



2025 ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION SEMINAR

Hearing Officer Training

Speaker Bios

MICHAEL F. CARROLL

Mike Carroll has been an attorney for nearly three decades. He currently specializes in governmental relations and municipal law. He began his career in a law firm that concentrated on Criminal Defense and there, he took hundreds of cases to trial or hearing. He has been appointed as a prosecutor of criminal, ordinance, and administrative matters throughout Northern Illinois. He has served as an administrative hearing officer in approximately a dozen municipalities throughout Illinois and has trained and certified attorneys in that capacity for nearly ten years.

Mike previously served as Vice-President and Finance Chairman for Orland School District 135 and was a Trustee, Finance Chairman and Public Works Chairman for the Village of Orland Park. He spent three years as Deputy City Manager and Chief Legal Officer for the City of Portage, Michigan and is approved for reciprocity by the Michigan Supreme Court.

In recent months, Mike has served as the Prosecuting Attorney for the Village of Tinley Park's Civil Service Commission in the termination of a union employee, has drafted multiple ordinances and has provided counsel to several of our clients in the area of video gaming law and taxation.

KELLEY A. GANDURSKI

Kelley Gandurski is an executive and legal professional who has spent her career in both the public and private sectors, in traditional legal practice and executive city management. She has represented local governments such as the City of Chicago and the City of Evanston in all aspects of municipal law, operations, and crisis management.

Kelley began her career in the City of Chicago Law Department practicing in civil prosecutions and defense matters. She was recruited to private practice and worked for a number of years on municipal, commercial, and subrogation and tort cases (plaintiff and defense), practicing in multiple states (in both federal and state court). Kelley has been the lead attorney on several jury and bench trials throughout her career. In 2016, Kelley returned to the City of Chicago as a Supervising Attorney in the Municipal Prosecutions Division. She was then appointed by the Mayor of Chicago to be the Executive Director of Chicago Animal Care and Control, where she managed a department of 80 employees (union and non-union), as well as over 300 volunteers. Kelley and the Department garnered worldwide accolades in the handling of numerous high-profile matters.

In 2020, the City of Evanston recruited Kelley to become the City's Corporation Counsel. After successfully managing the city through the COVID-19 pandemic, Kelley was asked to become Deputy City Manager, overseeing four municipal departments. Upon the previous City Manager's departure in 2021, the Evanston City Council appointed Kelley as the Interim City Manager, overseeing all aspects of governmental function for the City of Evanston. In this role, Kelley combined her legal and executive expertise to create multiple systems for efficient operations, managing personnel matters, creating space for community dialogue, reporting to the city council on all aspects of city operations, and steering to passage the city's \$360 million budget. Kelley also lead her team in creating and securing city council passage of the city's \$43 million plan under the American Rescue Plan Act.

JUDGE DENIS GUEST

Law Judge Denis Guest has served as a law judge since 1997. Law Judge Denis Guest earned a Certification in Judicial Development Administrative Adjudication Skills from the National Judicial College.

Law Judge Denis Guest earned a master's degree in Judicial Studies from the National Judicial College/University of Nevada Reno.

Law Judge Denis Guest studied at the International Academy for Judges at the Haifa Law School in Israel for three years (three weeks per year). At the Academy, he studied with judges from all over the world including Supreme Court Justices.

MARCUS MARTINEZ

Marcus Martinez is an attorney for Elrod Friedman LLP, a municipal and land use law firm. Mr. Martinez received his Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law in 2008. Mr. Martinez focuses his practice on complex litigation, zoning, and licensing. Prior to joining Elrod Friedman, Marcus served in the City of Chicago's Department of Law for thirteen years in the Real Estate and Land Use Division and the Legal Information and Prosecutions Division.

Relevant to administrative adjudications, Mr. Martinez has represented local governments in thousands of administrative hearing and administrative review cases on behalf of many communities. He has appeared in such capacity in a variety of venues, including before the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and the circuit courts of Cook and Lake.

DR. DIANA UCHIYAMA, JD, PSYD, CAADC

Dr. Uchiyama is the Executive Director of the Illinois Lawyers' Assistance Program (LAP). Prior to joining LAP, she was the Administrator of Psychological Services for DuPage County and ran a licensed outpatient substance use treatment program, including a Mentally Ill Substance Abuse (MISA) program and Seeking Safety program for individuals with substance use problems, who were also trauma survivors.

While at DuPage County she also ran a 26-week Domestic Batterer Intervention Program for a court mandated population of clients.

Dr. Uchiyama has also worked for the Kane County Diagnostic Center, as both a Staff Psychologist and Juvenile Drug Court Coordinator and has an extensive background doing court ordered evaluations including psychological, sanity, fitness, fitness to parent, and sex offender evaluations. She is a licensed sex offender evaluator in the State of Illinois. She has implemented numerous changes to court ordered programs both in Kane and DuPage County and is a SAMSHA certified trauma informed care trainer. Dr. Uchiyama also conducts therapy with adults and adolescents, is a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and has an Advanced Mindfulness Training Certificate, teaching mindfulness skills to others in order to increase their wellbeing.

Prior to obtaining her master's and doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Dr. Uchiyama was an Assistant Public Defender in Cook County working in various felony courtrooms at 26th and California in Chicago for over a decade. She obtained her law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law.