

28th Annual Rulemaking Seminar

The 1, 2, 3's of Rulemaking

PRESENTERS

October 5, 2023

In-person/Live Webcast Hybrid

Dave Orren (Moderator) is a retired lawyer. Dave spent most of his legal career with the state of Minnesota, working five years for the Department of Public Safety and 26 years for the Department of Health. Most relevant to the Rulemaking Seminar, Dave worked many years as a rule writer. Dave took notes, letters, forms, notices, and other documents from his early rules projects and used them to produce the first edition of the Minnesota Rulemaking Manual in 1996. He served as the editor until 2006. After his work on rules, Dave was Chief Legal Counsel for the Department of Health from 2006 to 2018. Dave also had an interesting side career of coaching college women's volleyball for 30 seasons at the University of St. Thomas.

Brittany Wysokinski is an attorney with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry and has advised on a number of rulemakings for both the agency and the boards it supports. In addition to working on regular rulemakings covering a variety of topics, her work has also included good cause exempt, exempt, and expedited rulemakings. Brittany is also part of the team that is revising the Rulemaking Manual. Prior to joining the Department in the Spring of 2021, she worked as an attorney for the United States Postal Service in Washington, D.C., providing advice primarily in the areas of government ethics and the Freedom of Information Act. She received her law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Andi Barker is the Policy and Rules Coordinator for the Department of Transportation where she is currently working on several rule packages. Prior to joining MnDOT in the summer of 2019, she spent twenty years at the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design and the Board of Accountancy and served as the Rules Coordinator for the boards for ten. During that time, she completed thirteen rule packages, some large and some small and several with administrative hearings. Additionally, for the past year she has been serving on the three-person Minnesota Rulemaking Manual editing team working on a full overhaul and update to the Manual.

Ian Lewenstein has spent his entire career in state government, specializing in legal drafting and rulemaking. He has worked for the Revisor's Office and several state agencies, helping to write regulations in plain language. Lewenstein works for the Bureau of Mediation Services and advocates for plain language in his free time by serving on the board of the Center for Plain Language and by contributing to various publications including the *Michigan Bar Journal's* Plain Language column, *Bench & Bar of Minnesota*, and more.

Parisa Rouzgar is a Policy and Legislative Coordinator for the Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan where they coordinate with the broader Governor's Office, legislature, and external partners regarding the day-to-day work of the Policy and Legislative Affairs Department. Parisa is Persian American, part of the LGBTQIA2+

community, and the child of an immigrant. Prior to working at the Governor's Office, Parisa participated in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) program in high school and graduated from Normandale Community College with an Associates Degree prior to receiving their high school diploma. Parisa also graduated from Hamline University in three years with a Baccalaureate Degree and triple major in Public Health, Sociology, and Women and Gender Studies. Parisa was also a Public Engagement Intern for the Governor's Office in the spring of 2021.

Denise Collins serves as Court Administrator for the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings. Denise began her career in state government as a legal secretary in the Minnesota Attorney General's Office in 1985. In 2005, Denise joined OAH as the Lead Legal Secretary in the Administrative Law Division. She has had several different positions since then within OAH, and in March 2017 became the Court Administrator.

Adam Wolkoff has served as Deputy Chief Judge with the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings since 2017. He became a Workers' Compensation Judge in 2008, and was a Judge Supervisor from October 2014 to May 2017. He is also a Qualified Neutral on the Minnesota Supreme Court's roster of neutrals, and regularly conducts mediations and settlement conferences in matters pending before OAH. Previously, Judge Wolkoff was a managing attorney at The Hartford. In addition to defending clients in workers' compensation, personal lines and commercial lines matters, he was also a strong leader in quality management and continuous process improvement. He also practiced as an attorney at Travelers Insurance and Gilmore, Aafedt, Forde, Anderson & Gray, P.A. Judge Wolkoff received a B.A. from Boston University, and a J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law.

Jason Kuenle has been an attorney with the Revisor of Statutes since 2008. He is now an Assistant Deputy Revisor and his duties include managing the production of Revisor publications, supervising the publication indexes, presenting on drafting standards, and drafting in higher education, elections, administrative law, and data practices. He received his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis, where he earned the Samuel M. Breckenridge Book Award for Excellence in Legal Writing and was selected to the Order of the Barristers.

