

Speaker Resumes  
NAPCO Webinar • Thursday, February 19, 2026; 3 PM (EST)  
*Nurturing Innovation as a Court Leader*

**Hon. Barry Schneider (ret.)**

... served on the Maricopa County Superior Court for 21 years from 1986 to 2007. From his first assignment on the civil department through his tenure as civil presiding judge, he took an active leadership role in establishing ADR as part of the legal culture in this community. He was part of the initial pilot project where he conducted hundreds of settlement conferences in all types of civil cases, i.e., medical and ordinary negligence, products liability, and commercial. That project led to the adoption first of a local and then a statewide rule of procedure requiring mandatory settlement conferences. He also provided early leadership in the promotion and development of summary jury trials in Maricopa County, leading to the adoption of the highly successful short trial program in Maricopa County. Judge Schneider published articles in the ABA publication *Litigation* describing his experiences.

During his judicial career, Judge Schneider served as a trial and leadership judge in the civil department (presiding on 2 occasions), the criminal department and the family court department (presiding once). He also has been the recipient of a number of judicial awards for his leadership and service to the community including the State Bar of Arizona James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award (2008) for the “highest standards of judicial conduct for integrity and independence; who is knowledgeable of the law and faithful to it, who is unswayed by partisan interests, public claims or fear of criticism; who is patient, dignified and courteous to all who appear before the Court; and who endeavors to improve the administration of justice and public understanding of, and respect for, the role of law in our society.” Binghamton University’s Distinguished Alumnus Award for Public Service (2008) in recognition of having “worked to better equip jurors, make the courtroom a place for learning, and better connect the legal process with those who play integral roles within it.” The State Bar of Arizona President’s Award (2002) presented to a person “who has contributed enormous effort towards the furtherance of the president’s goals and priorities...” The American Board of Trial Advocates (local chapter) Judicial Officer of the Year Award (2002). And the Maricopa County Bar Association Henry S. Stevens Award as the Outstanding Judge (1997).

Before his appointment to the bench he was an associate at Langerman, Begam, Lewis, Leonard & Marks and then a partner at Rosen & Schneider, Ltd.

Judge Schneider received his B.A. degree from Harpur College (now Binghamton University) in 1964 and his J.D. degree from St. John's University School of Law in 1968 where he was an editor on the law review. He was admitted to practice in New York in 1968 and in Arizona in 1972.

## **Daniellie Kalil**

... is the Director of Civil Justice and the Judiciary at the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS), a national, independent research organization that innovates and advances solutions that make our civil justice system more just. Chartered in 2006, it is headquartered on the University of Denver campus and works closely with its Sturm College of Law.

Ms. Kalil is responsible for leading the vision and strategy of IAALS' work on civil justice reform and the judiciary. The central focus of this work is to build a fair, accessible, and effective civil justice system. She directs a dynamic portfolio of data-driven projects focused on modernizing court processes, advancing access to justice, and fostering public trust in courts and the judiciary. These projects encompass national research initiatives and state-level consulting. All of her work is driven by the mission of making our systems work better for the people who use them.

Prior to joining IAALS, Danielle spent five years teaching in the Human Trafficking Clinic + Lab at the University of Michigan Law School, where she worked at the intersection of direct representation and systemic advocacy. In that role, she supervised law students representing clients in a variety of legal areas, including immigration, family law, public benefits, and post-adjudication criminal relief. She also supervised multidisciplinary teams of graduate students using design thinking to develop innovative, systemic solutions to vulnerability and exploitation. Throughout her career, Danielle has been an advocate for interdisciplinary collaboration and looking beyond traditional legal tools to solve problems in the legal system.

Danielle's work is grounded in her experience as a legal aid attorney in Texas where she provided holistic representation to clients spanning a variety of civil legal areas. She was part of Legal Aid for Survivors of Sexual Assault, representing survivors with civil legal needs arising from their victimization. She was also part of the Texas Foster Youth Justice Project, helping current and former foster youth address legal issues arising from their time in care.

Danielle earned her JD from the University of Michigan Law School. Prior to law school, she worked in the nonprofit sector in Washington, D.C. Danielle works remotely for IAALS and resides in Michigan.

## **Robert ("Bob") James**

... is the Deputy Court Administrator at the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County (metropolitan Phoenix) and oversees all non-judicial staff working in the court's criminal, civil, family, tax, lower court appeals, jury management and project management areas. He has served in that key position since 2016. The Court, with 150 judicial officers and over 3000 staff, is the fourth largest state general jurisdiction court in the nation. It serves a population of over 4.7 million people (2026 U.S. Census Bureau estimate)

Previously, Mr. James was the lead Criminal Court Administrator (2006-16), served as the Director of Jury Management (2002-06), and was the Director of Public Access to Court Services Programs (1995-2002), which was involved with the Self-Service Center, an award-winning program focused

on the needs of self-represented litigants. In his Public Access role, he also oversaw the Court's Family Violence Prevention Center, which provides resources and assistance to people confronted with domestic violence issues; and the Superior Court Information Center, which provides directions and general information to court customers in the downtown Phoenix Superior Court complex.

Additionally, Bob has served as the lead administrator in all collections-related issues for the Judicial Branch in Maricopa County, which included working with numerous limited jurisdiction courts in the Greater Phoenix area (Justice and Municipal Courts). He has worked for the Superior Court in Maricopa County since 1992.

With a Bachelor of Science degree in Broadcast Journalism, and a Masters of Business Administration from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University (Tempe, Arizona), Bob has also coordinated and presented information seminars throughout the United States in media relations, court services for self-represented litigants, delivery of court services using technology, customer service, jury management, criminal caseflow management and changing court organizational structure to judicial conferences, bar association committees, national – state- and local court organizations, legal seminars and committees of the American Bar Association.

### **Gordon Griller**

... is the former Executive Director of the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO). He served pro bono in that role for eight years 2016-23. From June 2006 – February 2024, he worked as a Principal Court Management Consultant with the National Center for State Courts. 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 service 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 a Special Merger 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 is presented annually by NAPCO to a person or persons who demonstrate leadership, innovation and a life-long commitment to 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).