

North Carolina State Bar



2021  
Pictorial  
DIRECTORY

## Officers

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# State Bar Staff

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Directs incoming calls, greets visitors, and answers general questions for callers. Supports IOLTA finance director, maintains database with bank, attorney, and trust account information. Employed with Bar: 2015. Related experience: reception, customer service, and management. Spouse's name: Nikolai

**CARMEN H. BANNON**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 283*

Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2006. Education: BS from Brown University, JD from UNC. Related experience: adjunct professor of legal ethics at Campbell Law; clerkship, Supreme Court of North Carolina. Spouse's name: Brad

**TODD BASCOM**

*Public Liaison, Ext. 297*

Responds to public inquiries and complaints about lawyers. Facilitates communication between clients and lawyers. Employed with Bar: 2019. Education: BA in criminology, MA in forensic psychology, John Jay College (CUNY); Paralegal Certificate, UNC-Chapel Hill. Related experience: 12 years as a paralegal and insurance fraud investigator.

**KELLY BECK**

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Tracks and enforces attorney compliance with the membership, IOLTA, CLE, and judicial district bar requirements. Processes pro hac vice registrations. Employed with Bar: 2007. Education: BS in education from NCSU.

**JOY BELK**

*Managing Director, Paralegal Certification, Ext. 291*

Coordinates and manages paralegal certification process and programs for certified paralegals. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: MA, Liberty University; BA, East Carolina University; paralegal certificate, Meredith. Related experience: 7 years of paralegal experience. Spouse's name: Walter

**KERRI BIANCHI**

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Facilitates agreements between attorneys and their clients when a dispute over fees arises. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: BA from Mount Holyoke College; JD from St. Johns University. Related experience: district criminal court mediator, family financial and superior court mediator.

**PETER BOLAC**

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**MATTHEW BROCK**

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**LORI BROOKS**

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**DELIA M. BROWN**

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Assists the LAP director and clinical coordinators with the daily functions and confidential operating procedures of program. Provides database and infrastructure support for the LAP clinical team. Employed with Bar: 2014. Related experience: supervisory background in customer service.

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Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2008–2011, 2014. Education: BA from Elon University, JD from UNC. Spouse's name: Sue

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Investigates grievance matters for the Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: BA from Cleveland State University, MS in Criminal Justice specializing in homeland security from St. Joseph's University. Related experience: police officer 2005–present. Spouse's name: Adam

**BECKY CARROLL**

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**JOSEPH D. CERONE**

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**MARGARET CLOUTIER**

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Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2004. Education: BA in English from ECU, JD from Campbell University. Related experience: private practice 1993-1999, assistant district attorney, 11th District 1999-2004. Spouse's name: Marc

**NICOLE ELLINGTON**

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Employed with Bar: 2014. Education: BA in psychology from University of New Hampshire; MA in counseling from Marymount University, licensed professional counselor & licensed clinical addiction specialist. Related experience: mental health & substance abuse counseling. Spouse's name: Jeff

**TYLER GIBBENS**

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**JOE COMISSO**

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**BETHANY FARRELLY**

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Assists the executive director in the administration of IOLTA and state funding. Provides support on special projects. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: paralegal certification from UNC-Chapel Hill, NC Certified Paralegal.

**RICHARD GRAYSON**

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Investigates grievance matters for Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2017. Education: BA, Michigan State. FBI National Academy #232. Related experience: Raleigh PD, 1984-2011 (retired). Since 2011 worked in private sector as security senior manager, investigator, and security consultant. Spouse's name: Jody

**MARTIN COOLIDGE**

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Investigates grievance matters for Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2014. Education: BA in criminal justice from American Military University. Related experience: under-sheriff and police captain, FBI National Academy #203, investigator and consultant in private sector. Spouse's name: Tammy

**JULIE FERRER**

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**LANICE HEIDBRINK**

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Assists executive director, works with Ethics Committee and Specialization program. Employed with Bar: 2009. Education: BA from Columbia College, Paralegal Certification from Meredith College, NC Certified Paralegal. Related experience: NC Engineering Board. Spouse's name: Rob

