

## **Alfred Michael Boll – President Elect**

*University of California, Davis, California*

The privilege of serving on the NLRD Board over the past two and a half years has allowed me to take part in initiatives to strengthen the Bar’s outreach to our members across the nation and worldwide at a time when the importance of fostering connections has never been more important. The NLRD’s mission to create ties to benefit Wisconsin attorneys wherever they practice, and to look for ways to bolster resilience, efficiency, and best professional practices, speaks to me personally. Much of my professional life has centered around building ties for individuals and institutions, and my candidacy to serve as NLRD President-elect embodies a desire to strengthen our institution and profession, demonstrating our commitment to empower our members and respond to the challenges they face. I retired from the U.S. Foreign Service in December 2024 after 21 years in order to take a position as Executive Director of the University of California, Davis’s Global Learning Hub, a center that enables the next generation of leaders to develop skills and networks to navigate an increasingly complicated global landscape and thereby both compete successfully and contribute to solving global challenges. My last position at the State Department was Director of Political Training, preparing officers to report and engage internationally drawing on a range of substantive, interpersonal, and tradecraft best practices. I have kept close ties to Wisconsin, and am eager to continue to serve the State Bar and strengthen its ties to nonresident members.



**Erik R. Guenther – Treasurer, Incumbent**

*Department of Homeland Security / Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA),  
Christiansted, U.S. Virgin Islands*

I was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and educated at Carthage College and the University of Wisconsin Law School. From 2002 until 2012, I practiced law in my home state of Wisconsin. I have also worked for rule of law programs in Afghanistan (2007—2008; 2012—2015) and Belize (2011—2012) funded by the U.S. Department of State, and as an Assistant Federal Defender (2016—2019) representing inmates on death rows in Arizona, California, Nevada, and Texas. Currently, I work for FEMA as Team Lead Attorney-Advisor helping the U.S. Virgin Islands recover from Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

I will be completing my first term as Treasurer of the Nonresident Lawyers Division (“NRLD”) Board. I have also served as NRLD President and for two terms as a Director. Since my initial term on the NRLD Board, I was repeatedly elected by my NRLD Board colleagues to serve on the Board of Governors (“BOG”). I organized multiple Nevada Chapter events, and twice served as the lead organizer of the NRLD’s CLE programming for the Annual Meeting and Conference.

My commitment to the State Bar is longstanding. I have served on the Civil Rights and Liberties Section Board, the Legislative Oversight Committee, the Communications Committee, Board of Governors, and BOG Executive Committee.

I hope to be reelected to the NRLD board, as Treasurer, to continue to contribute to its efforts, and serve as a voice for members who practice outside of Wisconsin, including members who practice outside of the continental United States.



**Angela Aliota – Director, Incumbent**

*Law Office of Angela M Aliota, Warrenville, Illinois*

My name is Angela Aliota and my primary practice is in the State of Illinois; however, I was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Wisconsin will always be home to me. I graduated from UW Madison in 2002 and am a Badger for life as well!

I have had the honor and joy on being on this board since 2022 and have thoroughly enjoyed my time meeting so many wonderful attorneys and fellow bar members across this beautiful Country. Attending the AMC yearly has been the highlight. I was also thrilled to fill Melodie Wiseman's remaining one-year term on BOG as one of the NRLD directors. I was also privileged to be the chair of the CLE committee for the AMC this year for NRLD, and believe the committee has selected an amazing speaker that will really educate all attendees this year in Madison about child privacy and data issues.

I ask you all to vote for me and give me more time to continue the great work that the NRLD does for the Wisconsin State Bar, and continue to grow and flourish the NRLD.

Thank you for considering me for another term as director with the NRLD!



**Paloma Goggins – Director, Incumbent**

*Nocturnal Legal, LLC*, Scottsdale, Arizona

As a current board member of the Nonresident Lawyers Division, I am excited to run for another term. Based in Scottsdale, Arizona, my practice is focused on business owners and specifically mergers and acquisitions. Inherently, my practice brings me in contact with lawyers from all over the United States, which has highlighted the importance of bringing together Wisconsin licensed attorneys to not only best serve our clients, but also foster collaboration across practices. Although I now live in Arizona, my Wisconsin roots are deep and I visit often to connect with friends, family, clients, and fellow colleagues. I look forward to continuing to support the mission of the Nonresident Lawyers Division and becoming even more involved in its leadership in the near future.



