

On Demand Program

Presenter Biographies

2025-26 New Lawyer Program Part 2



Access to Justice

Justice Michelle M. Keller

Justice Michelle M. Keller was appointed to the Kentucky Supreme Court in April 2013. She was subsequently elected in both 2014 and 2022 for two full terms on the Court. Prior to her service on the Supreme Court, Justice Keller was elected as Judge on the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2006. Justice Keller has served as the Court of Appeals representative on the Judicial Conduct Commission and Chairperson of the Court of Justice's Technology Governance Committee and is currently serving as Chairperson of the Kentucky Access to Justice Commission and Criminal Rules Committee.

Prior to her service on the bench, Justice Keller practiced law for 17 years. She served as an Assistant County Attorney for her home county of Kenton. Her private practice concentrated in the areas of medical negligence and product liability defense, personal injury, family law, and criminal defense. Justice Keller also practiced administrative law, representing numerous clients before state regulatory and licensure boards. She is Chairwoman Emeritus of the Kentucky Personnel Board and has served as a hearing officer and member of that Board. Justice Keller is licensed to practice law in Kentucky, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, and the United States Supreme Court. She is a member of the Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonels and has twice been commended by the Kentucky House of Representatives for her service to the Commonwealth.

Justice Keller attended Northern Kentucky University's Chase College of Law while working as a licensed registered nurse in critical care. At Chase, Justice Keller was an IOLTA Scholar, earning her Juris Doctor in 1990. Chase presented Justice Keller with both the Chase Excellence and Chase Exceptional Service Awards in 2007 and 2011 respectively.

Additionally, Justice Keller was named a 2012 Outstanding Woman of Northern Kentucky honoree for her commitment to public service and community involvement. She was honored on Law Day in 2013 with the Richard D. Lawrence Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Northern Kentucky Bar Association ("NKBA"). Justice Keller was honored in 2014 with the Liberty Bell Award for her service to the Court of Justice, and in 2016 she was inducted into the Lloyd Memorial High School (her alma mater) Alumni Hall of Fame. In December 2017, Justice Keller was the first woman presented with the Distinguished Lawyer of the Year Award by the NKBA. Recently, the Kentucky Bar Association ("KBA") honored Justice Keller with the 2020 Distinguished Judge Award.

Justice Keller has served in various positions for the NKBA, KBA, and the American Bar Association. In 2009, she received the KBA's Donated Legal Services Award for her commitment to Pro Bono service and support of Kentucky's legal services organizations. She is a Master in the Salmon P. Chase Inn of Court and served as President of the Inn from 2012-13. Justice Keller is also a Fellow of both the American and Kentucky Bar Foundations.

A lifelong Northern Kentuckian, Justice Keller and her husband, Jim, a physician, are the proud parents of two adult daughters. One serves as a public health practitioner and the other is a practicing attorney.

Glenda J. Harrison

Glenda J. Harrison is the Executive Director of the KY Access to Justice Commission. The Commission was established by Order of the Kentucky Supreme Court with a mission to increase access to the courts for Kentuckians.

Prior to assuming the position with the Commission, Ms. Harrison served as Advocacy Director for Legal Aid of the Bluegrass for 10 years. Ms. Harrison started her career at Legal Aid of the Bluegrass as a social worker in 1975 and became a staff attorney for the program in 1982. Her primary areas of practice included consumer, family and public benefits law.

Ms. Harrison attended Northern Kentucky University's Chase College of Law, earning her Juris Doctor in 1982. She graduated from Florida State University with a BA in Psychology in 1972. Ms. Harrison received the 2016 KY Bar Association Donated Legal Services Award. In 2015, she was recognized by the Northern Kentucky Volunteer Lawyers, Inc. with the Justice for All Award. Ms. Harrison is a member of both the American and Kentucky Bar Associations.

M. Erin Wilkins

Attorney Erin Wilkins founded The Law Office of M. Erin Wilkins, LLC in January, 2005 in historic Newport, Kentucky. With prior experience working in the area of family law, Erin recognized the need for competent attorneys who are readily available to provide family law services in the area.

Growing up, Erin knew that she wanted to be involved in the world in a significant way. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts from Western Kentucky University, where she majored in Print Journalism and Government, Erin pursued the study of law. She knew that the practice of law would allow her to help people and make a real difference.

Erin received her law degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University. She was a member of the Moot Court team and provided pro bono services through a tax clinic run by the law school. This experience set the pace for her future law practice.

Erin also volunteers much of her time to Holly Hill Child & Family Solutions, a local nonprofit providing mental health services to teenage girls and their families. Erin is the current board chair for the organization. Erin resides in Bellevue, Ky and also donates her time as a member of the planning and zoning committee of Bellevue.