**SUSANNAH B. COX**

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Investigates grievance allegations. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: BA from Barnard College, JD from Duke University. Related experience: ADA in 4th Prosecutorial District of NC; assistant AG at NC DOJ. Spouse's name: Sebastian

**MARTHA FLETCHER**

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**JEFFERY S. HILL**

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Responsible for State Bar publications and websites. Employed with Bar: 1997. Education: BS in marketing, Indiana University; MBA, Butler University. Related experience: 4 years of advertising, marketing, and desktop publishing. Spouse's name: Michael

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Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2020. Education: BA, University of Virginia; JD, Campbell University. Related experience: law clerk, NC Court of Appeals.

**LEANOR HODGE**

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Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2008. Education: BBA, Howard University, JD, Temple University. Related experience: ADA, Philadelphia DA's Office; ASA, Cook County, IL State's Attorney's Office; private practice. Spouse's name: Kevin



**CANDACE HOFFMAN**

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**DAVID R. JOHNSON**

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Handles appellate cases and unauthorized practice of law matters. Employed with Bar: 2002. Education: AB, UNC; JD, Wake Forest. Related experience: deputy counsel with the Bar 1979 to 1985; counsel for an international engineering society (ISA) 1985 to 2001. Spouse's name: Karen

**MARY LEE**

*Trust Account Compliance Paralegal, Ext. 251*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel and trust account compliance counsel. Employed with Bar: 2019. Education: BA in psychology from North Carolina State University.

**DEBRA P. HOLLAND**

*Managing Director, CLE, Ext. 245*  
Maintains CLE records for NC attorneys, oversees administration of the rules and regulations of CLE for the board. Employed with Bar: 1983. Education: NCSU; AAS Central Carolina Community College paralegal certificate – AIPS. Spouse's name: Dana

**BARBARA KERR**

*Archivist, Ext. 250*  
Scans and inputs data for various departments. Employed with Bar: 2000. Education: Kaplan University, AAS in human services, Advanced Career Training - Information Processing Specialist certificate. Related experience: 5 years Aetna Life & Casualty.

**SUZANNE LEVER**

*Assistant Ethics Counsel, Ext. 261*  
Answers ethics phone calls. Employed with Bar: 2006. Education: BS from Wake Forest University, JD from UNC. Related experience: NC Supreme Court law clerk, 3 years private practice, 5 years case law editor for LexisNexis. Spouse's name: Rick

**MARY L. IRVINE**

*Executive Director, IOLTA, Ext. 217*  
Responsible for administration of NC IOLTA program. Coordinates activities to accomplish board decisions. Employed with Bar: 2014. Education: BA and JD from UNC. Related experience: UNC Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity; NC Network of Grant-makers. Spouse's name: Nick Byrne

**CATHY KILLIAN**

*Clinical Director and Western Clinical Coordinator, LAP, 704/503-9695*  
Employed with Bar: 2012. Education: BS from NCSU, BA from UNCC, M.Ed. in counseling from Winthrop University, licensed professional counselor, licensed clinical additions specialist, certified clinical supervisor. Related experience: work in a variety of clinical settings.

**SHARON LEWIS**

*Events Manager, Ext. 223*  
Responsible for planning all details of State Bar Council quarterly meetings and State Bar sponsored district bar meetings. Keeps records of officers, councilors, boards & commissions, and committees. Employed with Bar: 1985. Spouse's name: Wayne

**TAMMY JACKSON**

*Membership Director, Ext. 240*  
Maintains membership records for all NC attorneys. Oversees administration of the rules and regulations of membership. Employed with Bar: 2005. Education: BLET; MDP thru NC Justice Academy and Duke Univ. Related experience: supervisor with NC Secretary of State. Spouse's name: Randy

**ANDREA KORETSKY**

*Administrative Assistant, Ext. 243*  
Provides administrative support for ACAP, fee arbitration, and investigations. Employed with Bar: 2020. Education: BS from NCSU.

