

Faculty

Jill Robb Ackerman is the chairperson of the Litigation Section of Baird Holm LLP. She represents individuals and businesses with respect to complex business litigation in federal and state courts and arbitration proceedings concerning corporate disputes, copyright, trademark, unfair competition, and computers and technology. She is a frequent speaker on the perils of electronic discovery and the protection of trademarks and trade secrets. Ms. Ackerman is a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association and sits in its House of Delegates and the Executive Council. She also chaired its Judiciary Committee for two years. She is a member of the American Bar Association, its Litigation Section and the Committee on Intellectual Property Litigation, and its Business Law Section. Ms. Ackerman is a member of the Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys, the former Chair of the Federal Practice Committee, and has served on the Federal Advisory Committee for the Eighth Circuit. Additionally, Ms. Ackerman is a Fellow of the Nebraska Bar Foundation and serves on its Board of Directors. She is also a charter member of the Robert Spire Inn of Court and taught Trial Advocacy at Creighton University School of Law. Ms. Ackerman served as law clerk to the Honorable C. Arlen Beam of the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska from 1984 through 1986.

Roger Kirst joined the faculty at UNL College of Law in 1974 and is a Professor of Law. In 1970, he received his J.D. degree from Stanford Law School where he served as a member of the Stanford Law Review. He was admitted to the New York Bar in 1971 and the Nebraska Bar in 1974. He was employed as an associate by a New York City law firm from 1970-71 and served in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps from 1971-74. Professor Kirst teaches Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Civil Rights Litigation. He is the Reporter for the Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Practice and Procedure and a member of the Federal Practice Committee for the District of Nebraska. His recent articles include:

- * A Decade of *Chantutge* in Sixth Amendment Confrontation Doctrine, Vol. 6, Issue 2, Art. 5, International Commentary on Evidence (2009)
- * Confrontation Rules After *Davis v. Washington*, 15 Brooklyn L. Sch. J.L. & Pol'y 635 (2007)
- * Can History Define the Structure of Confrontation Doctrine?, 71 Brooklyn L. Rev. 35 (2005)
- * Appellate Court Answers to the Confrontation Questions in *Lilly v. Virginia*, 53 Syr. L. Rev. 89 (2003)
- * Hearsay and the Right of Confrontation in the European Court of Human Rights, 22 Quinn. L. Rev. 777 (2003)
- * Filling the Gaps in Federal Rule 45 Procedure for Nonparty Nondeposition Document Discovery, 205 F.R.D. 638 (2002)
- * A Third Option: Regulating Discovery of Transaction Work Product Without Distorting the Attorney Client Privilege, 31 Seton Hall L. Rev. 229 (2000)

Magistrate Judge (retired) David L. Piester graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1972. Between 1972 and January of 1981, he served as a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Lincoln, Inc.; the executive director of Legal Services of Southeast Nebraska; and an Assistant United States Attorney. Judge Piester was appointed as a magistrate judge for the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska in 1981, and he served continuously in that capacity until his retirement on August 1, 2009.

Magistrate Judge Cheryl Zwart is a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Nebraska. She graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1988, and thereafter practiced civil litigation for thirteen years as a lawyer in the Knudsen Berkheimer law firm. From 2001 until 2009, Judge Zwart was the judicial clerk for former United States Magistrate Judge David L. Piester. On January 15, 2010, she was sworn in as the magistrate judge chosen to fill the vacancy created when Judge Piester retired on August 1, 2009.

Melanie J. Whittamore-Mantzios is a partner with Wolfe, Snowden, Hurd, Luers & Ahl, LLP. She practices in the areas of employment law, insurance defense, general litigation, and has served as a hearing officer and arbitrator. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska in Political Science in 1985 and obtained her Juris Doctorate from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1988. She worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Nebraska for fifteen years. During that time, she practiced in a variety of areas, including prosecution of disciplinary actions against licensed health professionals; criminal appeals; and civil rights defense, tort defense, and employment discrimination defense. She is a member of the American, Nebraska, and Lincoln Bar Associations, the Federal Practice Committee, and an alumna of the Robert Van Pelt Inn of Court. She is an alumna of the Board of Trustees of the Lincoln Bar Association and a member of the Executive Committee of the Labor Relations and Employment Law Section of the Nebraska State Bar Association.

John Sharp is a member of Baird Holm LLP's Litigation Section. He practices in federal and state courts, focusing on commercial and intellectual property litigation. He represents businesses in cases involving commercial contracts and insurance, business torts and unfair competition claims, and in various copyright, trademark, and patent matters. He is a regular presenter on electronic discovery and evidence preservation. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Sharp served as a law clerk to the Honorable Thomas M. Shanahan, United States District Court for the District of Nebraska, and as a law clerk to the Honorable Roger L. Wollman, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Aimee Bataillon is an associate attorney practicing with Spencer Fane's Labor and Employment Group. Aimee was awarded her Juris Doctor in 2001 from Creighton University School of Law, where she was a Research and Writing Assistant to Professor Nancy Lawler Dickhute. Following law school, Aimee served as a Deputy Public Defender for Douglas County, Nebraska. She went on to practice in the area of insurance defense, where she gained experience before the federal, state, and county courts in Nebraska and Iowa. Aimee has litigation experience in the areas of governmental law, employment discrimination, premises liability, products liability, workers' compensation, and general and professional negligence. Aimee has successfully

defended employment discrimination claims involving the ADA, ADEA, FMLA, and Title VII before the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission and the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission. She also frequently counsels employers and local governments across Nebraska on day-to-day human resources issues such as hiring, discharge, discipline, harassment, and discrimination.

Stephanie Frazier Stacy received her Juris Doctorate in 1991 from the University of Nebraska College of Law. Following a judicial clerkship with United States Magistrate Judge David L. Piester, she joined the firm of Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gemit & Witt, LLP, where she focuses her civil litigation practice on defense of personal injury and wrongful death cases, and insurance coverage disputes with a particular emphasis on claims of bad faith. Ms. Stacy serves as a consultant to insurance carriers and self-insureds on a variety of topics, including management of outside counsel, establishing best practices in claims handling, and Medicare Secondary Payer issues affecting personal injury claims. Ms. Stacy also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska College of Law, teaching Trial Advocacy and Pre-Trial Litigation.