocate in the Air Force. During his career he was most proud of having served as prosecutor and/or defense counsel on three murder cases. Eliassen counsels young attorneys to "always be honest." He and his wife, Barbara, now live in Arizona.

**KENT W. FOSTER | IDAHO FALLS** Foster received his B.A. in political science in 1965 and continued to his J.D. from the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law. He served as chair of the Idaho Water Users Association Resolutions Committee from 1977 through 1982, as a member of the Governor's Swan Falls Task Force in 1983, and as a member of the City of Idaho Falls Special Water Rights Counsel from 1975 through 2007. He received the Idaho State Bar Pro Bono Award in 2001. Foster enjoys his family, work with his church, yard work, and wood work.

**ALAN L. FOX | LONG BEACH, CA** Fox is a graduate of the University of California-Berkeley School of Law, following in his father's footsteps to become a lawyer. In his early years he worked as a law clerk for Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice E.B. Smith for a year, then practiced in San Francisco and Northern California. Fox counsels new attorneys to be patient and gain new experiences. He enjoys reading, playing tennis and squash, traveling, and exercising. He and his wife, Cheryl, live in Long Beach, California.

**MYRON D. GABBERT, JR. | NEW MEADOWS** Gabbert graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law and practiced real estate and business law. He was awarded Prosecutor of the Year in 2008 and received the Idaho State Bar Pro Bono Award in 2011. He and his wife of 54 years, Elfride, have three children – their son, Chris, is an attorney in Coeur d'Alene. They enjoy reading, duck hunting, and traveling.

**RONALD N. GRAVES | BOISE** Graves is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He chose law as an opportunity to utilize his undergraduate business degree and work with real estate, which he loved. He worked for many years with J.R. Simplot Company until his retirement. Graves enjoys volunteering and serving his community with organizations such as Fundsy and United Way, and in board leadership positions with St. Alphonsus Health System, Idaho Public Television, and the Idaho Ronald McDonald House. He and his wife, Diane, live in Boise and enjoy traveling and waterskiing.

**RICHARD H. GREENER | BOISE** Greener chose the legal profession after dropping out of pre-med as he “couldn’t stand the sight of blood [...] and did not want to wind up in the jungles of Southeast Asia” – although he says he has never overcome his biggest hurdle, shyness. He is proud of his professional achievement in a federal trial for J.R. Simplot which resulted in a \$29 million settlement. He and his wife, Janie, live in Boise and enjoy skiing and traveling.

**G.W. HAIGHT | COEUR D’ALENE** Haight is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Dea, live in Coeur d’Alene.

**JOHN R. HANSEN, JR. | EDEN, UT** Hansen graduated from the University of California-Los Angeles School of Law. He and his wife, Sandra, live in Eden, Utah.

**RICHARD D. HEATON | BOISE** Heaton is a graduate of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Heaton went into the practice of law thinking it would be his route to a business career. Once in law school, he found he enjoyed the practice greatly and stayed with it, eventually working for the privately owned Yankee conglomerate as general counsel. He and his wife, Betty, enjoy playing golf and spending time with their six children and 19 grandchildren in Boise.

**LAWRENCE J. HIGGINS | PORTLAND, OR** Higgins is a graduate of Gonzaga University School of Law. He resides in Portland, Oregon.

**JUDITH K. HOLCOMBE | GARDEN CITY** As a political science major, Holcombe was inspired by constitutional law and the writings of great jurists. She attended UCLA for two years and later graduated with her J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law. She is proud of the accomplishment of building an organizational infrastructure for the newly passed Idaho Human Rights Act and for fighting for civil rights in many arenas here in Idaho. She and her late husband, Richard, have one son, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. After her recent retirement, Holcombe enjoys working as an artist in her Garden City studio. She enjoys traveling as well as charitable and volunteer activities.

