

**SPEAKER
BIOGRAPHIES**

FOR THE

SPEAKER AND WRITER'S BUREAU

OF THE

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONALISM**

CO-CHAIRS:
**MICHAEL E. PÉREZ
KEVIN PATRICK**

Juggling Life, Professionalism and Ethics CLE
March 7, 2025



**State Bar
of Georgia**

www.cjcpgeorgia.org





JUDGE RHONDA KREUZIGER

MODERATOR

Superior Court Judge Rhonda Kreuziger has presided over matters for the Griffin Judicial Circuit (which covers Fayette, Pike, Spalding, and Upson counties) since August 17, 2021. Prior to her appointment to this position by Governor Brian Kemp, Judge Kreuziger served as the Associate Juvenile Court Judge for the Griffin Judicial Circuit from August 2020 to August 2021. Judge Kreuziger also served as the Chief Judge for the Fayetteville Municipal Court from July 2018 until August 2020, on a part-time basis. While serving in this capacity, she continued to manage and operate The Kreuziger Law

Firm, P.C. that she established in June 2006. From its inception, until August 2020, she represented matters in the following areas of practice: Criminal Law; Domestic Relations/Family Law; Personal Injury; Landlord/Tenant; Breach of Contract; and Criminal and Civil Appeals to both the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court. She was lead counsel in several jury and bench trials, serving as both prosecutor and defense counsel in criminal cases as well as counsel for plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters. She has served as Guardian ad Litem in Family Law cases for the Griffin Judicial Circuit and Coweta County and worked as a conflict attorney for the Georgia Public Defender Council for approximately eleven years. Her firm also served as the part-time Solicitor for two municipalities during the earlier years of her private practice.

Prior to starting the law firm, she served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Griffin Judicial Circuit from approximately 2002 until 2006. As an Assistant District Attorney, she prosecuted felonies and misdemeanors in Superior Court and served as the Juvenile Prosecutor for the Griffin Judicial Circuit.

While working toward a Juris Doctor, she worked as a law clerk in two civil litigation firms, assisting with catastrophic personal injury claims and workers' compensation matters. During the last semester of law school, she interned in the Special Prosecution Division for the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Georgia.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Judge Kreuziger worked as a Forensic Serologist (analyzing rapes, homicides, and burglaries) with the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory, in Shreveport, Louisiana; and subsequently in the field of Forensic Toxicology (working on the identification and analysis of drugs) for SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories in Dallas, Texas. Judge Kreuziger received a law degree from John Marshall Law School in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from Northwestern State University in Louisiana.



VERONICA ROGUSKY COX

Veronica R. Cox obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia and her Juris Doctorate from Mercer University School of Law. Veronica is in her 7th year of legal practice and her 5th year as a Trial Attorney at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Atlanta District Office. Veronica serves as President-Elect of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, as an officer on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia, and an *ex officio* member of the State Disciplinary Board. Veronica is a three-time recipient of the Award for Outstanding Service to the Public, a graduate of the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy, and a published author in the YLD Review. Veronica lives in Smyrna, Georgia with her husband, James, their daughter, and their two big dogs, Kodi and Azula.



JUDGE WESLEY B. TAILOR

Judge Wesley B. “Wes” Tailor was appointed to the State Court of Fulton County in December of 2010. He currently acts as Chief Judge. In addition to his regular criminal and civil matters, Judge Tailor presides over the Fulton County Recovery Treatment Court Program and hears cases docketed in the Metro Atlanta Business Case Division of the Superior Court of Fulton County. Additionally, he is President of the Lawyers Club of Atlanta.

Judge Tailor previously served as President of the Executive Committee of the Council of State Court Judges and member of the Judicial Council of Georgia; Chair of the Joint Governance Committee for the Fulton County State and Superior Courts; Chair of the Judicial Section for the State Bar of Georgia; Chair of the Lawyer Referral Information Services Board of Trustees for the Atlanta Bar Association; and Board Member of the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation.

