

PEOPLE IN THE ETHICS SYSTEM

By

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Minnesota Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility

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Three groups of people constitute the Minnesota Supreme Court's lawyer discipline and ethics system: 1) the 22 volunteers appointed as the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board who set policy, oversee the director's office, and conduct preliminary hearings in serious matters; 2) the director and assistant directors of lawyers professional responsibility, the full-time professional staff in the system; and 3) the MSBA district ethics committees. The district committee chairpersons are listed in the *Bench & Bar* directory. Here is an introduction to the board and this office.

The Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board.

Robert Henson, of Henson and Efron in Minneapolis, chaired the board from 1981 until his resignation January 31, 1986. He previously served as a board member for four years.

John Levine, appointed board chairperson effective February 1, 1986, has served on the board since 1981. He heads the litigation department at Dorsey and Whitney in Minneapolis. He is past chairperson of the Hennepin County District Ethics Committee and of the MSBA Legal Services Committee.

David Bach of Rochester was appointed as a public member of the board on February 1, 1986. He was a district ethics committee member.

Lee Ball has been a public member of the board for three years. She taught Spanish for five years in high school and college. She served on the Eleventh District Ethics Committee for eight years. She is past president of the League of Women Voters and served on the Duluth Model Cities Program and the board of the Miller-Dwan Hospital.

Elizabeth Norton Ferguson is a Minneapolis attorney with Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty and Bennett. She is the Hennepin County Bar Association treasurer.

Michael Fetsch, a St. Paul attorney, was appointed to the board February 1, 1986. He formerly chaired the Ramsey County District Ethics Committee.

George Flynn is a Minneapolis attorney with Faegre and Benson. He has served on the Federal Criminal Defense Panel and was a volunteer attorney for Legal Advice Clinics.

Fenita Foley is a social worker with Ramsey County Human Services. She is a Grand Lady of St. Peter Claver Church and belongs to the National Council of Negro Women.

Julius Gernes is the Winona County Attorney. He is treasurer of the Minnesota County Attorneys Association and an active member of the Winona Chamber of Commerce.

Joan Hackel is a St. Paul attorney with the Kueppers and Kueppers firm. She is a member of the Ramsey County Bar Family Law Section, and teaches trusts and estates at William Mitchell College of Law.

Charles Kennedy is a trial lawyer with Kennedy and Nervig in Wadena. He has served on the board since 1982, and was Seventh District Ethics Committee chairperson. He is a past chairperson of the Wadena Board of Education.

George R. Kerr is a Rochester attorney. He has been active in bar association activities and is a past president of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

Paul Kinney teaches part-time at St. Cloud State University following retirement as a public school principal. He lives in Waite Park, where he is active in community organizations.

Gwen Lerner is a corporate counsel for Control Data Corporation. She has served on the board for five years.

Nelia Lorentzen of Detroit Lakes is a registered nurse. She presently chairs the Detroit Lakes School Board, on which she has served for 23 years. She is international president of the Gideon Auxiliary.

George Ludcke of St. Louis Park is a retired advertising executive. His long list of community services includes the presidency of the Minneapolis Big Brothers organization.

Joan S. Morrow was appointed to the board effective February 1, 1986. She is a partner in the Minneapolis firm of Ryder, Bennett, Egan & Arundel and chairs the Minnesota State Bar Association Task Force on Tort Reform.

John Nys is an attorney with the Duluth firm of Johnson, Fredin, Killin, Thibodeau and Seiler. Before his board appointment in 1981, he was a member of the Eleventh District Ethics Committee.

James Schwebel is a personal injury trial attorney with the Minneapolis firm Schwebel, Goetz, Sieben and Hanson. He has served on the board for four years.

Robert Shaw of Edina has been on the board for three years. He is a newspaper consultant and writer and the past manager of the Minnesota Newspaper Association.

Kathleen Stiegler of Minneapolis is a registered nurse and active community volunteer. She has degrees in Women's Studies and Criminal Justice.

Thomas Swain of St. Paul has been on the board for five years. He is executive vice president of St. Paul Companies, Inc. He also is currently president of the Citizens League.

Richard C. Taylor of Crookston is a member of the firm of Dickel, Johannson, Wall, Taylor, Rust and Schmitz. He is a member of numerous civic groups.

Directors and Assistant Directors.

I have been director since September 1985. I had been an assistant director for four years, and before that was with the firm then known as Broeker, Hartfeldt, Hedges and Grant for four years. I have degrees from the College of St. Thomas, the University of Iowa (Ph.D.), and Notre Dame (J.D.).

Candice Hojan is a 1979 University of Iowa law graduate, Order of the Coif. She worked with a solo practitioner for a year, then associated with the St. Paul firm of Maun, Green, Hayes, Simon, Johanneson &

Brehl until becoming an assistant director in June 1985. Candice is a member of the Ramsey County Bar Family Law Section.

Phillip D. Nelson is a 1965 *cum laude* graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. He was a county judge in Crookston from 1975-80 and a part-time judge in Bemidji from 1972-75. He practiced with several small firms.

Martin Cole is a 1983 honors graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. He associated with Lommen, Nelson, Sullivan & Cole, P.A. in Minneapolis and has been an assistant director since September 1984.

Betty Shaw graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina and is a 1981 *magna cum laude* graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. She was also Order of the Coif and on the law review. She clerked and practiced until 1983 with the Minneapolis firm of Fredrikson & Byron and also engaged in solo practice.

Kenneth Jorgensen is a 1984 graduate of William Mitchell College of Law. Ken very ably handles the telephone requests for advisory opinions in this office.