**JEFF LUNDGREN**

*Paralegal, Ext. 120*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2016. Education: BA in history from Bridgewater State College and paralegal studies certificate from Boston University. Spouse's name: Lynn

**KATHERINE E. JEAN**

*Counsel and Assistant Executive Director, Ext. 276*  
Counsel to NC State Bar. Employed with Bar: 2005. Education: BA and JD, UNC. Related experience: private practice of law 1986-2005.

**CAMERON LEE**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 293*  
Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2019. Education: BA from North Carolina State University, JD from Campbell University. Related experience: four years in private practice. Spouse's name: Aubrey

**ADAM MANER**

*Professional Organization Coordinator, Ext. 256*  
Assists in all phases of membership including dues, inactive status, reinstatement, and registration of professional organization and trade names. Employed with Bar: 2010. Education: UNC-Charlotte, marketing; BS, ECU.

**BETH MCLAMB**

*Membership Payment Coordinator, Ext. 237*

Processes membership dues. Responds to all membership related issues. Employed with Bar: 2007. Related experience: medical administrative office and company sales specialist. Spouse's name: Jeremy

**DOTTIE K. MIANI**

*Assistant Facilities Manager and Deputy Clerk of DHC, Ext. 241*

Maintains operation of the building's infrastructure; maintains DHC records. Employed with Bar: 1984. Education: BA from Sacred Heart College. Related experience: worked full time for State Bar accounting department for 4 years.

**DENISE E. MULLEN**

*Managing Director, Legal Specialization, Ext. 255*

Coordinates, markets, and maintains programs for certified specialists. Employed with Bar: 2002. Education: BA in psychology, Indiana University; M.Ed., Kent State. Related experience: higher education and nonprofit organization administration. Spouse's name: Mike Tadych

**NICHOLE P. MCLAUGHLIN**

*Assistant Ethics Counsel, District Bar Liaison, Ext. 238*

Answers ethics phone calls. Provides assistance and support to the judicial district bars and their officers. Employed with Bar: 2004. Education: BA, Drew University; JD, Seton Hall University School of Law. Related experience: private practice for five years. Spouse's name: Tony

**DOUGLAS MILLER**

*Investigator, Ext. 263*

Investigates grievance matters for Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: BBA in accounting from Campbell University, NC CPA license. Related experience: 28 years combined federal and state criminal investigative experience. Spouse's name: Debra

**PAT MURPHY**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 206*

Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2012. Education: BA from Appalachian State University, JD from Campbell University. Related experience: assistant DA 1982-1984; NC Dept. of Revenue 1984-1986; NC Dept. of Justice 1986-2012. Spouse's name: Beth

**BARRY MCNEILL**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 298*

Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2010. Education: BS, UNC; JD, NCCU School of Law. Related experience: NC Department of Justice, 1979-2010. Spouse's name: Anne

**CLAIRE U. MILLS**

*Finance Director and Operations Manager, IOLTA, Ext. 215*

Maintains and establishes relationships with attorneys and banks to assist with compliance, maintains financial records. Employed with Bar: 1990. Education: NCSU/animal husbandry.

**ALEX NICELY**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 281*

Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: BA from University of Nevada, Reno; JD from Boston University. Related experience: assistant district attorney for six years, assistant public defender for one year, private practice for one year.

**PHILLIP B. MCWILLIAMS**

*CLE Clerk, Ext. 253*

Maintains CLE records for NC licensed attorneys. Assists members with mandatory CLE compliance requirements. Employed with Bar: 2016. Related experience: 14 years with Austin Community College.

**ALICE NEECE MINE**

*Executive Director, Ext. 236*

Responsible for the administration of the State Bar. Employed with Bar: 1993. Education: BSW from NCSU, JD from UNC. Related experience: 7 years private practice. Spouse's name: Mark

**LORI NICOLICCHIA**

*Accreditation Coordinator, Ext. 248*

Maintains CLE records for NC attorneys; reviews all courses submitted for CLE approval. Employed with Bar: 2003.

