



Noella A. Sudbury
Distinguished Service Award
Presented July 2022

Noella graduated from the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in 2009 and has already had a full and diverse career. Following a clerkship for the Honorable Ronald Nehring of the Utah Supreme Court, she began her legal practice as a public defender, where she quickly developed a passion for criminal justice reform. In 2016, Noella was appointed by the Salt Lake County Council as the Director of the Criminal Justice Advisory Council for the County, and in that role, led the successful bipartisan legislative campaign to pass Utah's Clean Slate law--a new law that automates the criminal record expungement process for more than 450,000 Utahns.

Noella went on to found Clean Slate Utah, a non-profit to raise awareness of the automatic clearance law, and is the current CEO and Founder of Rasa Public Benefit Corporation, a new legal tech company that provides low-cost legal expungement services to people not eligible for automatic record clearance. Noella has received several honors and awards for her public service, including being recognized as a Young Alumna of the Year, by the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, the 2019 Woman of the Year by Utah Business Magazine, and as a Pioneer of the National Clean Slate Movement, from the National Clean Slate Initiative.

Hon. Laura S. Scott
Judge of the Year
Presented July 2022



Associate Presiding Judge Laura Scott was appointed to the Third District Court in 2014. She handles a civil calendar and currently serves on the Utah Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure and Ethics Advisory Committee. She also serves as an ex officio member of the executive committees of the Salt Lake County Bar Association and Women Lawyers of Utah. She has received the Utah State Bar's Professionalism Award and James B. Lee Mentoring Award and the Litigation Section's Judicial Excellence Award. Judge Scott also has taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law.

Judge Scott received a Bachelor's of Arts degree from the University of Utah and a Juris Doctor degree from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. After graduation, she served as Assistant General Counsel for the University of Utah. She then joined the law firm of Parsons Behle & Latimer, where she practiced commercial and real estate litigation until she joined the bench. Judge Scott is an American Bar Foundation Fellow, a former vice chair of the Ethics and Discipline Committee of the Utah Supreme Court, and a past president of the Salt Lake County Bar Association. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she served on the boards of Salt Lake Valley Habitat for Humanity and the University of Utah Crimson Club.

Laura Milliken Gray
Lawyer of the Year
Presented July 2022



Laura Milliken Gray received Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor Degrees from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. She also holds a LL.M (Masters) in International Law from King's College, London, England, and a Certificate in International Human Rights Law and Practice from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

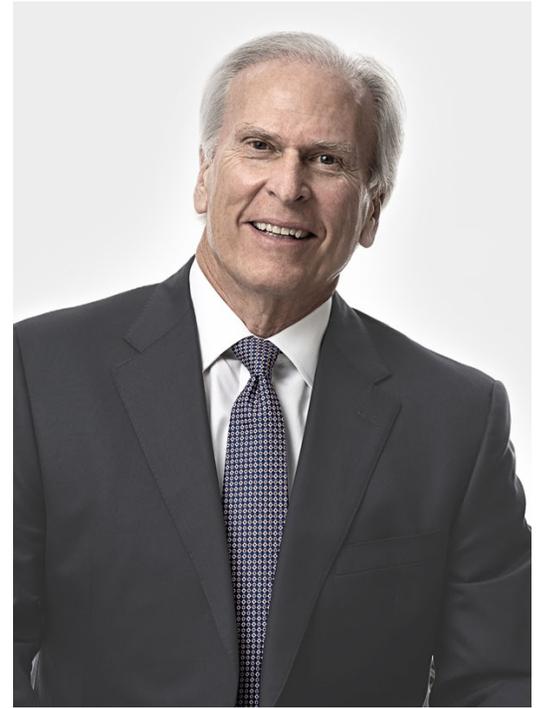
Laura served judicial clerkships with Utah Supreme Court Chief Justice Gordon R. Hall and with Utah Court of Appeals Judge James Z. Davis. She developed and taught an undergraduate course at the University of Utah entitled "Women and the Law."

From 1996-2008, she owned and operated her own law firm, Laura Milliken Gray, P.C., where she specialized in estate planning, business and elder law and protecting the rights of Utah's LGBT community. She has received several awards recognizing her work for Utah's LGBT citizens.

From 2008-2010, Laura took a hiatus from her law practice and moved to London, England. There, she studied international law and then accepted a position as a consultant with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva, Switzerland. Laura helped UNHCR develop and implement new global policy protecting refugees fleeing persecution based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Laura moved back to Utah in 2010 and in 2011 re-established her law practice, focusing on estate planning and protecting the rights of vulnerable adults. She is presently attempting to retire from the active practice of law and is spending more time with her wife and their dogs.

Richard enjoys a stellar reputation as a talented, first-tier trial lawyer with over 40 years of trial experience in both Utah and California. His courtroom experience includes scores of major jury trials in the areas of complex commercial litigation and catastrophic injury. He is admired for conducting a thorough review of cases to determine their merit, his meticulous and careful preparation, and his forceful and effective advocacy of each client's cause. Richard's closing arguments tend to gather a crowd.



Year after year, Super Lawyers Magazine has singled Richard out as one of the Top 10 trial lawyers in the Intermountain West, and Best Lawyers publication cited Richard as "Plaintiff's Personal Injury Litigation Lawyer of the Year" and as Utah's Top "Bet-the-Company Lawyers." He has also received the Trial Lawyer of the Year award from the American Board of Trial Advocates; has been listed as one of the Best Lawyers in America since 1995; and is one of Utah's Litigation Stars in Benchmark Litigation's Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys.

Richard D. Burbidge
Lifetime Service Award
Presented July 2022

Richard has achieved a highly regarded international and national reputation as President and a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a Fellow of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Dedicated to teaching the art and science of advocacy, Richard has been a frequent speaker and teacher in multiple trial seminars and served for years as an adjunct professor in trial advocacy at the University of Utah School of Law.



Debra M. Nelson
Distinguished Service Award
Presented July 2022

Debra M. Nelson is the Chief Appellate Officer for Utah’s first state-funded appellate defense office—the Indigent Appellate Defense Division. The IADD is responsible for providing appellate representation to indigent individuals, from third through sixth class counties, appealing their criminal convictions, parental termination, or juvenile delinquency determinations. IADD has also taken on the responsibility of serving as a resource for training and continued education for attorneys across the state committed to indigent defense, in particular appellate representation. Debra has dedicated her career to representing indigent individuals on appeal in proceedings before the Utah Supreme Court and Utah Court of Appeals.

Debra received her Juris Doctor from the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law in 2001, where she was a Staff Member for the University of Utah Law Review. Following graduation, she clerked for the Honorable Pamela T. Greenwood of the Utah Court of Appeals. Debra currently serves as a member of the Utah Supreme Court Standing Committee on Appellate Representation, the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions, and the Utah Supreme Court Ethics and Discipline Committee.



Business Law Section
Section of the Year Award
Presented July 2022

Yes, we are on an island at the edge of the Pacific Ocean with beautiful views and incredible beaches but let's start out by sharing some great news about Utah - especially when it comes to business.

In the last three years, Utah has been named:

- #1 State for the Middle Class
- #1 State Best Economic Outlook
- #1 State for Covid 19 Performance
- #1 and #2 Best State Economy (depending on the report)
- #3 State for Business
- #3 Best State overall
- #4 Best State for Millennial Business Owners

The Business Law Section has taken inspiration from these accolades and aimed to lead a section that contributes to our state's economic and business climate. The 2021-22 Business section leadership consisted of Klea Harris, (Chair), Adam Revelli (Vice-chair), David Read (Treasurer), and Jason Perry (Secretary). We believe this kind of recognition deserves a business law section that is vibrant, robust, and has accessible resources for the business community and the lawyers who serve them. With that in mind, we deliberately focused on four key initiatives starting with a completely redesigned website at businesslaw.utahbar.org.

Several years ago, 40+ members of the business law section collaborated to create over 35 articles comprising a treatise on the intersection of Utah law and business. Previous efforts to arrange for publication and sale of the treatise hit dead ends. Therefore, the section decided to create a home for the treatise as the centerpoint of our new website. We made it fully searchable and accessible for all section members at no additional cost. Our site also has an attorney directory searchable by specialty and geographic location. If you would like to have access to the treatise and the accompanying materials as well as have your name included in our directory we invite you to join the business law section.

Secondly, Jason Perry focused monthly CLE offerings by updating or enhancing a treatise topic. The treatise is continually being improved by pairing recorded Zoom CLEs. If you would like to enhance the treatise by submitting an article, linking a blog post that you have included on your own firm site, have a suggested topic you would like addressed, or are interested in teaching a CLE we invite you to join the business law section and reach out to John Guild or another member of our leadership team.

Thirdly, to bring further depth to our resource library, we have begun preparations to offer a podcast to further explore contemporary topics in Utah Business Law. This podcast will also provide a platform for Utah entrepreneurs, business leaders, and attorneys to explore new and better ways to serve the Utah business community. If you would like to be a featured guest on this podcast or would like to recommend someone please reach out to David Read or another member of our leadership team.

And finally, to pave the way for a more friendly business environment, the Utah Business Section has explored a forthcoming opportunity with the University of Utah and J. Reuben Clark law schools. This will provide experiences for law students to contribute to a harmonization of the Utah Corporate Code with the Model Business Corporations Act.

**Licensed Paralegal Practitioner
Committee**
Committee of the Year Award
Presented July 2022



Since its formation in 2019, the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee has conducted a series of important and wide-reaching work to extensively study how the legal system can envision new ways of mitigating our access to justice crisis. In 2018, the Supreme Court tasked the Utah State Bar with implementing the licensing schema for this program, which to date has licensed 23 LPPs in the areas of family law, debt collection and landlord tenant law.

The Committee began as a Task Force to analyze a novel idea—conferring a limited scope legal license to highly qualified and specially trained individuals to dispense invaluable legal services to the soaring population of pro-se litigants in the state of Utah. Taking from the 2015 Supreme Court report on the topic, which identified the three greatest areas of unmet legal needs as family law, debt collection, and eviction matters, the Task Force utilized various experts to effectuate this new licensing scheme. Experts in the judiciary, academic curriculum, practicing lawyers, paralegals, and legal regulation convened to map out the complex regulatory landscape for this new profession, accounting for the admissions qualifications, licensing schema, and market landscape. Since this time, the committee, now chaired by Third District Court Judge Amber Mettler, has made bold innovations to improve access to this profession while maintaining its educational rigor, all while balancing the consistent goal of affordability and access for low and middle income Utahns.

The LPP Steering Committee would like to thank the Bar for this recognition and for the various individuals who have lent their time and expertise to this mission.

Committee Members:

- Judge Amber Mettler (Chair)
- Steve Johnson
- Julie Emery
- Jacqueline Esty-Morrison
- Monte Sleight
- Meredith Farrell
- Susan Morandy
- Tonya Wright
- Matt Page, Bar Staff Liaison
- Scotti Hill, Bar Staff Liaison
- AJ Torres, Bar Staff Liaison