

Speaker Resumes
NAPCO Webinar • Thursday, October 26, 2023; 3 PM (EST)
The Delicate Dynamics of Challenging Court Leaders

Hon Roxanne Bailin (ret.)

... is a former Chief Judge of the 20th Judicial District of Colorado in Boulder County from 1998 to 2013. It is a combined court wherein the Judicial District has a single administration with one chief judge and one court administrator over general (district court) and limited (county court) jurisdictions. Currently, there are 9 district judges, 5 county court judges, and 4 magistrates. She was named to the county bench in 1983 and to the district court bench in 1987.

Prior to being appointed a county judge, Judge Bailin was a Clinical Professor and Director of the Legal Aid and Defender Program at the University of Colorado School of Law.

Judge Bailin began her legal career as an attorney with Colorado Rural Legal Services in Trinidad, Colorado.

She received a bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Chicago in 1971 where she was a Trustee Scholar. She received her law degree in 1974 from New York University Law School.

Judge Bailin served as chief judge of the 20th Judicial District for 11 years prior to her retirement from the bench in 2013. In Colorado, chief judges are appointed by the state's chief justice and have unspecified terms, subject to removal by the chief justice, resignation or retirement. In her role as chief judge, she oversaw the administration of the courts and probation in addition to her duties as a district court judge.

After her retirement, she worked for nine years as a part-time special judicial consultant with the National Center for State Courts in the areas of Leadership and Governance, Court Efficiency, Caseload Management (Criminal, Civil, Family and Specialty Courts), and Court Facilities Planning. She also consults with the Colorado State Court Administrator's Office on drug courts and provides motivational training for judges on a national level.

Hon. Kevin Burke (ret.)

...served as a District Judge in Hennepin County, Minnesota for 37 years. He retired from the bench in early 2021. Burke is one of the most recognized leaders within American state judiciaries. He was elected for four terms as Chief Judge and three terms as Assistant Chief Judge. During this time, he instituted social science studies – and reforms improving – procedural fairness. From 1991 – 1996 he served as the Chair of the Minnesota Conference of Chief Judges. He chaired the State Board of Public Defense and was a leader in the effort to improve and expand the state's public defender system.

Judge Burke has been named one of the 100 most influential lawyers in the history of Minnesota by Law & Politics magazine. In 1996 he was named a Toll Fellow. The Toll Fellowship identifies emerging state leaders from all three branches of government. In 1997 he received the Director's Community Leadership Award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In 2002 the National Center for State Courts awarded him the Distinguished Service Award, and in 2003 he was selected as the recipient of the Center's William H. Rehnquist Award. The Rehnquist Award is presented annually to a state judge who exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness, and professional ethics. He was awarded Public Official of the Year by Governing Magazine in 2004. In 2005 the Minnesota Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates named him Trial Judge of the Year. The American Bar Association named him Judicial Educator of the year in 2010.

He teaches at the University of Minnesota and University of St. Thomas law schools. For many years he served on the faculty of the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute's Reflective Leadership Program. He has been a speaker in 38 states as well as Abu Dhabi, Canada, Egypt, Mexico, China, India, and Ireland regarding improvement in judicial administration and court leadership.

Burke has authored numerous articles and is the co-author of two American Judges Association White Papers, "Procedural Fairness: A Key Ingredient in Public Satisfaction" and "Minding the Court: Enhancing the Decision-Making Process." He presently serves on the Board of the Institute for the Reform of the American Legal System and the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO). He is a past Board member of the National Center for State Courts and the American Judicature Society.

He began his legal career in 1975 as an assistant public defender for Hennepin County. In 1979, he became a partner with the law firm of Ranum, Quackenbush & Burke. The following year, he left to be a partner of Chestnut & Brooks, P.A., where he worked until his 1984 judicial appointment.

Burke received a B.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1972 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1975. During college, he interned with the Office of the Minnesota Senate Counsel (1971) and Congressman Michael J. Harrington (1972). He was also a research associate for the Minnesota Experimental City (1972), an administrative assistant to the Chairman of the Metropolitan Council (1973), and the student director for the Legal Aid to Minnesota Prisoners (1975).