Judge Tailor began his legal career in 1999 as a litigation attorney with Troutman Sanders LLP, now known as Troutman Pepper Locke LLP. He then served as a prosecutor in the Office of the Solicitor-General for DeKalb County. From 2007 to 2010, Judge Tailor served as General Counsel to the Georgia Secretary of State, Director of Elections for the State of Georgia, and Assistant Secretary of State.

Judge Tailor graduated summa cum laude and Order of the Coif from the University of Kentucky School of Law, where he was Associate Editor of the Kentucky Law Journal and served on the Honor Council.

Judge Tailor earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, with concentrations in Finance and Economics, at the University of Richmond. He then worked as a financial consultant with CIGNA Financial Advisors in Marietta, Georgia until enrolling in law school.



GWENDOLYN FORTSON WARING

Gwendolyn Fortson Waring, owner, The Waring Law Firm LLC, was born in Harlem, NY. She graduated from the Brearley School in 1973 and from Princeton University in 1977 with a BA in Political Economy, teacher certification, and certification in African-American studies. After a 12 year career in retail management and merchandising, she received her Juris Doctor from Georgia State University College of Law in 1992. She served as staff attorney for the Hon. Don A. Langham from 1992-1994 in Fulton County Superior Court. Since 1994, she has practiced civil trial litigation concentrating in family, and probate law in Savannah.



RUSSELL D. WILLARD

On July 1, 2024, Russell Willard joined the State Bar of Georgia as General Counsel Designate. On February 1, 2025, he became General Counsel of the State Bar of Georgia, a unified bar organization with more than 54,000 members. As General Counsel, he serves as legal counsel to the State Bar, and his ten lawyer office also handles lawyer disciplinary matters for the State Bar.

Prior to joining the State Bar, Mr. Willard served for twenty-three years in the Georgia Office of the Attorney General. He began his service as Communications Director overseeing the communications and policy initiatives for the Attorney General, and then moved to a legal position in the office, ultimately leading the section that handled legal matters for the state's education agencies, including the Department of Education, the Board of Regents, the Technical College System, and the state's election agencies, including the Secretary of State and the State Election Board, the Georgia Public Defender Council, and the state's Judicial Branch. Before joining the Office of the Attorney General, Mr. Willard served three legislative sessions as Counsel for the House Majority Caucus in the Georgia General Assembly.

A lifelong Georgian, Mr. Willard is a proud double Dawg, having graduated from the University of Georgia as an undergraduate in 1993 and from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1996.



KEVIN PATRICK

CO-CHAIR

STATE BAR OF GEORGIA SPEAKERS AND WRITERS BUREAU

Kevin Patrick, the founding partner of Kevin Patrick Law, devotes his legal practice to representing individuals and families throughout Georgia with an emphasis on automobile and trucking accidents and other serious personal injury cases. Kevin also has unparalleled experience in Georgia daycare injury cases. Prior to starting his own personal injury firm, Kevin practiced for several years at a firm defending large corporations and insurance companies. Kevin also clerked for Chief Judge John H. Bailey, Jr., Northern Judicial Circuit of Georgia, prior to entering into private practice.

Kevin is an active member of the State Bar of Georgia and the District of Columbia Bar. Kevin is admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the United States of America, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals along with the Northern, Middle, and Southern federal judicial districts of Georgia. Kevin's admissions also include the Supreme Court of Georgia, Court of Appeals for Georgia, and all lower courts in Georgia.

Kevin attended law school at Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law. During law school, Kevin was the summer clerk for Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson at the Georgia Supreme Court and had a field placement with the Hon. W. Louis Sands, United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia. Kevin graduated magna cum laude from the University of Georgia's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences with high honors from the Honors Program and earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in Classical Culture, History, and Latin. He sits on the Board of Governors (Atlanta Circuit Post 22) for the State Bar of Georgia.

Kevin and his wife Tracy enjoy UGA Football, most importantly, Kevin enjoys being a father to his nine-year-old son and his six-year-old daughter.