**Michelle L. Taylor – Director, Incumbent**

*Office of the Federal Public Defender, McAllen, Texas*

Greetings fellow State Bar members. I am running for re-election for the privilege to serve on the Board of Directors for a second term.

Wisconsin is my home state and I am a proud alumna of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Go, Badgers! Currently, I am a member of both the nonresident lawyers division and government lawyers division. I have devoted my career to public service and am a strong believer in indigent defense and lifelong learning.

I would be honored to continue to represent the nonresident lawyers in this capacity and hope to make further contributions to the organization. Thank you for your consideration.





**Patricia Assmann – Director**

*Carter Foreman PLLC, Spring Hill, Florida*

My name is Patricia Assmann. I am a senior attorney at Carter Foreman PLLC located in Spring Hill, Florida. I am Board Certified in Real Estate (in Florida). I also practice Estate Planning and Probate as well as other general practice areas. A 30-year Wisconsin native, I was born and raised in Wisconsin and was a paralegal for 8 years before going back to law school and moving to Florida. I am also licensed in Minnesota. I am new to running for a spot with the NRLD Board but have previously been a Secretary to the Paralegal Association of Wisconsin and the Student Bar Association. I currently sit on the Bay Area Real Estate Counsel Board. Now that my children are grown, I have more time to commit to civic activities and to get more involved in the NRLD and State Bar. It is my hope and belief that coming from a small firm in a smaller community can bring a fresh outlook and ideas to the Board. I hope that you will give me the opportunity to serve the members of the NRLD and the State Bar of Wisconsin.



**Sean M. Brown – Director**

*Ohio Credit Union League, Columbus, Ohio*

As General Counsel for a multi-million dollar financial services trade association, I am constantly leaning on my attorney friends, colleagues, and network in other states for advice, direction, and support. While the law may transcend many facets of life, each state presents its own set of unique circumstances that need respected, and navigated carefully. As such, I routinely reach out to, and provide service too, my Wisconsin legal colleagues when necessary. I have served as an attorney now in both the state of Wisconsin and Ohio, and regularly the two coincide. I find it important to stay up to date on the Wisconsin legal ecosystem, and the Wisconsin Bar has long been the vehicle for that.

As a Marquette Lawyer, when I saw the opportunity to serve as a liaison to the Wisconsin legal community and those of us who have left the state, I knew I had to try and do what I could to nourish, expand, and grow the Wisconsin legal community that may be outside of Wisconsin. I'd be honored to help keep those of us now practicing outside the state of Wisconsin involved, accounted for, and included, in the happenings of the Wisconsin legal system through the State Bar of Wisconsin.



## **Dawn Euer – Director**

*Law Office of Dawn Euer, Providence, Rhode Island*

Dawn is an experienced in-house corporate attorney with over 10 years of experience in nonprofit law, corporate governance, finance, renewable energy, and sustainable development. Throughout her career, she has provided strategic legal counsel to a wide range of organizations, including nonprofits and for-profit businesses, helping them navigate complex regulatory environments and achieve their business goals while ensuring compliance with legal requirements.

She earned her JD from Roger Williams University School of Law and has been recognized for her outstanding contributions to the legal field, including being named Rhode Island Lawyer's Weekly Lawyer of the Year and USA Today's Woman of the Year. She has also earned the In-house Counsel Certification from the Association of Corporate Counsel.

Having worked in both the private and nonprofit sectors, Dawn excels in advising organizations on balancing mission-driven goals with sound business practices. She is skilled at managing cross-functional teams, navigating regulatory complexities, and providing practical solutions to legal challenges. In her spare time, she enjoys the outdoors and participates in triathlons and road races.





## **Carla Gracia – Director**

*Ferrara Candy Company, Chicago, Illinois*

I am excited to nominate myself for a Director position in the Non-Resident Lawyers Division of the Wisconsin Bar Association. As a proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School (Class of 2021), I am passionate about fostering strong ties between nonresident attorneys and Wisconsin's legal community.

Currently, I serve as Legal Counsel at Ferrara Candy Company in Chicago, focusing on employment law and commercial matters. My role involves providing strategic advice, managing complex legal issues, and collaborating across teams to achieve business goals. These experiences have honed my skills in problem-solving and relationship-building, which I aim to bring to this position.