**HON. WARREN E. JONES | BOISE** Born in Montpelier in 1943, Justice Jones attended grade school in Ogden, Utah, spending summers with his grandparents on a farm in Burley. Inspired by the words of a close family friend who said “Lawyers make a ton of money and never have to work,” Justice Jones was only 12 years old when he decided that he wanted to be a lawyer. Throughout his years of practice, he found the statement true in that if you truly love your job you will never work a day in your life. Graduating from high school as valedictorian in 1961, he attended the College of Idaho in Caldwell where he received his B.A. in political science, *magnum cum laude*, in 1965. He attended the University of Chicago Law School and received his J.D. in 1968. Justice Jones is particularly proud of his trial experience including 122 jury trials in 38 Idaho counties. He retired in 2017 to spend more time with his wife, Karen, and their children and grandchildren.

**BARRY L. MARCUS | BOISE** Marcus is a graduate of Stanford University School of Law. He and his wife, Natalie, live in Boise.

**HON. PETER D. MCDERMOTT | POCATELLO** Judge McDermott had great respect for his father and followed in his footsteps to become an attorney. After graduation, Judge McDermott began practicing with his father. As a district judge McDermott presided over many “high profile” cases but most of all enjoyed trying to change people for the better. He retired in 2009 and is now an appellate judge for the Shoshone Bannock Tribe. He enjoys traveling and fly fishing.

**GALE M. MERRICK | TWIN FALLS** Merrick is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He was fascinated with the ins and outs of the legal system and thus decided to become an attorney. Throughout his career Merrick cites a few “fun Supreme Court cases” including his successful defense of American Honda against a suit in which mice kept getting into vehicles. He and his wife, Mary Ann, have three daughters – one a teacher in Hailey, one an Olympic youth coordinator, and one a practicing attorney in Oregon. Merrick and Mary Ann live in Twin Falls and enjoy gardening and playing with their three Brittany Spaniels.

# CONTINUED...

**MICHAEL C. MOORE | COUPEVILLE, WA** Moore became an attorney due to “his aversion of physical labor. Seriously, I don’t recall wanting to be anything else.” He practices municipal law and cites his mentors as Tom Feeney, Don Worden, and Merlyn Clark. Moore enjoys reading, hiking, and studying history and languages. He and his wife, Linda, have a son, Tom Moore, who is an attorney in Bellevue, Washington.

**CLYDE G. NELSON | MESQUITE, NV** Nelson is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He followed in the footsteps of his namesake uncle, whom he always admired, to become an attorney. Nelson states that his career is very satisfying, as he was able to practice in a wide range of areas and help people. He and his wife, Julia, have two daughters who both became attorneys; Jennifer, who is practicing in Portland, and Andra, who practices in Sandpoint. Nelson and Julia split their time between Soda Springs in the summer and Mesquite, Nevada in the winter. When he’s not working, they enjoy golf, bridge, concerts, and traveling.

**U.S. SENATOR JAMES E. RISCH | BOISE** Senator Risch is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. After graduating he was elected as Ada County Prosecuting Attorney after which he served 11 elected terms in the Idaho State Senate. He previously served as Lieutenant Governor of Idaho from 2003 to 2006, again from 2007 to 2009, as Governor of Idaho from 2006 to 2007, and now as a U.S. Senator since 2009. He and his wife, Vicki, have been married for over 40 years. They have three sons and six grandchildren and live on a ranch outside of Boise.

**HON. JOHN R. SELLMAN | MOUNTAIN HOME** Judge Sellman is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He served in the Elmore County Magistrate Court and resides in Mountain Home.

**M. KARL SHURTLIFF | MOUNT DORA, FL** Shurtliff is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Peggy, live in Mount Dora, Florida.

**KENETH W. SMITH | DRAPER, UT** Smith is a graduate of the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law. He and his wife, Carole, live in Draper, Utah.