Hon. William (Bill) Dressel (ret.)

... is a former President of The National Judicial College (2000 – 2013) with a long and distinguished career as a lawyer, national educator, trial judge and chief judge. Prior to taking the top leadership role at the college, he served as a jurist in the Eighth Judicial District (Fort Collins, Colorado) for more than 22 years (1978 – 2000).

Judge Dressel has been president of the Colorado District Judges' Association, chair of the Colorado Trial Judges' Council, which represents both district and county judges in the state.

From 1992 – 1993, he was chair of the ABA’s National Conference of State Trial Judges, and from 1987 to 1993, he chaired the Court Delay Reduction Committee of the National Conference. In 1991, Judge Dressel was appointed by Colorado Chief Justice Rovira to be the Judicial Department’s representative on the Colorado Legislature’s Criminal Justice Commission and was reappointed for a second term in 1993.

He is the principal author of the Trial Management Standards adopted by the American Bar Association House of Delegates in 1992. He has also served as adjunct professor of law at the University of Denver, teaching criminal procedure and trial tactics, a consultant to the National Center for State Courts, the Center for Effective Public Policy, the Justice Management Institute, and a member of the Colorado Judicial Faculty. He served as a member of the faculty of The National Judicial College from 1989 – 1993, and in June 1993 was appointed to its Board of Trustees, where he served as vice-chair from 1999 – 2000. He was the 1998 recipient of the Justice Management Institute’s *Ernest C. Friesen Award of Excellence* in recognition of his vision, leadership, and sustained commitment to the achievement of excellence in the administration of justice.

Prior to his judicial career, Judge Dressel spent 12 years in private practice as a litigator in both Denver and Fort Collins. He holds a B.A. degree from Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver Law School.

Gordon Griller (ret.)

... is the Executive Director of the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO), a nonprofit, public benefit corporation composed of state and local trial court leadership judges, court executives, and court leadership teams. He serves pro bono in that capacity but will leave the position in February 2024. Up until early October 2023, he worked part-time with the National Center for State Courts’ Court Consulting Services group, having retired in January 2020 as a Principal Court Management Consultant after 14 years of full-time service with the Center. His consulting engagements were wide-ranging, including caseflow management, court operations improvement, reengineering, court facility studies, strategic planning, efficiency analyses, systems and procedures, organizational development, and leadership development programs for presiding judges, chief administrative officers, and program professionals in general, limited, and specialized courts.

Prior to his work with the Center, Mr. Griller held numerous private and public positions dedicated to trial court improvement and reform, including Vice President of Justice Practices for the State and Local Solutions Group at Affiliated Computer Systems (ACS), a division of the Xerox Corporation; the first Administrator of Trial Courts for the Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County (Greater Phoenix); Court Administrator for the Superior Court in Maricopa County; the first Judicial District Administrator of the Second Judicial District of Minnesota in Ramsey County (Greater St. Paul); and Court Administrator of the Municipal Court of Hennepin County, Minnesota (Greater Minneapolis) prior to the unification of Minnesota’s state and local trial courts. He began his career in trial courts in 1972.

In his 50+ years working with state and local trial courts, Mr. Griller has served as President of the National Association of Trial Court Administrators where he co-chaired the Special Commission in the 1980s that created the National Association for Court Management (NACM), the largest professional association in the world dedicated to the improvement of trial court administration. He is a recipient of the National Center's *Warren E. Burger Award* for outstanding contributions to court administration, the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts' *Tom C. Clark Award*, NACM's *Award of Merit*, the Institute for Court Management's *Star Award*, the Justice Management Institute's *Ernest C. Friesen Award* for vision, leadership, and sustained commitment to excellence in the administration of justice, and in 2023 he received the inaugural *Gordon (Gordy) Griller Award for Excellence in Court Leadership* which will be presented annually by NAPCO to a person or persons who demonstrate leadership, innovation and access to justice for all.

Gordy holds a B.A. Degree in Political Science from the University of Minnesota, and a M.A. Degree in Public Administration from the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis).