

Julie Wilson – President-Elect

City Attorney's Office, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Julie has served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Milwaukee for the last six years. She represents the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, and works on compliance issues relating to a stop-and-frisk settlement agreement. Previously, Julie worked for several years as a Milwaukee County Assistant Corporation Counsel focused on public records and open meetings issues and civil rights litigation. While in private practice, Julie represented governmental entities across Wisconsin in a wide range of municipal and civil rights litigation. She also served as a law clerk in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee County Circuit Court. Julie earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Indiana University.

Julie currently co-chairs the GLD's CLE committee and has previous leadership experience with the Government Lawyers Division, having served as a Board member and in Officer roles. If elected, I will continue to focus on delivering and expanding the ways in which the GLD delivers timely and topical programming to its members. I will endeavor to engage more government attorneys to take advantage of the Division's benefits, such as applying for grant funds available for members to further their professional training when employers are unable to provide adequate financial support. I will bring my experience as in-house and outside counsel to governmental entities to the role, and to encouraging networking among public sector attorneys.



Nicole Porter - Director

Wisconsin Department of Administration - Division of Legal Services, Madison, Wisconsin

Since July 2023 I have been serving on the Wisconsin State Bar Government Lawyers Division for a one-year residual term resulting from a Director vacancy. I feel that my work is not yet done for the GLD I am seeking election to a full term on the Board of Directors.

My position as staff counsel to the Wisconsin Department of Administration, in conjunction with my past experience in public sector HR policy work, has given me insight into the interplay of multiple areas that impact all levels of government lawyering, including legislation, administrative rules, guidance, enforcement and application. I bring a unique perspective of government lawyering from an enterprise viewpoint that I believe is valuable to the GLD. I serve as attorney of record in adversarial administrative proceedings, primarily involving a broad scope of employment matters. I also provide general legal advice and assistance to the DOA secretary, and multiple levels of department leadership on all matters and programs for which the department is responsible. Finally, I render legal advice and general legal assistance regarding public records and open meetings.

Prior to joining the legal team in DOA, I spent 10 years working in state human resources. I served as the policy advisor for the State's central HR agency, researching, writing and implementing policies governing all state agencies and employees. In this work, I was able to not only participate in the direct application of, but also affect, enterprise policies.

I am excited about the opportunity to continue sharing my experience and perspective and being a part of the Government Lawyers Division. Thank you for your consideration.



Jennifer Rhodes - Director

Department of Children and Families, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

My interest in the Government Lawyers Division Board stems from my many years of service as a government attorney, which includes 8 years as a prosecutor in the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, just under 5 years as an attorney for the Milwaukee County Office of Corporation Counsel, and the last 7 years serving as an attorney for the Department of Children and Families. Serving in a Board of Director position affords me the opportunity to meet other public servants with diverse experiences and backgrounds across the State to discuss matters of public safety, employee relations, legislative decisions, and the well-being of government professionals. While we learn from one another, we are also able to think of innovative ideas that continue to support government attorneys, as well as promote the good work that is done. Serving on the Board can provide an opportunity to be a resource to others who might have an interest in pursuing a career in government legal work, in addition to extending my service to others who are already in the legal profession.



Ashley Fard – President-Elect

State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, Madison, Wisconsin

I humbly ask you to vote for me as President-Elect on the Government Lawyers' Division Board. I have been a practicing attorney for approximately 9.5 years. Within that period, I've practiced in both California and Wisconsin. I have devoted my entire legal career to practicing as a government attorney and serving the public. Prior to moving to Wisconsin, I served as a Los Angeles County Public Defender for five years. In September of 2020, I transitioned to my role as a Wisconsin State Public Defender. Within the Public Defender offices, I worked as a trial attorney, litigating felony, juvenile and misdemeanor cases.

In January of 2023 I joined the Wisconsin Department of Justice, where I currently work as an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Litigation Unit. At the Department of Justice, I represent the State and its employees in matters of critical importance.