**HERMAN L. SPILKER | AMMON** Spilker is a graduate of the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law and has always been fascinated by courtroom dramas, even though, ironically, he never litigated a single case during his practice. He served as staff counsel and later as general counsel for several Idaho National Laboratories contractors. He and his wife, Colleen, have four children.

**IVAN STRAND | BOISE** Strand is a graduate of Stanford University Law School. He and his wife, Judith, live in Boise.

**ROBERT L. TRABERT | CALDWELL** Trabert is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He originally worked at a job associated with attorneys and thought it would prove to be an enjoyable career. He worked as chief counsel for the transportation department in contract law for 18 years and retired in 1995. He enjoys a little golf and a lot of fishing for both steelhead and salmon. He lives in Caldwell.

**REESE E. VERNER | NAMPA** Verner went to law school at the encouragement of his father. He is very proud of his partnership with his wife, Beverly, and raising their family, as well as being an Idahoan and a proud member of the Nampa community. Verner received the Idaho State Bar Pro Bono Award in both 1996 and 2015, as well as the Professionalism Award in 2000. He and Beverly have four children and 13 grandchildren. One of their grandchildren is starting law school this fall. They enjoy being with family and friends, church, and working around the house.

**PAUL L. WESTBERG | BOISE** Westberg practiced what he calls “White Collar Criminal Defense” and states that he always had a keen interest in the law citing Judge Fred Taylor as a direct influence on his career. Westberg states that he enjoys practicing law as it gives him a chance to provide guidance and hope to people and recommends young attorneys “take your cases and clients, but not yourself, seriously.” He and his wife, Carmen, have three children and two grandchildren and enjoy golfing, reading, traveling, serving with nonprofit associations, visiting friends, and spending time with family.

**KLAUS WIEBE | CALDWELL** Wiebe is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. Currently of counsel with Briggs & Bauscher in Caldwell, Wiebe has over 30 years’ experience in the area of criminal defense. He and his wife, Cheryl, live in Caldwell.

# 60 YEARS OF ADMISSION

ADMITTED TO THE IDAHO STATE BAR IN 1958

## **ROBERT S. CAMPBELL, JR.** *Naples, FL*

A member of the debate team, Campbell always knew he wanted to be an attorney. Before his retirement he practiced as a trial attorney in a major Salt Lake City firm. He was chief special counsel to the Utah Bar on the Watergate Trial and was the Utah Trial Lawyer of the Year in 1992. He received his B.A. from the University of Idaho. After a stint in the army, he received his J.D. from the University of Colorado Law School and the University of Idaho College of Law, and later his Dip. L. from Oxford University, England. He and his wife, Charlotte, have three children – one is a lawyer in Washington D.C., one works in the financial sector in New York, and one is chair of Philosophy at Oregon State University. Campbell enjoys playing classical piano and he and Charlotte play golf. They split their time between their home in Florida and their home near Oxford, England.

## **WILLIAM A. PARSONS** *Burley*

Parsons received his B.S. in business administration from the University of Idaho where he was student body president. He went on to graduate from the University of Idaho College of Law with an L.L.B. in 1957 and has practiced in Burley since 1958. Parsons has always liked the challenge of the courtroom and problem-solving for people. He is an active volunteer both in the profession and his community. He has been a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, serving as State Chairman for one term. Parsons received the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 1996 and the Distinguished Lawyer Award in 2010. He has served on the Idaho Judicial Council, the Idaho State Bar Professional Conduct Board, and was the Burley City Attorney for 28 years. Parsons has been practicing with his friend and law partner, Dick Smith, since 1962. Parsons and his wife, Bev, have been married for 64 years and he cites her support as one of the main factors in his success in the practice of law. He and Bev enjoy spending time with their daughter, Karen, golfing, and playing ball with their poodle, Tizzy.

