

**Speaker Resumes**  
**NAPCO Webinar • Thursday, November 19, 2020; 3 PM (EST)**  
***Preparing for 2021: Key Questions Court Leadership Teams Should be Asking***

**Hon. Donald A. Myers, Jr.**

...is the Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida located in the heart of Central Florida; one of 20 judicial circuits in the state. He was elected by his peers to a two-year term as Chief Judge in July 2019. The Ninth Circuit encompasses both Orange and Osceola Counties, a 2,000 square mile area which is home to more than 1.3 million people, making it one of Florida's largest circuits. There are 66 judges in this unified trial court which handles both general and limited jurisdiction cases. Judge Myers has been on the bench since 2011 and has presided over a wide variety of case types as a trial judge in Domestic, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Delinquency, Criminal, Civil and Complex Business Court Divisions.

He serves on the Florida Judicial Branch's Trial Court Budget Commission, including as a member of the Executive Committee and Funding Methodology Committee. He also works with the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators as part of the Pandemic Rapid Response Team on the Case Management-Criminal Workgroup and Communications Workgroup.

Judge Myers graduated from Emory University with a B.A. degree in Psychology and a M.M.Sc. in Communicative Disorders. He attended the University of Florida Law School, graduating with honors in 1989. He was a civil practitioner for more than 20 years handling cases throughout the State of Florida before his work as a judge.

**Hon. James Rogers**

...is the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Washington in King County (Greater Seattle). He has presided over cases of all types since his election in 2005. He also served in Superior Court administration as the Assistant Presiding Judge from 2016-2018 and the Chief Criminal Judge from 2014-2015.

He is a fourth generation Washingtonian and third generation Husky (University of Washington). He was a Peace Corps Volunteer (Sierra Leone 1982-84); earned his law degree at Georgetown University; clerked for Federal Judge Robert J. Bryan from 1988-89; worked in civil practice at the *Riddell Williams law firm* (now *Fox Rothschild*) from 1989-94; and the King County Prosecutor's Office, largely in the sex crimes and homicide units, from 1994-2004.

Judge Rogers currently serves on the Washington Pattern Instruction Committee (WPI Committee) and the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound Board which provides college education and re-entry assistance to women incarcerated in prison. Prior committees, boards, and volunteer work include the Washington State Board of Judicial Administration; Sex Offender Policy Board; University Heights Community Center Board; Skills, Inc.; and his children's softball and soccer teams.

Over his career, Judge Rogers has been recognized for his service to others and skill as trial lawyer, including receiving the Pro Bono Service Award from the King County Bar Association in 1991, and the American Board of Trial Advocates Judge of the Year Award in 2019. Judge Rogers and his extended family hike, bike, ski, visit each other (and breweries) in the Pacific Northwest and Montana.

### **Paul L. Sherfey**

...is the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Superior Court of Washington in King County, the nation's 13th largest general jurisdiction state trial court serving 2.3 million residents. There are 53 full-time judges in the Court who operate from three primary sites, the King County Courthouse in Seattle, the Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center (CCFJC) also in Seattle, and the Maleng Regional Justice Center southeast of Seattle in the city of Kent. Mr. Sherfey has served as the CAO of the Court for 20 years. Throughout his court administration career, he has been a long-standing member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Presiding Judges and Chief Executive Officers, an educational and research organization established through the efforts of United States Supreme Justice Tom Clark. Additionally, he has served as the State President of the Washington State Association of Court Administrators.

Mr. Sherfey began his legal career as an Associate within the Contracts and Legal Department of Battelle-Northwest, a research and development corporation, with responsibility for contracts negotiation and technical project marketing. He also served as in-house legal counsel on employment issues. He later served as Manager of Operations and Administration for the Battelle-Northwest Contracts and Legal Department. Mr. Sherfey has held a variety of public sector positions, including serving as the Director of the King County Department of Judicial Administration and King County's County Clerk before moving to his current position as CAO in 2000.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Gonzaga University, summa cum laude, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Washington. He also maintains an active membership with the Washington State Bar Association and the King County Bar Association.

### **Dana Bartocci**

...is the Human Resources and Development Director for the Minnesota Judicial Branch. Aside from administering the statewide judicial and court staff personnel system, her office is involved in strategic planning, organization development, race equity and change management.

Prior to working for state court administration, Ms. Bartocci served as the Strategy and Development Manager and the Education, Outreach and Development Manager in Minnesota's Fourth Judicial District, the largest district in the state serving Hennepin County, home to Minneapolis. Ms. Bartocci has experience in talent management, employee development, race equity planning and strategic planning. She has served as a presenter locally and nationally on topics such as Race Equity, Judicial and Staff Training, Generations in the Workplace, Myers Briggs Type Indicator® and Strengths Finder.