Elizabeth Carlson has spent most of her 30 years at the Department of Natural Resources in its Office of Policy and Planning. She has a Master of Planning from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Beth does a variety of project and programmatic work using her skills and experience in strategic planning, facilitation and mediation, and public participation. She has served as DNR Rules Coordinator since 2007 and is an active participant in the Interagency Rules Committee.

Vanessa Vogl has been the Rulemaking Attorney at the Minnesota Department of Human Services since 2016. Vanessa has completed a variety of rulemakings: large rule overhauls, small but significant rule updates, obsolete rule repeals, and good cause exempt rulemakings. She is also currently assisting the Office of Cannabis Management with the creation of the adult-use cannabis rules. Vanessa has been on the annual Rulemaking Seminar planning committee since 2017. She has also presented CLEs about various aspects of rulemaking and is particularly interested in how rulemaking can promote equity. She received her law degree from Hamline University School of Law in 2009.

Patina Park, J.D. serves as a senior advisor and Executive Director of Tribal State Relations in the Office of Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan where she directs the government-to-government relationship between the Governor's office and Tribal Nations and works closely with staff across the Enterprise to advise on issues affecting policy impacting the Tribal Nations and tribal communities. Over the past 20 years, she has worked with tribal and state governments, and with urban Native communities in various roles. She has represented Native families in state and tribal courts as an ICWA attorney and served a tribal court appellate judge. She has taught Federal Indian Law as an adjunct law professor and held leadership positions with the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis Division of Indian Work, and the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice. Ms. Park has been faculty with the Falmouth Institute for over 12 years.

Ms. Park is Mnicoujou Lakota, her biological family comes from the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Sioux Tribes and her adoptive family is Osage. She graduated from Arizona State University with an undergraduate in Psychology and obtained her Juris Doctorate from Hamline University School of Law. Ms. Park is married and the mother of 3 boys. She also has 2 demanding cats and a very naughty but adorable dog.

IDEA Café

Ashley (Storm) Oolman, MBA was born and raised in Minnesota and is a wife and mama of 3. As a bi-racial Black neurodivergent woman, leaning into differences to strengthen human connection has been a means to both survival and healing. Her work has been featured on several podcasts, blogs, and she has presented and keynoted at state, national and international conferences. Ashley brings lived experience, multiple degrees, and an unwavering belief that we all have the power to change the future. Together with partners from all walks, she co-creates spaces for disruption and re-learning, designed to advance equity, reconciliation, and ultimately, change.

Nancy Rice works at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) where she studies water reuse and works on rulemaking for health risk limits. She also has a strong interest in accessibility so that information produced by MDH is more readily accessible to all. Today Nancy will be demonstrating CommonLook software for PDF accessibility. This software reduces the time needed to make a PDF document accessible.

Jay Wyant is Minnesota's first Chief Information Accessibility Officer, or CIAO! He leads the Office of Accessibility at the State of Minnesota. The Office of Accessibility works with Minnesota state agencies to imbed accessibility into the State's culture. We collaborate with agency and MNIT partner Digital Accessibility Coordinators to empower agencies with effective and sustainable polices, processes, tools, procedures that ensure digital government operations and services are accessible and usable for all.

Rita Williams-Larson has worked for the State of MN for over 30 years. Her experience includes computer software development, cyber security and digital accessibility. She currently works for MNIT@PCA.

Fadume Ashiro is a Vendor Specialist with the Minnesota Department of Administration in the Office of Equity in Procurement (OEP). Performs initial review of certification applications, ensuring that applicants have provided all necessary documentation as appropriate for the business. Monitor department and state agency utilization of TG/ED/VO businesses to ensure inclusion of these businesses in state purchasing and contracting by regularly run reports at the agency level as well as statewide.

Aaron Anderson is a Vendor Specialist with the Minnesota Department of Administration in the Office of Equity in Procurement (OEP). He is responsible for promoting diversity and inclusion within state government procurement, representing the program at various workshops and trade shows and providing information about Minnesota Small Business Procurement Program to interested vendors. His role also includes providing procurement diversity reporting to all state agencies, setting subcontracting goals on the State of Minnesota construction projects, as well as monitoring the utilization of TG/ED/VO vendors to meet the goals established on those construction projects.

Aaron is an advocate for minority owned business and regularly assists owners on navigating state and local procurements. This includes help registering in the relevant supplier portals, helping with small business certifications, and helping connect them with opportunities. education and providing additional community resources.