Erin is currently licensed to practice law in both Ohio and Kentucky and concentrates her practice on domestic relations.

The Attorney's Duty to the Court

Hon. John Lindsay Tackett, District Judge, 22nd Judicial District

Judge John Lindsay Tackett was elected district judge in November 2018 and assumed office January 2019. Judge Tackett earned a B.A. from the University of Chicago in 1998 and a J.D.

from the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law in 2003. Prior to being elected district judge, he worked as an attorney with Ward Hocker & Thornton PLC, with Phillips, Parker, Oberson and Arnett PLC, and with his own practice, John L. Tackett Attorney at Law PLLC.

Cybersecurity Concerns for Lawyers

Jeffery L. Sallee

Jeff Sallee is a member of Western & Southern's Information Security team, which he joined after retiring from Procter & Gamble. He is an alumnus of the Defense Language Institute, received three undergraduate degrees from Purdue University, obtained his J.D. from the Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law, and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of the Cumberlands. His certifications include Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA). Mr. Sallee is licensed to practice in Kentucky, Indiana, and before the Supreme Court of the United States.

New Lawyer Well-Being: Enhancing Resilience While Maintaining an Ethical Practice

P. Yvette Hourigan

Yvette Hourigan is a former trial lawyer, and Director of the Kentucky Lawyer Assistance Program (KYLAP). KYLAP provides CONFIDENTIAL assistance to all Kentucky law students, lawyers and judges with mental health issues and impairments including depression, substance use disorders, process addictions, and chronic anxiety disorders. Yvette graduated from Murray State University and the University of Kentucky College of Law. She is a licensed attorney, a Certified Employee Assistance Professional and an Adult Peer Support Specialist. She is a fervent advocate for improving the mental health and well-being of her profession, one lawyer at a time.

Yvette is the current Chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs; was former chair of the ABA/COLAP Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee; and is a former member of the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being. In 2024, Yvette received the Chief Justice's Special Service Award for her service to the Bar Association through her work as KYLAP Director.

In 2021 Yvette was awarded the KBA President's Special Service Award by President Tom Kerrick for KYLAP's service to Kentucky's legal community during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also received the Dave Nee Foundation's "Uncommon Counselor" Award for her work in suicide prevention in the legal profession. In 2020 she was awarded the University of Kentucky Algernon Sullivan Medal. This is a humanitarian award "meant to recognize those who have selflessly given to others." In 2019 Ms. Hourigan was awarded the Kentucky Justice Association and Family Safety Foundation's Consumer Safety Award. This honor goes to an individual who is an outspoken advocate for consumer rights or who has risked her own well-being for the future health or safety of others. She speaks locally and nationally on topics impacting lawyer well-being, lawyer impairment, addiction, and suicide prevention. KYLAP's work in lawyer mental health, well-being and suicide prevention has been featured nationally on Legal View with Ashleigh Banfield, NPR, CNN, Bloomberg Law, The Guardian, and in The Huffington Post.

Trust Accounts 101: FAQs and Tips to Avoid Trouble

Robbie O. Clements

Robbie Clements is a Deputy Bar Counsel and Administrative Manager of the Office of Bar Counsel. She has been with the Kentucky Bar Association since April 2006. Ms. Clements earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law and graduated from Kentucky Wesleyan College, *summa cum laude*.

You've Just Received a Bar Complaint, Now What?

Andre Bergeron

Andre Bergeron graduated from Centre College with a bachelor's degree in English and Religion. He then earned a master's degree in English from the University of Louisville Graduate School, and a J.D. from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. He has now been practicing law for almost 19 years. After serving as a staff attorney to Jefferson Circuit Court Judge McKay Chauvin, Mr. Bergeron worked for several years as a housing attorney at the Legal Aid Society in Louisville. He then worked for almost nine years as a prosecutor with the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, with a focus on domestic violence and child abuse cases, then general felony/misdemeanor cases. Mr. Bergeron was appointed by the Governor to the Jefferson District Court Bench, where he served as a judge until early 2019. Since that time, Mr. Bergeron has served as Deputy Bar Counsel in the KBA's Office of Bar Counsel. He believes he fulfills the role of protecting the member lawyers from frivolous, vengeful, nonsensical complaints, while also protecting the public, the courts, and the reputation of the bar from attorneys who truly act against the rules of professional conduct. At home, Andre and his wife have two busy daughters who are active in sports and school. The family also has two dogs, and approximately 8,000 bees in a backyard hive. When he is not attending to any of these various vocations, Andre's other favorite place to be is on a river, fishing.

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