

**Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois
McLean County
Court-Certified Mediator Biographies**

Karen Anderson, Ed.D.

Dr. Anderson has been an Eleventh Circuit court-approved mediator of parenting and financial issues for twenty-eight years. In addition to being an approved mediator in the Eleventh Circuit, she has also mediated Americans with Disabilities Act disputes for the Department of Justice, the return of children who have been abducted by a family member for Child Find, Inc. and wetland disputes for the United States Department of Agriculture, and is a Parenting Coordinator for high conflict parents in McLean County. Dr. Anderson works to accommodate a parent's work schedule by offering daytime through last afternoon / early evening appointments. Her goal is to enable parents to mutually agree upon a parenting plan that takes into consideration the unique nature of each family. She can be reached at (309) 828-2247 or via e-mail at passionarabians@aol.com.

Samantha Bossingham

Ms. Bossingham spent 15 years at Bloomington District 87, educating young teens and adolescents, and then chose to pursue her passion in helping others through mediation. In 2001, she received her Bachelors of Science Educational Degree at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois. In 2004, she earned her Master's Degree in Educational Administration through Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. Teaching has enabled Samantha to learn the techniques and skills necessary to effectively communicate and mediate with diverse personalities to achieve goals. In November 2017, she received her Divorce Mediation Certificate from Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois. To establish her business, Boss Mediations, Samantha will be offering her services from her home office in LeRoy during regular business hours along with evenings and weekends. She can be reached at (217) 249-9316 or via e-mail at samanthaboss@samanthaboss.com.

Gene Carson Brucker - Attorney at Law

Mr. Brucker has been an attorney in Central Illinois since 2001. Raised in rural Cropsey, Illinois, he attended Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois, and obtained his law degree from Penn State. He has been helping real people with their family-related and other legal issues since becoming a lawyer. He has been certified as a local mediator. He can be reached at (309) 829-9400 or via e-mail at info@bruckerlaw.com.

Laurelyn Cropek, LCSW

Ms. Cropek is a certified divorce and custody (domestic relations) mediator. Located in Paxton, Illinois, Ms. Cropek often works with clients from Ford County and also with clients from other parts of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois. She has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker since 1993 and a certified divorce and custody mediator since 2011. Ms. Cropek

is the Executive Director of Community Resources and Counseling Center, Inc. (“CRCC”), and is experienced in working with a variety of individual and family concerns. She can be reached at (217) 379-4302 or via e-mail at info@4crcc.org.

Jaime Ganschow, Attorney at Law

Ms. Ganschow is an attorney and mediator in Bloomington, Illinois. Jaime serves families and individuals in the community through mediation in several realms. She is approved by the Eleventh Judicial Circuit for family/parenting mediation, small claims mediation and child protection mediation, all of which help parties resolve their disputes outside the sometimes adversarial environment of the courtroom. Along with her professional experience, Jaime is a parent of three children, and understands the importance of developing a parenting plan that balances and addresses the unique needs of each child. She can be reached at (309) 310-3648 or via e-mail at jganschow@ganschowlaw.com.

Mary Ivy, LCSW, SSW

Ms. Ivy is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (“LCSW”), a licensed School Social Worker (“SSW”) and a certified child custody and visitation mediator. She is entering her twenty-third year working in the Bloomington/Normal area in the Social Service field. Her experience includes providing counseling to clients with diverse mental health challenges. She also provides individual and group counseling to special education students with behavior disorders and learning disabilities. Her areas of specialty include mediation, crisis prevention and intervention, conflict resolution, parent education and family support. Ms. Ivy can be reached at (309) 261-4057 or via e-mail at ivymediation@gmail.com.

Jessica L. Jones, Attorney at Law

Ms. Jones is an attorney and mediator in Bloomington, Illinois and serves clients throughout the 11th judicial circuit. She has been mediating family cases since 2009. Jessica also practices family law which gives her an added perspective when working with families to help them resolve their differences. Jessica has extensive experience working with families that have a member or members struggling with substance abuse. Jessica is co-chair of the family law committee in Mclean County as well as President of the Mclean County Recovery Court Advisory Board. She is a mother of two and understands the emotional and logistical challenges of developing a working parenting plan that fits the needs the children and both parents. She can be reached at (309) 827-8551 or via e-mail at jessica@ogarmiller.com.

Kathleen M. Kraft, Attorney at Law

Ms. Kraft has been assisting families in divorce and parentage matters as a lawyer for over twenty years and as a mediator for more than ten years. She received her mediation training from Northwestern University in 2005. She has been approved by the Eleventh Judicial Circuit for both parenting and financial mediation. She is a partner in the law firm of Thomson &

Weintraub, LLC. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, is a Section Council member of the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section and is active in the McLean County Bar Association. She can be reached at (309) 829-7069 or via e-mail at kmkraft@tnwlaw.com.

Becky Leenerman

Ms. Leenerman is an educator with a Master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction from Illinois State University. She has teaching experience at the 5th grade through college level. In 2004 while expecting the first of her three sons, she became the guardian to 3 young children after her sister and brother-in-law were killed in a plane crash. As a result of that experience, she developed skills that prompted her to pursue a Master's in Counseling from Bradley University. She obtained her license in 2012. Becky added the mediation certification from Northwestern University in 2017. She is eager to help parties work through challenges and will promote agreement in a safe, future focused environment. She can be reached at (309) 825-0634 or via e-mail at weblee22@hotmail.com.

Jeff W. Lindsay, Attorney at Law

Jeff W. Lindsay, shareholder of the Law Firm of Jeff W. Lindsay, P.C., is a graduate of Illinois State University and DePaul University College of Law. Mr. Lindsay is licensed to practice before the Supreme Court of Illinois, the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois and the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. His practice areas primarily include mediation, family law, criminal defense and civil litigation. Mr. Lindsay also advocates for clients in the areas of animal law, employment law, school law, business law, consumer law, wills and trusts and real estate transactions. Mr. Lindsay is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association, the McLean County Bar Association, Rotary International and the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He represents multiple not-for-profit organizations, is a Fellow of the Illinois Bar Foundation and has lectured on Philanthropy and Planned Giving at Yale University, the University of New Haven, the University of Northern Arizona, the University of Missouri and DePaul University. He can be reached at (309) 827-5426 or via e-mail at jeff@jeffwlindsay.com.

Marie McCurdy, LCSW, ACSW, ICDV

Ms. McCurdy is an Illinois Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a licensed Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professional, and had completed the forty-hour Illinois mediation training. She graduated from the Illinois State University MSW program. She has worked locally with families in crisis since 1990. She has been a member of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council since 2002. McCurdy and Associates, LLC was established in 2004 in the Bloomington/Normal area. She can be reached at (309) 310-4914 or via e-mail at mariemccurdy16@gmail.com.

Ed McKibbin, J.D.

Mr. McKibbin resides in Normal where he serves as the Students' Attorney at Illinois State University, a position he has held since December 2005. Prior to this time, Mr. McKibbin was in private practice in Wahoo, Nebraska. While engaged in the private practice of law, he regularly handled family law cases. Mr. McKibbin was trained to serve as a mediator for foreclosure cases in April 2011, and he has handled numerous foreclosure mediations since that time. Mr. McKibbin is a member of the Bloomington Central Catholic Board of Advisors, the McLean County Extension Foundation Board, the Extension Council and the Unity Community Center Advisory Council. He can be reached at (309) 242-2982 or via e-mail at mckibbin2004@gmail.com.

Wilma McLaughlin, LCPC

Ms. McLaughlin is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, and works with Agape Counseling in their Bloomington office. In her practice as a mental health professional, Ms. McLaughlin works with children, parents, couples and single adults with a focus on improving relationships and personal understanding. Ms. McLaughlin received her Master's Degree in Human Development Counseling from the University of Illinois Springfield, and is trained in EMDR, Theraplay, CBT and the Feeling State Addiction Protocol, and holds a Multi-disciplinary Certificate in Child and Adolescent Mental Health for the University of Illinois. Ms. McLaughlin has been a court-approved mediator in McLean County since 2006. Her office is located at Agape Counseling, 211 N Veterans Parkway, Bloomington 61704. She can be reached at (309) 663-2229 or via e-mail at wmclaughlin@agapecounselors.net.

Todd C. Miller, Attorney at Law

Mr. Miller is an experienced and respected attorney who has practiced law in the State of Illinois for over twenty-five years. He moved to Central Illinois from the Chicago area in 1990. His practice has focused on family law and, in particular, child support issues. Mr. Miller has spoken extensively to bar, governmental and community groups on issues related to child support enforcement.

Mr. Miller is known for his strong negotiating skills, and believes that a well-negotiated settlement is preferable to drawn-out litigation. However, he also has extensive courtroom experience in a number of Central Illinois counties. Mr. Miller is a past member of the Illinois State Bar Association's Law-Related Education for the Public standing committee. He is also actively involved in the McLean County Bar Association, serving on the Continuing Legal Education committee and the Underwood Committee and co-chairing the Bench and Bar Committee.

Mr. Miller is currently the President of the Board of Directors of Recovery Starts Today (the McLean County Drug Court Board), and serves as co-chairman of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit's Pro Bono Committee. He is also an adjunct professor of Family Law at Illinois State University. He can be reached at (309) 827-8551 or via e-mail at service@ogarmiller.com (please add "Attn: Todd Miller" in subject line).

Kristin Nieminski, Attorney at Law

Ms. Nieminski is a Child Custody and Visitation Mediator certified by the 11th Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois, McLean County Bar Association, and Resolve Conflict, LLC. Kristin joined Koth & Gregory in January 2010. In September 2016, Kristin became a partner in the law firm now named Koth, Gregory & Nieminski. Kristin practices primarily in the areas of Divorce & Family Law, Health Care Law, Creditor's Rights, and Wills & Estate Planning. She has taken a particular interest in divorce and family law cases involving issues such as property division, custody (significant decision-making), visitation (parenting time), child support, and alimony (maintenance/spousal support). Kristin takes a caring and active role in the community, assuming a leadership role in several associations and uses her legal prowess to guide clients through their divorce and family law issues. She can be reached at (309) 828-5090 or via e-mail at kniemins@netscape.net.

Honorable Charles Reynard, Circuit Judge (Retired)

Judge Reynard is a retired judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit in Central Illinois, having served as Circuit Judge from 2002-2016. At the time of his retirement, he was Presiding Judge of the Family Division of the Circuit Court, and he previously presided over major civil cases, as well as criminal felony proceedings. Judge Reynard was a four-term State's Attorney of McLean County, Illinois from 1987-2002. Judge Reynard previously worked as an Assistant Public Defender and criminal defense and family law attorney in private practice for ten years. He continues to serve as faculty for continuing legal education programs for practitioners, and is an adjunct professor of law at the University of Illinois College of Law. He also currently serves on the Children's Justice Task Force for the State of Illinois. His practice is limited to alternative dispute resolution, and he is certified by the court as a mediator and parenting coordinator. He can be reached at (309) 452-4733 or via e-mail at charlesreynard@gmail.com.

Todd Roseberry, Attorney at Law

Mr. Roseberry was admitted to the practice of law in 1998. He has a general law practice with a focus on family law and criminal law matters. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Mr. Roseberry worked as a caseworker with the Illinois Department of Public Aid, and served eight years in the Illinois Army National Guard as an Army Combat Medic and a Medical Laboratory Technician. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Eastern Illinois University (cum laude 1990) and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Illinois (1998). He has been trained as a Guardian ad Litem for children and as a Child Representative in family cases, and has served in this capacity on many occasions over the last ten years. He has been a mediator since 2016. He can be reached at (309) 829-3636 or via e-mail at office@sandrllawoffice.com.

Michelle Rothwell, MSW, LCSW, SSW

Ms. Rothwell has her Master's of Social Work ("MSW"). She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker ("LCSW"), a licensed School Social Worker ("SSW") and a certified child custody and visitation mediator. She has been working with children and families for the last

eighteen years. Her areas of specialty include mediation, child welfare, conflict resolution, crisis intervention, parent/family education and individual and group therapy. She has extensive knowledge of educational services, area schools and community resources available in McLean County, as well as how individuals and family can access those services. She can be reached at (309) 261-7881 or via e-mail at rothwellmediation@gmail.com.

Alice F. Smalley, Attorney at Law

Ms. Smalley's focus of her legal practice starting in 1989 has always been with assisting individuals with family matters. Ms. Smalley believes parents are the best judges in knowing their family's needs, and that through mediation, parenting plans can be agreed upon as to what is best for the future of their children.

Ms. Smalley is a McLean County native and a graduate of Illinois State University. In 2000, she became a certified Child Representative and Mediator, addressing parenting time and financial matters.

Ms. Smalley is a member of the McLean County and Illinois State Bar Associations, and has served as a board member and officer of the Children's Healthcare Council and Bloomington Daycare Center, while also volunteering with Prairie State Legal Services and accepting appointments by the Court as a Guardian ad Litem. She can be reached at (309) 828-4040 or via e-mail at alicesimalley@ymail.com.

Joe Vaughan, LCSW

Mr. Vaughan is the Executive Director of IHR Counseling Services in Pontiac, Illinois. Mr. Vaughan has been approved as a mediator within the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois since 2009. Mr. Vaughan typically mediates cases from the Livingston County area. Mr. Vaughan also meets with clients from other parts of the Eleventh Circuit. Mr. Vaughan typically meets with each parent individually prior to scheduling a joint session. He can be reached at (815) 844-6109 or via e-mail at vaughan@ihrponitac.com.

Gina Wood, Attorney at Law

Ms. Wood has been a court-approved mediator within the Eleventh Judicial Circuit since 2005, handling both parenting plan mediation and financial mediation. She received her mediation training from Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Wood is also a licensed attorney, having focused her private practice in the area of family law, and having handled a substantial variety of family law issues, including dissolution of marriage, parentage, parenting plans, child support, maintenance, distribution of marital estates and collection of support. She is a partner in the law firm of Thomson & Weintraub, LLC, where she has been a member since 1995. She can be reached at (309) 829-7069 or via e-mail at glwood@tnlaw.com.