**DIANE MELCHING**

*Administrative Assistant, Ext. 287*

Provides administrative support for ACAP, fee arbitration, and investigations. Employed with Bar: 2003. Education: attended Roanoke College. Related experience: 22 years of service with the Federal Bureau of Prisons (secretarial, investigative, and human resources). Spouse's name: Barry

**ROBYNN MORAITES**

*Director, LAP*

312 Rensselaer Ave., Suite 100  
Charlotte, NC 28203, 704/503-9695  
Employed with Bar: 2011. Education: BS from FSU; MRP and JD from UNC. Related experience: background in medical education and program development; admitted to the bar in 2004.

**EMILY OAKES**

*Attendance/Compliance Coordinator, Ext. 247*

Maintains CLE records for NC attorneys; assists NC attorneys with mandatory CLE requirement compliance. Employed with Bar: 1999. Spouse's name: JR

**BRIAN P. D. OTEN**

*Ethics Counsel, Director of Legal Specialization and Paralegal Certification, Ext. 226*  
Counsel to Ethics Committee and other boards and committees. Employed with Bar: 2007. Education: BA and JD, UNC. Related experience: law clerk, US District Court and Supreme Court of North Carolina. Spouse's name: Kelly

**FRED PATTON**

*Investigator, Ext. 266*  
Investigates grievance matters for the Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2010. Education: BA from Wake Forest University. Related experience: special agent with the NC State Bureau of Investigation, 1987–2010.

**COURTNEY POPE**

*Public Liaison, Ext. 260*  
Responds to public inquiries and complaints about lawyers. Facilitates communication between clients and lawyers. Employed with Bar: 2018. Related experience: 15 years experience in legal field with 12 years as judicial assistant to superior court judge. Spouse's name: Lee

**CAROLYN PAGE**

*Investigator, Ext. 285*  
Investigates grievance matters for the Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2016. Education: BS, North Carolina State University. Related experience: special agent with the NC State Bureau of Investigation, 2005–2015. Spouse's name: Burns

**WONDELLA PAYNE**

*Paralegal, Ext. 296*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2007. Education: BA in English from Shaw University and paralegal certificate from Meredith College.

**JENNIFER PORTER**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 262*  
Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2003. Education: BA from The American University, JD from Georgetown University Law Center. Related experience: attorney in US Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corp 1997–2016; private practice 2001–2003. Spouse's name: Michael

**ANNE PARKIN**

*Field Auditor, Ext. 259*  
Audits attorney trust accounts to ensure compliance with State Bar rules. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: certificate in credit union management. Related experience: banking, accounting, management, human resources administration.

**SAVANNAH PERRY**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 219*  
Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: BA from Appalachian State University, MTWM and JD from Campbell University.

**SONJA B. PURYEAR**

*Administrative Assistant, Investigations, Ext. 203*  
Provides support to investigators. Employed with Bar: 1996. Education: attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and North Carolina State University. Spouse's name: Mitchell

**HEATHER R. PATTLE**

*Director of Operations, Office of Counsel, Ext. 227*  
Directs administrative functions of the Office of Counsel; develops and maintains practice management software. Employed with Bar: 2005. Education: BA in English from Ithaca College. Related experience: NC State Bar Asst. Dir. CLE 2005–07. Spouse's name: Philip

**AALIYAH PIERCE**

*Compliance Coordinator, Ext. 273*  
Maintains records for NC Certified Paralegal program and assists with the annual recertification process. Employed with Bar: 2011. Education: associates degree from Strayer University. Related experience: 10 years at Dex One. Spouse's name: TJ

**LEE RAMOS**

*Director of Attorney Client Assistance Program and Fee Dispute Resolution Program Coordinator, Ext. 277*  
Employed with Bar: 2016. Education: BS in legal studies from Russell Sage College. Related experience: 24 years of law firm experience.

**DAWN PATTON**

*Administrative Assistant, Investigations, Ext. 278*  
Provides support to investigators and field auditor. Employed with Bar: 2005. Related experience: customer service manager for 8 years, 12 years administrative experience in all office areas.

