

## Speaker Biographies



**Judge Don R. Ash** was appointed a senior judge for the state of Tennessee in 2012. Previously he served as a circuit court judge from 1994-2012 for the 16th Judicial District Court while also serving as presiding judge of the 16th Judicial District Drug and DUI Court. In 1998, he was appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court to the Tennessee Court of Judiciary and served as presiding judge through 2011. He has authored over 50 appellate opinions.

Judge Ash received his bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University, Juris Doctor from the University of Memphis, and Master of Judicial Studies degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. He taught civil procedure at the Nashville School of Law for

ten years.

Judge Ash has received numerous awards and was designated distinguished alumni of Middle Tennessee State University as well as being inducted into the Tennessee Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame. He is a past president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference. He is the author of "A Bridge over Troubled Water: Changing the Custody Law in Tennessee" University of Memphis Law Review, and "Children of Divorce: A Practical Guide for Parents, Therapists, Attorneys, and Judges."

Judge Ash is an alumnus of The National Judicial College, has served as faculty since 2001 and is a past chair of the Faculty Council. Married to Rita Ash, they have four children and ten grandchildren.



**Timothy P. Chinaris** is a Professor of Law at Belmont University College of Law in Nashville, Tennessee, where he teaches courses in legal ethics, torts, insurance law, and other subjects. Professor Chinaris was Ethics Director of the Florida Bar from 1989-1997, where he ran the popular "ethics hotline" service that answers almost 30,000 calls annually from bar members.

Professor Chinaris holds bachelors and masters degrees from Florida State University, and received his J.D. With Honors from the University of Texas School of Law. He is admitted to practice law in Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, and Texas. Professor Chinaris has served on and chaired state bar ethics committees in Tennessee, Florida, and Alabama. He previously chaired the Solo and Small Firm

Section of the Tennessee Bar Association, and currently chairs the TBA's Ethics and Professional Responsibility Committee.

Professor Chinaris consults with and represents lawyers and others on professional responsibility issues, including lawyer advertising and bar admission matters. His legal ethics website is “sunEthics.com.” He has served as an expert witness in various legal ethics matters, including on the prevailing side in the first case decided under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.



**Honorable Alberto R. Gonzales** is the Dean at Belmont University College of Law in Nashville, Tennessee.

After serving in the United States Air Force and attending the United States Air Force Academy, Alberto R. Gonzales received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rice University and a Juris Doctor degree from Harvard University.

He served as Attorney General of the United States during the second term of the George W. Bush Administration. Previously he was a partner in the Houston office of Vinson & Elkins LLP, and held government positions as Counsel to the President of the United States, Justice on the Texas Supreme Court, Texas Secretary of State and General Counsel to the Governor of Texas.



**Justice Holly Kirby** is a Tennessee Supreme Court Justice. Sworn in by Governor Bill Haslam in September 2014, Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Holly Kirby is the first graduate of the University of Memphis ever to sit on Tennessee’s highest court. A career jurist, Justice Kirby has authored well over a thousand opinions from appeals all across the state.

Prior to her appointment to the Supreme Court, Justice Kirby served for almost 19 years on the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Tennessee’s intermediate appellate court for civil cases. She represented a gender milestone on the Court of Appeals—when she was appointed in 1995, she became the first woman ever to sit on that Court.

A lifelong Tennessean, Justice Kirby was born in Memphis and graduated from high school in Columbia, Tennessee. As an undergraduate at the University of Memphis, she held a number of student leadership positions and graduated in 1979 with high honors, with a B.S. in mechanical engineering.

In 1982, Justice Kirby graduated from the University of Memphis School of Law with high honors. Upon graduation, she served as a judicial law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

After her clerkship, Justice Kirby joined the Memphis law firm of Burch, Porter & Johnson, where she was active in politics and community service. When she was selected as partner in 1990, she became the firm's first female partner.

From the time of her appointment to the Court of Appeals in 1995 to the present, Justice Kirby has won 5 statewide elections, in 1996, 1998, 2006, 2014, and 2016.