As an out-of-state attorney, I understand the challenges of maintaining meaningful ties to Wisconsin, including navigating CLE requirements and accessing professional networking opportunities. As Director, I will advocate for initiatives that expand communication, business opportunities, and resources for nonresident lawyers while supporting the division's vital role in governance and reporting.

In addition to my legal career, I lead ¡UNIDOS!, Ferrara's Hispanic Business Resource Group, where I organize programs to foster cultural awareness and networking opportunities. I am also training for the 2025 Chicago Marathon with Team Latinos Progresando, reflecting my commitment to purposeful action and community building.

I am eager to help nonresident lawyers strengthen their connections through the division's network, champion professional development opportunities, and ensure our voices are represented within the State Bar. I would be honored to serve and contribute to our shared success.



**Daneka B. Hill – Director**

*Ameriprise Financial, Inc.*, Minneapolis, Minnesota

I'm counsel for a financial services firm headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. I have deep-rooted ties to Wisconsin, which drives my desire to ensure nonresident lawyers have an active influence and presence within the Wisconsin State Bar.

In addition to my responsibilities as a lawyer, I'm a member of various community and legal organizations. I was recognized by the Minnesota Justice Foundation for my commitment to community service, receiving the Public Service Award for providing 150+ hours of pro bono services. I believe my diverse background and experience would continue to effectively promote the NRLD's mission and objectives.

I'm passionate about diversity and fostering connections for a strong NRLD community. Over the past four years, I've enjoyed working with NRLD stakeholders and members to promote these values within the Wisconsin State Bar. I also serve on the Board of Governors and I'm on the NRLD CLE Committee. My leadership positions have prepared me to continue contributing in this role. If elected for another term, I'd continue my current efforts and partner with legal organizations to increase NRLD exposure and membership. I'd also seek to increase CLE and networking opportunities for current NRLD members.

With your support, I would be honored to serve another term as one of your board members.



**Rachel McKenna – Director**

*Almanza, Blackburn, Dickie & Mitchell, LLP, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

I am a recent Texas transplant to the midwest and received my license to practice in Wisconsin in the fall of 2024. I am looking to connect with other lawyers and work to build my practice in the midwest (real estate and civil litigation). I practiced for 8 years in Texas and in that time was actively involved in my bar associations at the state and local city levels. Looking forward to getting involved in the Wisconsin Bar!



**Jessica M. Moeller – Director**

*Charleston School of Law, Charleston, South Carolina*

I currently serve as the Assistant Dean of Experiential Education at the Charleston School of law and serve as a connection to many law students here in the south that wish to look towards practicing law in the midwest. My focus has always been on engaging in client-centered representation, and I enjoy creating trainings a materials to help lawyers from all backgrounds have the tools available to engage in this type of service. I believe I can benefit the NRLD working to increase engagement and opportunities for non-resident lawyer access to CLEs and ways to engage in pro-bono service from afar.



**Robert W. Murphy – Director**

*Murphy Law*, Charlottesville, Virginia

Robert W. Murphy is a complex consumer and class action litigation attorney. He has served as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Florida College of Law in Gainesville, Florida from 2009 to 2021 and currently serves as a visiting professor at the University of Virginia School of Law. He is a past chair of the Consumer Protection Law Committee of The Florida Bar and was a Board Member, Secretary and Florida State Chairperson for the National Association of Consumer Advocates. He is currently a Board member of the Florida Bar Foundation. He has been the Faculty Chair of the Practising Law Institute's Consumer *Pro Bono* Program in San Francisco since 2009.





**Carly Patzke Reyes – Director**

*Cook County Public Defender, Chicago, Illinois*

Practicing Cook County Public Defender for over 20 years with extensive trial experience. Previously sat on the board of the Illinois State Bar Association Criminal Lawyers Division. If elected to a director position, I hope to bring unity amongst nonresident lawyers to continue their support of my home state of Wisconsin.



**John K. Rubiner – Director**

*Freeman Mathis & Gary, Los Angeles, California*

John K. Rubiner is a Partner in Freeman Mathis & Gary's Los Angeles office. He is a highly experienced trial attorney who has tried to verdict a wide array of jury, bench and arbitration matters. He has also argued appeals to the California and federal appellate courts. His experience also includes five years as an Assistant United States Attorney, in the Civil Division, in Los Angeles.