**ANGEL PITTS**

*Accounting Assistant & Copy/Mailroom Clerk, Ext. 275*  
Performs A/R functions and assists the controller. Performs copy work, in-house printing, mailings, processes mail. Employed with Bar: 2009. Related experience: 10 years of administrative experience, 2 years bookkeeping. Spouse's name: Darnell

**JOAN RENKEN**

*Administrative Assistant, Office of Counsel, Ext. 295*  
Administrative assistant to the staff of the Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2009. Related experience: 10 years as executive assistant to director of hospice program.

**SHEILA SAUCIER**

*Certification Coordinator, Legal Specialization and Paralegal Certification, Ext. 265*  
Coordinates programs for certified legal specialists and certified paralegals. Employed with Bar: 2020. Education: BS in business administration and MBA from Salem University. Related experience: executive administrative assistant. Spouse's name: Dan

**SANDRA L. SAXTON**

*Intake Coordinator, Ext. 264*  
Receives, reviews, and distributes incoming grievances and written inquiries. Employed with Bar: 2001. Education: BA in economics, Ohio Wesleyan U.; certification in non-profit management, Meredith College. Related experience: 6 years NCBA, public service activities.

**MICHAEL SHIRLEY**

*Paralegal, Ext. 121*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2018. Education: BA in history from Appalachian State University and paralegal certificate from Duke University.

**FERN GUNN SIMEON**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 258*  
Investigates grievance allegations. Employed with Bar: 1985. Education: AB in history and psychology from Duke University, JD from Duke University. Related experience: private practice for 2 years. Spouse's name: Mark

**JAYA SINGH**

*Controller, Ext. 252*  
Manages finance and accounting operation for NC State Bar. Prepares budgets and financial statements. Employed with Bar: 2006. Education: BS from NC Wesleyan College. Related experience: over 10 years experience in accounting. Spouse's name: Arun

**JENNIFER SLATTERY**

*Paralegal, Ext. 205*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2008. Education: BS in criminal justice from Radford University and paralegal certificate from Duke University. Spouse's name: Jack

**PAUL SUGRUE**

*Investigator, Ext. 284*  
Investigates grievance matters for Office of Council. Employed with Bar: 2017. Education: BA from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Related experience: 27 years as a criminal investigator with the United States Marshals Service. Spouse's name: Trina

**KATHERINE "SUSIE" TAYLOR**

*LAP Special Projects Manager; CLE Coordinator 704/503-9695*  
Office Administration for the Western Region. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: BA in communications, University of Arizona. Related experience: NC Certified Paralegal, associate executive director of the Mecklenburg County Bar.

**WAYNE TRUAX**

*Investigator, Ext. 292*  
Investigates grievance matters for the Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2012. Education: BAS, Campbell University. Related experience: SBI from 1972-1998 (retired). Since 1998 worked in the private sector as an investigator and security consultant. Spouse's name: Minnie

**JOSHUA WALTHALL**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 225*  
Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases and handles the disbursement of funds from enjoined accounts. Employed with Bar: 2013. Education: BA from Southeastern College at Wake Forest; JD from Campbell University. Related experience: New Hanover County DA's Office. Spouse's name: Kristen

**ROBERT WESTON**

*Deputy Counsel, Ext. 204*  
Prosecutes lawyers in disciplinary cases. Employed with Bar: 2020. Education: BA from UNC; JD from Campbell University. Related experience: private practice 2014-2020. Spouse's name: Pooja

**BRITTANY WILSON**

*Paralegal, Ext. 280*  
Assistant to Office of Counsel. Employed with Bar: 2014. Education: BA in history and government from Campbell University. Related experience: 5 years as a legal assistant. Spouse's name: Dillon

**CHRIS WOODS**

*Investigative Assistant, Ext. 222*  
Assists Office of Counsel with analysis and investigative needs. Employed with Bar: 2010. Related experience: 9 years in office management. Education: business school, Ennepetal, Germany.