



SPOKANE
COUNTY BAR
ASSOCIATION

2020 Annual Review

Challenging Systemic Racism in Our Regional Justice System AGENDA

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE DEBRA STEPHENS

In 2019, the Honorable Debra L. Stephens was unanimously elected by her colleagues as the 57th Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court. As Chief Justice, she is the court's chief spokesperson, presides over Supreme Court hearings and conferences, and co-chairs the state's Board for Judicial Administration.

Governor Christine Gregoire appointed Chief Justice Stephens to the Washington State Supreme Court on January 1, 2008. That fall, the people of Washington elected her to serve a six-year term and reelected her in 2014. Prior to her appointment, Chief Justice Stephens served as a judge for Division Three of the Court of Appeals. She is the first judge from that court to serve on the Washington State Supreme Court, as well as the first woman from Eastern Washington to do so.

A native of Spokane, Washington, Chief Justice Stephens attended Gonzaga University School of Law as a Thomas More Scholar, entering law school when her daughter was just five weeks old. As a student, she served as president of the Gonzaga Public Interest Law Project, and she won the "Best Oralist" and "Best Brief" awards at the National Moot Court Competition in New York, NY, before graduating summa cum laude in 1993. After law school, she served as a staff attorney for the Honorable Fred L. Van Sickle, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, before entering private practice.

Chief Justice Stephens practiced law and taught as an adjunct professor at Gonzaga University School of Law before taking the bench. She appeared over 125 times in the Washington State Supreme Court, in addition to appearances in the Idaho Supreme Court, in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and as counsel of record in the United States Supreme Court. She was co-coordinator of the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association Foundation Amicus Curiae Committee, the longest standing "friend of the court" program in Washington. Her areas of teaching as an adjunct professor include federal and state constitutional law, community property, appellate advocacy, and legal research and writing.

Actively committed to public service and community involvement, Chief Justice Stephens dedicates a significant amount of time to various organizations. She served for over a decade on the board of directors of Orchard Prairie School District No. 123 and has been a board member of both the Spokane Valley and Olympia Rotary Clubs. She is a past president and current member of the Honorable Robert J. Bryan Inn of Court and a past state board member and current member of Washington Women Lawyers.

Chief Justice Stephens served as both a Deacon and Elder of Millwood Community Presbyterian Church; a member of the Sacred Heart Children's Foundation "Joshua's Hugs" fundraising circle; a community board advisor for People for Environmental Action and Community Health (PEACH), an organization committed to the development of sustainable agriculture and local safe foods; a founding member and volunteer mentor for the Upward Bound Program, providing guidance to at-risk high school students; and a volunteer mentor for high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. She regularly attends youth and access to justice events across the state, and serves on the YMCA Youth and Government Advisory Board. A strong advocate for pro bono legal services, Chief Justice Stephens volunteered as a supervising attorney at Gonzaga's University Legal

Assistance Clinic and continues to support access to justice initiatives statewide. She is also a member of the Washington Council on Public Legal Education, and she frequently speaks at civics and civic engagement conferences for students, educators, and community members.

As the chief justice, Stephens serves on several committees and boards committed to improving the administration of justice in Washington State. She frequently speaks at youth and community events across the state, is a member of the Washington Council on Public Legal Education, and chairs the Board for Judicial Administration. Nationally, she is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Courts and Sciences Institute (NCSI), and a convener for Dividing the Waters, an organization supporting judicial education on water law issues. Since joining the bench, Chief Justice Stephens has been a member of the National Association of Women Judges and co-chairs its Judicial Independence Committee. Internationally, she has participated in training for foreign judges on issues of judicial independence and the rule of law. Chief Justice Stephens has also received the "Myra Bradwell Award" from the Gonzaga Women's Law Caucus, the "Leadership & Justice Award" from MAMAS (Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle), the "Distinguished Judicial Service Award" from Gonzaga University School of Law, and the "President's Award" from Washington Women Lawyers.

Chief Justice Stephens and her husband have been married for over 30 years and have two grown children. She enjoys skiing, golf, tennis, and spending time with her extended family at the Snake River.

WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RAQUEL MONTOYA-LEWIS

Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis served as a Superior Court Judge for Whatcom County until her appointment to the Washington State Supreme Court in December of 2019. Governor Jay Inslee appointed her the Whatcom County Superior Court in December 2014 and she was elected to her position in 2015 and 2016. During her time on the Superior Court, she heard a wide variety of cases, ranging from felony criminal cases, family law matters, child welfare, civil jury and bench trials on a wide range of civil matters.

Prior to serving on the Superior Court bench, she combined judicial and academic careers, serving as Chief Judge for the Lummi Nation, the Nooksack Indian Tribe and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe and as an Associate Professor of Law at Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies at Western Washington University. She also served as an appellate judge for the Nisqually Tribe and the Northwest Intertribal Court System. Her work as a tribal court judge spanned 15 years. During that time, she worked with tribes all over the country, hearing trials as well as working on tribal court development, working with tribal communities to create legal systems that reflected the needs of those communities and their approaches to conflict resolution and justice.

As a professor at Western Washington University, she taught law-related courses to students at Fairhaven College, as well as created courses on Cultural Identity Development, Transgender Histories and Identities, Children and the Law, Federal Indian Law, Property Law, and Legal Writing. Prior to her work at WWU, she taught Legal Research and Writing at the University of New Mexico School of Law. During her time as a professor, she conducted research and writing on tribal courts, court development, child welfare, and juvenile justice.

She presents nationally on implicit bias, cultural identity, engaging families and youth in dependency and juvenile court, Indian Child Welfare compliance and tribal trial and appellate court practice. She has served as faculty for the Washington State Judicial College, as well as the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence. She has presented at conferences held by the National Association of Women Judges, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Office of Juvenile Justice, and the Washington State Bar Association.

She served on the Washington State Advisory Group on juvenile justice and served two terms on the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, which advises the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Congress and the President on juvenile justice policy. In addition, she has served as a Trustee for the Superior Court Judges' Association, as well as the SCJA's Family and Juvenile Law Committee and the Judicial Education Committee. She has been a member of the Family Violence Advisory Board for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Judicial Engagement Network, a joint project of the NCJFCJ and the Center for Court Innovation. In 2010, she became a fellow of the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, receiving a certificate in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Reform: Multi-System Integration.

In 2018, she was awarded the Children's Advocacy Center Community Leadership Award from the Brigid

Collins Family Support Center. In 2015, she received the Dean's Leadership Award from the University of Washington School of Law. In 2010, she was recognized by the NW Asian Weekly as a Women of Color Empowered-Law and received the 2009 Community Building Award from the Whatcom Family and Community Network.

As a practicing attorney, she represented Indian tribes across the United States and served as a judicial law clerk for Justice Pamela B. Minzner. She holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Washington School of Law (1992) and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Washington Graduate School of Social Work (1996) and is a 1992 graduate of the Pre-Law Summer Institute for American Indians housed at the American Indian Law Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of New Mexico. She is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Isleta and a descendant of the Laguna Indian Tribe, two federally recognized tribes in New Mexico.

COMMUNITY PANEL: LIFTING VOICES OF OUR COMMUNITY

Moderator Sandra Williams: Publisher and Editor of The Black Lens News and Executive Director The Carl Maxey Cultural Center

Sandra Williams is a community organizer, filmmaker, and entrepreneur with nearly four decades of experience focusing on discrimination, equity, and social and racial justice. Sandra is the Publisher and Editor of The Black Lens, the only African American focused newspaper in Eastern Washington, which published its first issue in January of 2015. Sandra is also a consultant, offering workshops, training, and board development to businesses and non-profit organizations.

Sandra earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Washington State University and her Master's Degree in Film/Television Production from the University of Southern California School of Cinema. Her extensive background addressing issues of discrimination, equity, and social justice spans more than thirty years, as the Coordinator of the Pride Center at Eastern Washington University, the Executive Director of Odyssey Youth Center, the Spokane Field Coordinator for Youth Suicide Prevention Program, and as an HIV/AIDS Prevention Educator focusing on communities of color. In addition to activism and grassroots organizing, Sandra has effectively used the mediums of film, video, theater, and the spoken word as tools to address discrimination and oppression.