## **RICHARD K. SMITH** *Burley*

Smith received a B.A. in economics from the University of Idaho, a Master's degree in political science from University of California-Berkeley, and his J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law. When he graduated from high school, World War II had just begun and, with a desire to serve, Smith joined the military. After the war, he sought to further his education and started at the University of Idaho. His first mentor in Twin Falls was Ed Benoit - a highly respected lawyer and a good friend who offered him support in his early career. One of Smith's significant cases was one he prosecuted as a capital case in which a rancher was murdered. He later represented the rancher's wife to recoup the insurance monies. The legal field has changed dramatically because of technology and communication which have created a revolution in the ability to do research. His advice to young attorneys is to, "Be completely honest with everyone you deal with, because you won't get a second chance to make that good first impression." Smith and his wife, Miriam, have two children and seven grandchildren.

# 65 YEARS OF ADMISSION

ADMITTED TO THE IDAHO STATE BAR IN 1953

## **DARWIN D. COGSWELL | SANDPOINT**

Cogswell is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He admired several local Coeur d'Alene attorneys and judges and after his service in the army, thought the legal profession would be a rewarding career. He received the Idaho State Bar Service Award in 1983 and the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 1994. Cogswell retired in 1994 and he and his wife, Joann, enjoy their time traveling, hunting, and fishing. They live in Sandpoint and have three children, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

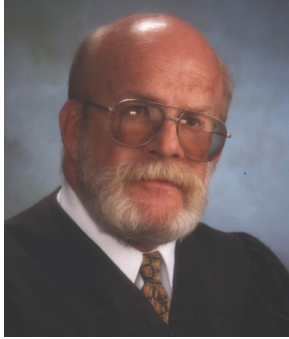
## **WILLIAM C. RODEN | BOISE**

Roden knew in ninth grade that he wanted to become a lawyer. After many debate clubs, public speaking contests, theater productions, and reading *Yankee From Olympus: Justice Holmes and His Family* by Catherine Drinker Bowen, his career choice was solidified. He is proud of the role he played in the shaping of the Idaho Telecommunications Act of 1988, achieving major regulatory reform in the industry. Perhaps one of his more appreciated accomplishments is the writing and passing of the "County Option Kitchen and Table Wine Act" which opened the retail market in Idaho to the myriad of wines we are now able to purchase at local grocery stores. Roden appreciates the addition of technology to the modern day practice of law, however he counsels new attorneys to take time to thoughtfully consider the merits of the legal product they are expected to deliver. Roden was joyfully married to his wife, Betty, for 65 years until her passing a few years ago. They have two children, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Roden retired in June 2018 and looks forward to spending more time at his McCall cabin. His dog, Charley, faithfully walks him at least three times a day.

## **ARCHIBALD W. SERVICE | POCATELLO**

After serving in the Navy during World War II, Service attended the University of Idaho, Southern Branch (ISU) for two years and then completed his undergraduate degree at Stanford University. He later received his law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law. Service received the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 2003 and the Distinguished Lawyer Award in 2012. He served as president of the Sixth District Bar Association and was a recipient of its Professionalism Award. He served a short period as part-time judge on the Shoshone-Bannock reservation and has served on many councils and boards throughout his career. He has twin sons, David and Basil, and one grandson, Cameron. Service has been a mentor to many lawyers during his career and now enjoys skiing, fly fishing, golfing, and tennis. He lives in Pocatello.

# RETIRING JUDGES



**HON. THOMAS H. BORRESEN**  
*Jerome County Magistrate Judge*



**HON. STEPHEN J. CLARK**  
*Lemhi County Magistrate Judge*



**HON. GILMAN J. GARDNER**  
*Fremont County Magistrate Judge*



**HON. RANDALL W. ROBINSON**  
*Clearwater County Magistrate Judge*



**HON. THOMAS J. RYAN**  
*Third Judicial District Judge*



**HON. ALAN C. STEPHENS**  
*Seventh Judicial District Judge*



**HON. L. KEVIN SWAIN**  
*Ada County Magistrate Judge*



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