Mr. Rubiner has defended employers in virtually every type of employment case in his more than 30 years of private practice. He has handled hundreds of discrimination, wage and hour, and harassment cases ranging from single plaintiffs to class action and PAGA cases involving thousands of class members. He also regularly handles ADA accessibility suits, and Fair Housing Act claims.

Mr. Rubiner is an active participant in civic and bar activities. His service includes president of the Beverly Hills Bar Association – a full-service bar representing over 6,000 lawyers primarily in Western Los Angeles County. He also previously served on the Executive Council of the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP). In the past, Mr. Rubiner has served on a variety of committees (including finance and programming) for the Beverly Hills and California State, American Bar Associations and the NCBP. He has also held leadership positions with the Los Angeles Jewish Federation.

Mr. Rubiner is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and UCLA Law School. He is licensed to practice in California, Illinois and Wisconsin.



**Melodie Wiseman – Director**

*Stride. Inc.*, Reston, Virginia

My practice focuses on Education Technology ("EdTech") where I bridge the gap between technology, corporate, and school law. I have worked remotely for the last ten years for Stride, Inc., most recently as Associate General Counsel. My work spans employment law, education law, corporate matters, privacy law, and online safety.

I am particularly passionate about helping schools navigate complex regulatory issues. I have assisted a state agency in implementing its first-ever state-mandated background screenings for virtual K-12 teachers, which helps protect students from child abuse and sex offenses. My work also includes legal issues arising from the difficult conversations around diversity, representation, and parent rights in education. I also help schools navigate the legal issues associated with Artificial Intelligence in K-12 curriculum and on social media.

I had the honor of serving as the Chair of the State Bar this year. I have also served on the Nonresident Lawyers Division board for the last five years, most recently as Past-President. I have also served on the State Bar Board of Governors and its Executive Committee. It has been a great honor to represent those of us who live outside of Wisconsin.

I have a Bachelors of Business Administration from Eastern Michigan University; a J.D. from Marquette Law; and a graduate-level certificate in Dispute Resolution from Marquette's College of Professional Studies. I am barred in Wisconsin and Virginia. I love working remotely. Over the last year, I have worked from Florida, Arizona, and near my Michigan hometown.



## **Emily Troy Yslas – Director**

*Emily Yslas, Boston, Massachusetts*

I am excited about the opportunity to join the board of directors for the Nonresident Lawyers Division. As a proud "triple badger" from UW Madison, I completed my undergraduate degree, law degree, and Master of Public Health, and I currently reside in the greater Boston area. I moved to Wisconsin for my education and found it to be incredibly welcoming during my 12 years there. I have consistently connected with others through my love for Madison and Wisconsin.

I have gained valuable experiences while serving on various boards, and I hope to continue this involvement through the State Bar of Wisconsin. As a nonresident attorney, I deeply value the privilege of being a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin. I have the honor of being admitted through diploma privilege and have also taken the bar exam for Massachusetts. Even as I practice in another state, I proudly maintain my membership with the State of Wisconsin and intend to keep my license indefinitely. I aspire to join the board to connect with other bar members from different states and to share the values of the State Bar of Wisconsin.



**Barbara Zabawa – Director**

*Center for Health and Wellness Law, LLC., Kansas City, Kansas*

I have been a member of the Wisconsin State Bar for over twenty years, and served the State Bar as Chair of the Health Law Section (twice) as well as on the Insurance Benefits Committee. Recently I moved to Kansas City to take a tenure-track law professor position at UMKC Law. But I still maintain my Wisconsin Bar membership and serve clients in Wisconsin because of my unique legal practice area: wellness law. My role in legal academia as well as continuing to own a small virtual law practice that serves Wisconsin health and wellness clients would bring valuable insight to the Nonresident Lawyers Division (NRLD). Specifically, I think it is important for the NRLD to ensure that lawyers who have trained or practiced in Wisconsin feel connected to the Wisconsin State Bar. The NRLD must do more to acknowledge the different types of roles lawyers play in society, including legal education, policy and legislative work, and public interest. The NRLD should serve as a hub for all those types of lawyers who have a Wisconsin connection. I would be honored to serve on the NRLD Board and ask for your vote. Thank you.