Sandra is also the Executive Director of The Carl Maxey Center, Spokane's East Central neighborhood hub focusing on Cultural Enrichment, Economic Development, and Social & Racial Justice; a founding member of Spokane Community Against Racism (SCAR), organized in the aftermath of the jury verdict in the death of William Poindexter; member of the Spokane branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); former Eastern Washington Commissioner for the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs and served on the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Multicultural Affairs (MACMA). Among many awards and recognitions, in 2018, Sandra was recognized as a YWCA Woman of Achievement, recognized by the Spokesman-Review as one of the 2019 Women of the Year, and with Rev. Walter Kendricks, recently was awarded the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force 2020 Champion Award.



Stanley Harewood, Co-director of All of Us or None - Eastern Washington Chapter

Stanley was born in Brooklyn NY. His parents and older siblings emigrated from Panama in the early 1960's. He graduated from Cerritos High School 1989. His involvement with the criminal legal system began at the age of 15. Stanley is a father and grandfather. Stanley has served over 20 years incarcerated. He was released in 2014 after serving thirteen years in the Washington State Department of Corrections. Stanley is a 2016 graduate of Spokane Community College. He is currently employed as an HVAC/R technician (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning / Refrigeration) and supports education and training for trade programs. His work with ALL OF US OR NONE includes advocating for previously incarcerated individuals and their families to access mental health and substance use treatment, education and housing. He is currently participating in an Anti-Bullying and Homies

Can Vote campaign. Stanley is passionate about ending gang violence, strengthening families, assisting previously incarcerated individuals with re-entry and ending mass incarceration.



Monica Jones

Monica was born in Perth Amboy, NJ. Following the death of her father, she moved to Spokane, with her mother and 4 sisters. She graduated from John R. Rogers High School 1996. After graduation Monica had big dreams of working in the medical field to help others as well as provide a good life for her children. However when she was 19, her life took an unexpected turn and she was convicted of an felony. At that time she was a single mother to a three year old and a newborn, so at the urging of a public defender she opted to take a plea agreement. With the plea, she didn't serve any prison time but completed a three month sentence at Eleanor Chase work release facility. Monica is now the mother of six beautiful children and the grandmother of one.

Realizing her own childhood trauma contributed to the incident that labeled her violent, she has become very passionate about helping and mentoring marginalized youth. Her church involvement has provided an opportunity for her to make a difference in the lives of countless children, believing there is no such thing as a "bad child" because the behavior is usually just a symptom or indication of something else going on within their life or within their inner self.

Monica is passionate about bringing awareness to the fact that the vast majority of those that are convicted of felonies are low-income and like her, find it "easier" to take a plea rather than take a chance going to trial with a court appointed public defender. She also is working to bring awareness to the stricter sentences structures that African Americans are faced with when trying to navigate the legal system.



Yvonne L. Swan aka Yvonne Wanrow
photo by Jen Largent Farnam, September 2019, Inchellum WA

Elder Yvonne Swan-Wanrow, Sinixt Arrow Lakes Colville. Enrolled Tribal Member Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Advocate and Activist

Elder Swan-Wanrow was convicted in the 1972 trial concerning the shooting death of a man who had attempted to molest her son. Her case reached the Washington Supreme Court, where its outcome had far-reaching effects on the manner in which juries interpret the behavior of a defendant, the legality of recorded conversations, and considerations for victims of sexual assault.

As excerpted from Wikipedia: "Unable to convince her public defenders to fight for her, Wanrow initially pleaded guilty. Later, following the counsel of a new attorney, she changed her plea to not guilty by reason of temporary insanity and self-defense. The prosecution alleged that Wanrow was not in any danger and that she took the law into her own hands. This argument relied on ethnic stereotypes the jury would have been familiar with from the media, and the

verdict may have been influenced by militant actions by the American Indian Movement, which was covered in

a negative light in Spokane.

In 1973, Wanrow was convicted of second-degree murder and first-degree assault. Defense attorney Eugene I. Annis appealed the ruling on eleven counts of judicial error. In 1975, the appeals court reversed the conviction and ordered a retrial.