Justice Kirby was chosen as Outstanding Young Alumna for the University of Memphis in 1996, Outstanding Alumna for the University of Memphis College of Engineering in 2002, and Special Distinguished Alumna for the School of Law in 2016. She is married to Memphis businessman Russell Ingram and has two grown children. The family belongs to Idlewild Presbyterian Church.



**Mark Lanterman** is the Chief Technology Officer of Computer Forensic Services. Before entering the private sector, Mark was a member of the U.S. Secret Service Electronic Crimes Taskforce. Mark has 28 years of security and forensic experience and has testified in over 2000 cases.

Mark is faculty for the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C., the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, the University of Minnesota and the Mitchell Hamline Law School. Mark is a professor in the cybersecurity program at the St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mark has provided training in digital evidence, computer forensics and cyber security to the United States Supreme Court. He has also presented to the 8th and 11th Circuit Federal Judicial Conferences as well as numerous State and Federal Judicial Conferences across the United States.

Mark completed his postgrad studies in cybersecurity at Harvard University and is certified as a Seized Computer Evidence Recovery Specialist (SCERS) by the Department of Homeland Security.

Mark is a member of the Minnesota Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board and serves as Chairman of its Opinions Committee.



**Judge Duane Slone**, a former drug trafficking prosecutor, was first elected to the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Circuit Court in 1998 and in 2009 he co-founded his judicial district's Drug Recovery Court. He is recognized nationally as an effective collaborator and innovator for his efforts to address the Opioid Driven Addiction Crisis.

From 2017-2021 Judge Slone served as Chairman of the 8 State Appalachian-Midwest Regional Judicial Opioid Initiative. Currently, Judge Slone serves as Chairman of the Substance Misuse & Addiction Resources for Tennessee "SMART" Justice Network and the Tennessee Judicial Conference Problem Solving Court Committee. He is a steering committee member of the Rural Justice Collaborative and "SMART" Policy Network.

Additionally, Judge Slone is a member of the National Institute of Drug Addiction JCOIN Practitioner Advisory Board, the SAMHSA Advisory Committee for Women's Services, the Advisory Board of the Rx and Heroin Summit and the ONDCP National SUD Strategic Advisory Panel Criminal Justice Workgroup.

Judge Slone has been honored as the recipient of many state and national awards for his innovative work addressing the Opioid Crisis including the 2019 National Center for State Courts William H. Rehnquist Judicial Excellence Award, the nation's highest state court judicial honor in recognition this work.



**Buddy Stockwell** was appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court on July 1, 2020, as the new Executive Director of the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program (TLAP). Stockwell comes from south Louisiana where he has been a volunteer and program monitor for the state's Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse since 1993, and the Executive Director of Louisiana's comprehensive Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (JLAP) peer professionals' program for the last ten years.

He is a Certified Clinical Interventionist through "Love First" training at the Betty Ford Center and has personally been in recovery from alcoholism for over 37 years.

Over the years he has supported hundreds of bar members, bar applicants, and family members of the bar with a wide range of substance use disorders and mental health issues. Stockwell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Louisiana State University in 1989 and a Juris Doctor degree from LSU Law School in 1993.

Post-law school, he practiced in both large and small firm settings, but ultimately opened a solo practice in Baton Rouge where he focused heavily on domestic litigation until 2004 when he sold his Baton Rouge law office, home, and vehicles and he and his wife, Melissa, moved aboard a large catamaran and sailed the seas for six years, covering 19,000 nautical miles.

Stockwell is a U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Captain and seasoned ocean mariner. He also served in the Navy prior to college. He is dedicated to TLAP's mission and very excited to serve the Tennessee Supreme Court, the TLAP Commission, and stakeholders in the profession as the new TLAP Executive Director.



**Robin Wolpert** is an appellate practitioner, business litigator, and white-collar criminal defense attorney at Sapiencia Law Group in Minneapolis.

Robin is Treasurer of the National Conference of Bar Presidents, Treasurer of the Institute for Well Being In Law, Member of the ABA House of Delegates, Member of the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism, and past President of the Minnesota State Bar Association.

She served on the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being from 2018-20. She was Chair of the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board from 2017-2021, responsible for oversight of Minnesota's lawyer disciplinary system.