

IDEA DUE PROCESS HEARING AND REVIEW OFFICER
DIRECTORY NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

LYN BEEKMAN

Hearing Officer

Review Officer (inactive)

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.S., Civil Engineering; J.D., University of Michigan Law School

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Since 1978 served as hearing officer in over 350 hearings and state review officer for 3 states. Provide consultative assistance or hearing officer trainings for 43 states and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Also served as a mediator, arbitrator, and compliant investigator in over 100 cases.

STEVEN BRAZELTON

Hearing Officer (inactive)

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., Humanities, Loyola Marymount University; J.D., Southwestern University School of Law

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1993-94 Articles Editor, Southwestern Journal of Law & Trade in the Americas; 1994-95 Research Attorney, NAFTA Arbitration Panel; 1995 Assoc. Atty., Civil Litigation/Business Transactions; 1995-98 Assistant General Counsel, Super Shops, Inc.; 1998-99 Associate Attorney, Civil Litigation/Business Transactions; 1999 to Present, Sole Practitioner, Law Office of Steven P. Brazelton

CARA BROWN

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

University of North Carolina, B.S. Industrial Relations; University of Exeter - Summer Law Program; J.D., Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1990 - 1993 Jones, Jones, Close and Brown CHTD; 1993 - 1996 Harrah's Las Vegas, Inc., Associate General Counsel; 1996 - 2001 Fitzgeralds Gaming Corp. Vice President/General Counsel; 2001 - 2006, 2008 - 2012, The Majestic Star Casino, LLC Senior Vice President/General Counsel; 2013 - Present, Citizen Choice Insurance & Investments, Consultant; 2015 - present, State of Nevada Gubernatorial Appointee, Special Appeals Officer/Independent Contractor

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PATRICK CHAPIN

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., English Writing, Purdue University, Hammond, Indiana; J.D., Capital University Law School, Columbus, Ohio

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1985 - 1986 Law Clerk, T.H. Elsass, Co. L.P.A. Columbus, Ohio; 1986 - 1987 Legal Intern, Child Support Enforcement Division, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Franklin County, Ohio; 1987 - 1989 Judicial Law Clerk, Common Pleas Court, Columbus, Ohio; 1989 - 1990 Law Clerk, Sachs & Hess; 1990 - 1992 Associate Attorney, Callister & Reynolds, Las Vegas, NV; 1992 - 1993 Associate Attorney, Murdock & Palazzo, Chtd. Las Vegas, NV; 1993 - Present, Patrick N. Chapin, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Private Practitioner; 1997 - 2005, Of Counsel relationship w/ Edward F. Gonciarz, Esq.

BEATRIZ DIAZ-POLLACK

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., Journalism, University of Wisconsin-Madison; J.D., University of Wisconsin Law School; M.S.Ed., Elementary Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University

WORK EXPERIENCE:

2001-2003, Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago – Staff Attorney; 2003-2004, Krohn & Moss, Ltd. – Associate Attorney; 2004-2006, Jordan Community School – Teacher; 2006-2012, Illinois State Board of Education, Assistant General Counsel; 2008-2013, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Masters Project Coach and Teaching Assistant; 2013-2017, 2019-Present, Illinois State Board of Education Independent Contractor, Special Education Due Process Hearing Officer; 2017-Present, Nevada State Department of Education State Complaint Investigation Team, Special Education State Complaint Investigator

JOYCE ECKREM

Hearing Officer

Review Officer (inactive)

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., French and Psychology; M.A., Sonoma State College, CA; J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1970-1976 Teacher, Educational Specialist, Director, Sonoma County Office of Education, California; 1976-1985 Special Education Consultant, California Department of Education; 1985-1998 Deputy General Counsel, California Department of Education; 1999 to Present, private practice; 8/02 to Present, Senior Legal Counsel, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA

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GRETCHEN GREINER

Hearing Officer

Review Officer (reserve)

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.S., Education, Utah State University; M.S., Communicative Disorders Utah State University; Ed.D., Educational Administration, UNR

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1973-1984 Speech Therapist; 1984 -1988 Elementary Principal; 1988 - 1989 Coordinator of Special Education; 1989 - 2001 Director of Instruction, Elko County School District, Elko County School District, Elko, NV