In 1976, the prosecutors in the case, Donald Brockett, and Fred Caruso, petitioned the Washington Supreme Court against the ruling, but it was upheld in 1977.

During the 1976 Supreme Court appeal, Wanrow was represented by attorneys Elizabeth Schneider and Nancy Stearns of New York's Center for Constitutional Rights and Mary Alice Theiler from Seattle. Schneider and Stearns argued the case. The case was remanded back to Spokane Superior Court for retrial and Susan B. Jordan of San Francisco was asked to act as lead counsel.

Prior to the scheduled 1979 trial, the prosecution offered a plea bargain—if Wanrow pleaded to manslaughter and second-degree assault, they would drop the weapons charge (which carried a mandatory five-year prison sentence) and they would not recommend prison nor any jail time.

After lengthy discussions with her attorneys, which also included William Kunstler, Wanrow learned that self-defense was included in manslaughter, and she agreed to plea to the reduced charges. On April 26, 1979 following an all-day mitigation hearing, Judge Harold "Petey" Clarke sentenced her to the maximum 30 years and suspended all but five years, which she was to serve on probation. In lieu of one-year jail time, he ordered 2,000 hours of community service, which she served by counseling alcoholics and teaching culture to Indian students on her home Reservation.

The January 7, 1977 Supreme Court ruling in *State of Washington v. Wanrow* was an important victory for the feminist cause of gender-equality before the law. In a landmark ruling, the Washington Supreme Court, sitting en banc, declared that Yvonne Wanrow was entitled to have a jury consider her actions in the light of her "perceptions of the situation, including those perceptions which were the product of our nation's long and unfortunate history of sex discrimination."

The ruling was the first in America recognizing the particular legal problems of women who defend themselves or their children from male attackers, and was again affirmed by the Washington Supreme Court in denying the prosecutor's petition for rehearing in 1979.

Before the Wanrow decision, standard jury instructions asked what a "reasonably prudent man" would have done, even if the accused was a woman; the Wanrow decision set a precedent that when a woman is tried in a criminal trial the juries should ask "what a reasonably prudent woman similarly situated would have done."

Wanrow was an active speaker for the women's movement, which raised funds on her behalf. The American Indian Movement helped Wanrow, too, and took advantage of the opportunity to highlight unequal treatment of Native Americans by the criminal justice system. Wanrow stated, "The 1973 trial would not have taken place had I been an affluent white woman who killed an American Indian. Instead, after one week, I was convicted by an all-white jury on May 13, 1973 (Mother's Day of that year) for killing a known child molester.

As a result of her non-survival in mainstream American society, she experienced cognitive dissonance and poverty. Her killing of Wesler served to awaken her to her traditionally ascribed gender role, that of a mother devoted entirely to her children. She also found solace in her culture's spirituality and philosophy, which advocated a lifestyle that was family-oriented and harmonious with nature. As a result, she returned to her Reservation, where she worked for the improvement of the community and opposed mining to protect the environment. She also became involved in cases involving murder charges against Indian women, and, in 1993 was the International Indian Treaty Council's political prisoners coordinator, when she advocated the case of Norma Jean Croy. Other self-defense cases she supported were those of native women Paula Three Stars, Marlene Roan Eagle, and Rita Silk Nauni.

She served on the Board of the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee. He is a Native of North Dakota and is still in prison deemed by Natives and support groups as a number one political prisoner in the U.S. His co-defendants Bob Robideau and Darrell Butler counseled by Attorney William Kunstler were acquitted claiming self-defense as their defense in a firefight at Oglala, South Dakota in 1975.

Elder Swan continues her work as an activist for land and water rights, traveling around the U.S., including to the United Nations, fighting for justice for all Indigenous people. She is currently active in bringing about awareness to the illegal sterilization of Indigenous women and has helped launch a global study on the issue through the UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

She served as Spokesperson in the Colville Tribal Court representing criminal and civil cases and a licensed Washington Notary for her Reservation community. In 1989 was mandated by her Native elders to lead protection of a 4,000 year old ancestral burial ground and coordinate an affiliated repatriation effort in southeastern British Columbia, Canada setting many important precedents including holding the longest peaceful demonstration in Canada and being the first tribal group to request, receive, and rebury ancestral remains. She worked with Washington state's Foster Grandparent Program on the Colville Reservation teaching Interior Salish language and culture and later worked with the Colville tribal Peacemaker's Circle to help counsel defendants in lieu of them going through the court sentencing process.