Before working for the court system, Ms. Bartocci was a career counselor at the University of Minnesota Law School and worked in professional development at a large law firm. She received her J.D. and M.S. in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and her B.A. in political science and cultural studies from the University of Minnesota.

### **Matthew (Matt) Benefiel**

...is the Trial Court Administrator for the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida which encompasses Orange and Osceola Counties in Central Florida. He has served in that capacity since 1996. Much to his credit, the Court has a national reputation as one of the most innovative, high-tech / high-touch trial courts in the

country, including such approaches as widespread virtual video proceedings, remote interpreting services, and an online library of court forms for self-represented litigants. Numerous court-based pre-trial and post-trial programs to aid litigants are also in place. Before working in the Florida courts, Mr. Benefiel served as the Court Administrator for the Virginia Beach, Virginia, Circuit Court for eight years (1988–1996).

In 2014, he was selected to serve a three-year term on the National Center for State Court's Board of Directors. He is also a recipient of the National Center's Distinguished Service Award for significant achievements in the improvement of state and local court systems. Mr. Benefiel holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Maryland and a Master's Degree in Judicial Administration from the University of Southern California.

**Brenda J. Wagenknecht-Ivey, Ph.D.**

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... Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey helps organizations of all types take the *right actions* to improve performance and enhance employee well-being. She helps leaders, managers, and teams achieve their goals, shape, and seize new opportunities, and create and implement practical and effective responses to widespread disruption and ongoing challenges. Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey uses a variety of proven practices to bring about change and achieve results. She draws upon a sound understanding of organizational psychology and organizational theory to provide the following services:

- ✦ Visioning, long-range strategic, scenario, and recovery planning.
- ✦ Large-scale system and organizational (and culture) change.
- ✦ Organizational performance measurement and organizational design/re-design.
- ✦ Leadership and management development including 360-degree feedback and executive coaching.
- ✦ Talent management (onboarding, learning/development, succession planning).
- ✦ Collaborative decision making and consensus building.
- ✦ Team development and team building.
- ✦ Public/community involvement and engagement.

Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey has facilitated more than 150 strategy and organizational improvement and change processes with private, public, and not-for-profit organizations over the past 25 years. She conducts qualitative and quantitative research to assist leaders in improving organizational or system-wide performance. Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey uses 360-degree feedback surveys and other tools to coach leaders and managers, teach effective leadership skills, and build high performance teams. She works with Boards and teams of all types to help them set and achieve goals, including eliminating institutional/structural racism and discrimination. She helps leaders establish organizational performance measurement systems, develop, and implement onboarding and succession planning programs, and restructure their organizations in light of their strategic directions and long-term priorities. She serves as lead faculty for the Michigan Pharmacy Foundation and Michigan Judicial Institute's Leadership Academies, which include workshops, webinars, a leadership project, goal-setting, and mentoring.

Her clients have included: Illinois Judicial Branch; California State Bar and State Bar Court; King County Superior Court (Seattle); Florida Office of the State Courts Administrator; 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court

(Miami/Dade), 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit Court (Detroit); Ottawa, Kalamazoo, Berrien, Van Buren, and Gogebic/Ontonagon County Courts (MI); Maricopa, Pima, Cochise, Mohave, and Coconino County Courts (AZ); First and Fifth Judicial Districts of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia and Pittsburgh); Santa Barbara Superior Court; Judiciary of Guam; Guam Attorney General's Office and Public Defender's Office; Pacific Judicial Council, and others. Other clients have included: MKK Consulting Engineers (CO); the Michigan, Ohio, Iowa, Florida, Georgia, and Colorado Pharmacists Associations; Boston University, School of Public Health; Longmont United and Exempla Saint Joseph Hospitals (CO). Executives, managers, public/court administrators, supervisors, judicial officers, attorneys, legislators, scientists, physicians, hospital executives, pharmacists, and engineers have benefited from her services.

Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey worked for the 37<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court (Battle Creek, MI), the Michigan State Court Administrative Office, and the National Center for State Courts. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Denver, a Master's Degree from Michigan State University, and a Bachelor's Degree from Western Michigan University. She has published numerous articles/guidebooks on strategic planning, executive leadership, managing change, quality improvement, 360-degree feedback, succession planning/talent management, and procedural fairness. Dr. Wagenknecht-Ivey received the distinguished *Executive Board Medal* from the Michigan Pharmacists Association in 2015, an award bestowed upon individuals who demonstrate extraordinary personal commitment to the Association, and who are instrumental to the Executive Board and in advancing the pharmacy profession