SHARON LAPOINTE

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.S., Applied Arts; M.A., Clinical Psychology; Specialist, School Psychological Services, Central Michigan University. J.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1971-1981, School Psychologist. 1984-1990, attorney practicing labor law and also representing parents in special education due process hearings. 1991-2017, attorney representing local and intermediate school districts in special education/Section 504 matters. 1994-2006, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) local hearing officer for special education due process hearings, serving by mutual selection of the parties or by MDE appointment. 1999-2018, adjunct instructor for Saginaw Valley State University in the area of special education law. Member of several MDE Task force/advisory committees including Part C Procedural Safeguards workgroup, ADD/ADHD Task force, and Seclusion/Restraint Task Force.

DEUSDEDI MERCED

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., Politics, May 1992, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA; J.D., Albany Law School of Union University Albany, NY

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1996-1997 Hearing Officer, Office of Student Suspension Hearings, NYC Board of Education; 1997-2000 Attorney, General Practice and Special Education Unit Office of Legal Services, NYC Board of Education; 2000-2008 Private Practice, NY, NY; 2008 - Present - Consultant to New York, Hawaii, and Illinois State Department of Educations; 2015 to Present, Special Education Solutions, Managing Member

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VICTORIA OLDENBURG

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A., Social Psychology, Minor Business; J. D., Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College, Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law with Honors

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1992-1993, Guild & Hagen Ltd. General Civil Practice; 1993-1995, Law Clerk to the Honorable David W. Hagen; 1995-1996, Dpty City Atty, Environmental Division; 1996-1988, Attorney, McDonald Carano Wilson, LLP; 1995-1998 Deputy Attorney General; 2001-2003 Senior Legal & Policy Analyst, Govr Guinn; 2003 - 2010 Senior Deputy Attorney General; 2010 - 2015 General Counsel, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; 2015 - Present Special Appeals Officer, State of Nevada; 2014 - 2018, Oldenburg Law Office

JAMIE RESCH

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.A, Criminal Justice, Psychology Minor, University of Wisconsin-OshKosh; J.D., Northern Illinois University College of Law

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1997 - 1998 Law Clerk Positions; 1999-2000 Trust Administrator, Wells-Fargo Bank; 2000-2001, Associate Attorney, John Peter Lee, LTD; 2001-2003 Associate Attorney, Lee & Russell; 2003 - 2004 Resch Law Office; 2004-2005 Associate Attorney, Lee A. Drizin; 2005-2015 Chief & Senior Depty Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General; 2017 - Present, Pro Tem Judge, Clark County Justice Court; 2016- Present, Conviction Solutions, Owner

KEVIN RYAN

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.S., Colorado State University; J.D., University of Idaho College of Law, International Law Program graduate, Regent's College, London, England; MBA, University of Phoenix

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1991-1992 Law Clerk for Honorable Jerry Carr Whitehead; 1992-1995 Associate Attorney, Osborne & Gamboa, Chartered; 1996-1997 Associate Attorney, Hardesty & Bader, Ltd; Partner Hardesty, Bader & Ryan, Ltd.; 1999- Present, Partner, Bader & Ryan, Ltd.

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DAVID STEPHENS

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

B.S., Mathematics, Brigham Young University; J.D., Cum Laude Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Stephens Gourley & Bywater - Partner, 6/98 to present, Justice of the Peace 1999 to present; Short Trial Judge Pro Tem - 2002 to present; Arbitrator for Court Annexed Arbitration Program 1992 - present; Mediator for Court Annexed Mediation Program; Private Mediator and Arbitrator 2004 to present

PERRY ZIRKEL

Hearing Officer

Review Officer

EDUCATION/TRAINING:

Ph.D., Educational Administration, University of Connecticut; J.D., University of Connecticut; Master of Laws Degree, Yale University

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1983-2015 - University Professor of Education and Law, Lehigh University; 1996-2001 Iacocca Professor of Education, 1977- 1983 - Lehigh University, Dean and Professor, College of Education; 1971-1977 University of Hartford; 1970-1971 Connecticut State Department of Education; 1969 -1970 University of Connecticut - Hartford Public Schools; 1965- 1969 New York City Board of Education

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