Today, Yvonne Swan, now retired, helps younger people when called upon in different areas of concern and shares information with women at their request.



Jermaine Williams, Director, Freedom Project East

Pronouns: He / Him

Jermaine Williams is the Director of Freedom Project East, serving in Spokane County and the eastern part of the state. As an impacted person, his aim is to build bridges that will empower other impacted individuals to cross over into their humanity. This journey is one of healing. Jermaine believes when our thoughts, words, and deeds are in concert only then will our lives have harmony. Jermaine has been a peer mentor for two decades. Part of his healing journey has been owning the height of his virtues and the depth of his vices while developing the courage to truly represent himself good bad ugly indifferent. Jermaine's versatility is unquestionable from Tchaikovsky and Wolfgang

Mozart to DaBaby. You couldn't tell by looking at him but Footloose (1984) and Hairspray (2007) are two of his all-time favorite movies.

jermaine@freedomprojectwa.org

SYSTEMIC RACISM & the JUSTICE SYSTEM

UNDERSTANDING SYSTEMIC RACISM AND THE ROLE OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM



Ada Shen-Jaffe, JustLead Lead Coach

Ada has served as an equity & justice organizational leader, teacher, trainer and coach throughout her career, using powerful frameworks for furthering anti-oppression work, multi-dimensional and multi-forum approaches to advocacy, community-engagement, and leadership skills. She currently serves as lead faculty and mentor for JustLead's Leadership Academy, as a national trainer and coach for the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law's Racial Justice Training Institute, and as a race equity & leadership consultant, coach and trainer for organizations and advocacy teams around the country. Among her many leadership roles, Ada served as the Statewide Director for Columbia Legal Services and Evergreen Legal Services and as a Distinguished Practitioner from

Practice and Professor from Practice at the Seattle University School of Law. Previous key roles include helping to establish the Legal Aid for Washington Fund, now the Campaign for Equal Justice, the Washington Endowment for Equal Justice, the WA Supreme Court-created Access to Justice Board, the Leadership Academy, and the Washington State Race Equity & Justice Initiative (REJI).



KJ Williams, Leadership and Equity Consultant, JustLead Washington, and Founder, Rise with KJ

KJ Williams is Owner and Founder of RISE with KJ, LLC (Radical, Insightful, Solutions to Create Equity) and Leadership & Equity Consultant with JustLead Washington. Under the RISE umbrella KJ facilitates the work of diversity, equity and inclusion by working with organizations, groups, and individuals across industries from the inside out to develop the infrastructure necessary for change, sustainability, and growth. KJ holds a BA in Urban Studies from the University of Washington and an MPA from Seattle University. While working as the Diversity Program Manager for the Washington State Bar Association KJ provided equity and inclusion leadership to WSBA's 40k+ members, functioning both as an

internal consultant to the WSBA Board of Governors, and as an external consultant, educator, speaker and facilitator to law schools, legal organizations, law firms, student groups and individuals. KJ has served as a member of the City of Seattle LGBT Commission, University of Washington School of Law Diversity Committee, the Board of Directors for the Initiative for Diversity, and the University of Washington School of Law Gates Scholarship Committee.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

ANALYSIS AND REVIEW OF FIRST APPEARANCE AND PRE-TRIAL CONDITIONS OF RELEASE FOR RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES IN SPOKANE COUNTY

MODERATOR MORGAN MAXEY

Morgan Maxey graduated from the University of Washington in 2014. During his time at the University of Washington Morgan Maxey was heavily involved in various clubs activities and was a member of the Men's Basketball Team from 2010-2011. From there Morgan Maxey graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in May of 2017. Morgan took interest in the diversity committee and the multicultural law caucus immediately upon his arrival at Gonzaga University School of Law. During Morgan's time at Gonzaga he worked at the Markam Group practicing and assisting with various medical malpractice cases and also clerked for the Honorable Judge Plese. While clerking for Judge Plese Morgan dealt with a an amalgamation of issues and was often presented with issues he had never dealt with prior. Since his graduation Morgan has been named the Eastern Washington Representative for the Loren Miller Bar Association and continues to further his interest in promoting diversity.