I believe that my dedication to public service, coupled with experience serving as a government lawyer across two states, provide me with critical insight into the issues facing government attorneys in Wisconsin. I hope to provide the Government Lawyers' Division and its members with the same empathy, approachability, and fervent advocacy I have provided to my clients throughout my career.



Jeffrey Haase - Director

Adams County, Friendship, Wisconsin

I began my practice in 1996. I operated a private practice from 1996-2015. I worked for the Wisconsin State Public Defender in Fond du Lac County and Shawano County from 2015-2022. In 2022 was hired as the Adams County Corporation Counsel. This is the position I currently hold.

I live in Poy Sippi, Waushara County, Wisconsin. I am married. I have 5 children and 5 grandchildren.

Molly I. Horwitz - Director

Deputy Policy Director for Wisconsin Assembly Minority Leader Greta Neubauer, Madison, Wisconsin

I want to increase the involvement of young attorneys within government work. I am inspired daily by my mother, who served the City of Milwaukee while also raising me as a single-mother. I am passionate about amplifying the voices of those who are underrepresented in government and expanding opportunities for folks with disabilities, including myself, to succeed as attorneys and in interfacing with government agencies.



JC Moore - Director

Milwaukee County Courts, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

I believe I am uniquely qualified to serve on the government lawyers division board and represent the interests of my colleagues in the State Bar. As a public defender for over 20 years, I routinely handled many difficult cases, covered congested courts and supervised a dwindling number of attorneys who did the same. As a court commissioner for nearly 10 years in those same courts, I have once again seen how critical government lawyers are to the smooth functioning of an overburdened court system and have often been tasked with “making it all work” despite the well-known shortage of these important members of the bar. The longstanding combination of low wages, heavy demands and reduced attorney numbers has come to a head in recent years forcing some moderate funding increases, but not enough. We still see offices that are understaffed, with high turnover and inexperienced lawyers, lessening the quality of representation. Judicial officers struggle to ensure that we make correct decisions that protect the rights of litigants, victims and public safety. This has to change. The State Bar has advocated for increased funding by the state and local government and this must continue. Having served on various state and local collaborating committees, I understand how to work with system stakeholders to effect change. If elected, I will use my long experience in the public sector to continue past efforts and ensure government lawyers receive the recognition, support and pay they deserve.



Clint B. Muche - Director

City of Milwaukee City Attorney's Office, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Clint is currently an Assistant City Attorney with the City of Milwaukee. He has previously held public and private sector positions. Clint's private practice experience involved criminal and civil litigation, licensing, and landlord/tenant disputes. He was previously licensed in Massachusetts (2007, Inactive since 2020). In this position, Clint looks forward to getting to know other government attorneys across the state and the opportunity to work on issues facing government attorneys today.



Jennifer Taylor - Director

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the Government Section for several reasons. Since 2007, I have worked for the University of Wisconsin as their immigration expert, serving most of the Universities of Wisconsin institutions. Prior to joining the UW, I worked for several other state agencies (Corrections and Natural Resources) and a Madison based law firm. My experience with these different entities has given me the skills, knowledge, and abilities that government lawyers and in-house counsel must possess. Additionally, I served on the Board of Directors of Summit Credit Union. That experience provided me with a great understanding of the amount of work that must be done for a large organization to succeed. Diversity and inclusion are important to me and I believe my participation and involvement will provide a unique perspective. I value the work that is being done and want to contribute to our field. Being on the Board will allow me to represent others in similarly situated positions while bringing new perspective and insight to what is already being done so well.



Sarah Wynn - Director

Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Madison, Wisconsin

Sarah Wynn's current position is with the Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, where she has been for the past seven years and works with statutes and numbers to help inform legislators about the state budget. She specializes in legislation and budgeting for criminal justice programs including DOJ, DA's, and the SPD. Further work is associated with the Division of Financial Institutions. In addition, she has had assignments including elections and ethics, and lottery and gaming. She has previous experience running a solo firm doing a wide range of cases and working at DSPS. In addition, she is a patent attorney. She feels strongly about contributing to society through public service.