DEAN CHUANG

Dean Chuang is a Spokane personal injury attorney serving those injured by the negligence of others. Prior to his current practice, Dean was the head of the firm's criminal law practice, where he specialized in traffic infractions and crimes, DUI defense, and other state and local Spokane criminal defense matters. Having been in a car accident and dealing with insurance companies, Dean understands the stress and frustration that car accidents can bring. He has been an attorney since 2006 and is a member of the Washington State and Spokane County Bar Associations, Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and Washington Association for Justice.

Dean was born in Walla Walla, Washington, and was raised in Tumwater, Washington. He received his undergraduate degree in biology from Whitman College in 2002, and a second undergraduate degree in general studies from the University of Washington in 2003. Dean graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in 2006, where he was awarded an Army ROTC scholarship. After law school, Dean worked as a public defender in Benton County until he joined the firm of Crary, Clark, Domanico & Chuang, P.S., in 2008.

Dean currently serves part-time in the Washington Army National Guard and was activated in 2019-2020. He was deployed to Northern Syria and Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, where he was awarded the

Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Dean has appeared on Fox and Friends, CNN, Good Morning America, Associated Press, Wall Street Journal, National Public Radio, Spokesman Review, as well as various local news outlets.

SPOKANE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE MARYANN MORENO

Career Highlights

- Spokane County Public Defender, 1983-1989
- Private Practice, 1989-2003
- Superior Court Judge, January 2003 to present

Education

- Gonzaga University School of Law, J.D., 1983
- Kean University, B.S., 1979

Professional Affiliations, Committees

- Superior Court Judges Association
- Spokane County Bar Association
- State Criminal Rules Committee
- Washington Pattern Jury Instruction Committee
- Chair, Mediation Committee, Spokane County
- Past Member, Minority and Justice Committee
- Capital Defense Committee
- PJ Education Committee-Chair
- Sentencing Guidelines Commission

RACE, CULTURE AND BIAS IN FAMILY LAW PRACTICE

JULIANA C. REPP

A member of the Nez Perce Tribe, is managing attorney for the Unemployment Law Project, a non-profit law firm in Spokane, Washington, where she manages unemployment benefits cases and oversees staff and legal interns in addition to working on policy initiatives and legal rights education. Her prior experience includes serving as Interim Chief Judge of the Nez Perce Tribal Court, staff attorney for Columbia Legal Services, and Owner of Northwest Native American Law, PLLC, focusing on tribal enrollment, family law, human rights and civil rights. Ms. Repp continues to serve as a pro tem judge at Nez Perce Tribal Court and has served as a member of the Kalispel Tribal Gaming Board for over 20 years. Ms. Repp also serves as Vice-President of the Water Protector Legal Collective (WPLC) Board, which oversees policy regarding on-the-ground legal teams for Indigenous-led movements focusing on the environment. She also volunteered on the WPLC civil legal team including within the Legal Tent at the No Dakota Access Pipeline (NODAPL) peaceful resistance camps at Oceti Sakowin within the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

She is a founding member and was founding Chair of the Spokane County Bar Association (SCBA) Indian Law Section in 2009-2010 and continues to serve on that Executive Board. She is a member of the WSBA Labor and Employment Law Section. She has served on the Northwest Indian Bar Association Governing Council and as Trustee for the WSBA Indian Law Section.

She received her juris doctor from Gonzaga University School of Law School in December 1995. She has practiced law in numerous tribal courts and within Washington State; US District Court for the Eastern District of Washington and in the US Court of Federal Claims. In 2017, Ms. Repp was awarded the YWCA Women of Achievement Carl Maxey Racial and Social Justice Award. In August 2020, she received the 2020 Spokane Human Rights Champion Award by the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force and the City of Spokane Human Rights Commission.

VIRLA SPENCER

Co-Founder and Program Director of the Driver's Relicensing Program for "The Way To Justice Initiative". She's an African American, award-winning activist, and influential advocate for people impacted by systemic injustice, with a special focus on women and individuals re-integrating into society. Virla is passionate about removing barriers and empowering women and young people of color. Her mission is to dismantle the barriers that hinder growth in the lives of minorities.

CAMERINA ZORROZUA (she/her)

Chicano activist and attorney located in Spokane, Washington. 2001-2004 Gonzaga School of Law, Co-Founder and Reentry Program Director for The Way To Justice Initiative.

Camerina's work is focused on providing low-income clients with legal assistance and advocacy to promote successful reentry, post-conviction relief, racial justice, systems accountability, and community-led reforms. Before transitioning into non-profit work in 2017, Camerina oversaw criminal and family law caseloads with the Maxey Law Office.

ADVISING BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR (BIPOC) OWNED BUSINESSES

BEN CABILDO

AHANA Founder & Director Jun 2019 – Present

VP & Small Business Mentor – SCORE Jul 2019 – Present

President of the Board of Directors - Re*Imagine Medical Lake Apr 2015 – Present

Community-Minded Enterprises - CMTV 14 Executive Producer Jan 2014 – Present

AHANA /CMTV14 Marketing Director Community-Based Economic Development Jan 1999 – Present

Board of Directors - Spokane Tribal Enterprises Jan 2010 – Aug 2012

Principal and Personal Financial Advisor - C&L Financial Services Jan 1993 – Dec 1999

NIMA MOTAHARI

Womer & Associates - Project Management
Apr 1985 – Present

Bovay Northwest/Dames & Moore - Marketing Director
Jan 1980 – Apr 1985

BRIANA ORTEGA

Education

- Gonzaga University, School of Law (J.D., 2019; Magna Cum Laude; Articles Editor, Gonzaga Journal of International Law)
- University of Arizona (B.A. Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law, 2016)

Professional Memberships

- Washington State Bar Association
- Spokane County Bar Association
- Spokane County Bar Association Diversity Section
- Spokane County Bar Association Intellectual Property Section | Secretary, 2019-2020
- Spokane County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
- Inland Northwest Society for Human Resource Management

Background

Briana is an associate attorney at Stamper Rubens, P.S. She practices all areas of civil litigation, with a focus in business and employment law. Prior to joining Stamper Rubens, P.S., Briana worked as a law clerk for the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Washington where she prosecuted misdemeanor offenses and assisted in complex civil litigation.

While earning her law degree, Briana served as a student liaison to the Washington State Courts Minority and Justice Commission, Captain of the Trial Team, and Articles Editor to the Gonzaga Journal of International

Law. Briana is involved in the Spokane community, serving as a proud Big Sister for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Northwest, member of the Rotaract Club of Spokane, and member of Toastmasters International.

Smash the School to Prison Pipeline

MODERATOR INGA LAURENT

Inga Laurent is a Fulbright scholar, deeply interested in improving our legal systems and schools, and she has taught students for over 10 years at Gonzaga University School of Law.

ROBERT MURPHY

Bob Murphy is a former trial judge with juvenile justice responsibilities from the state of Oklahoma and most recently was an Administrative Law Judge with the Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings. He is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.

JAZZMINE LINDSEY

Jazzmine is a parent and soon to graduate with a BA in education. She brings her personal experience of a student in the Spokane Public Schools and its impacts on her life.

NICOLE ROSENKRANTZ

Nicole is the Community Partnerships Manager at Spokane Public Schools with a 17 career in juvenile justice. Her dream is to disrupt the school to prison pipeline. She also serves as the President of the JUST LEAD Board.

ROSEY THURMAN

Rosey is the Managing Attorney at TeamChild in Spokane and a member of Every Student Counts Alliance to eliminate disproportionate discipline to students of disability and color in the Spokane Public Schools.

VANESSA TORRES HERNANDEZ

Vanessa Torres Hernandez is the Director of Advocacy at the Northwest Justice Project, where she manages the advocacy of over 160 lawyers across Washington who provide civil legal services to low income people. She was formerly the Youth Policy Director of the ACLU of Washington, and is a parent of public school students and former middle school teacher who has been working to address the inequities in the school to prison pipeline for 20 years.