

Wheeling Regional Meeting Presenter Bios

C. Casey Forbes

C. Casey Forbes is the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia and the Intermediate Court of Appeals of West Virginia. Casey is the sixteenth person to serve as Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia since the State was founded in 1863, and the second Clerk of the Intermediate Court of Appeals of West Virginia since it was founded in 2022.

Casey is a native of Charleston. He has a bachelor's degree in English from Shepherd University, a master's degree in English from the College of Charleston, S.C./Citadel, and a law degree from the University of Montana. He has worked in the Office of the Clerk since 2018 as a staff attorney then deputy clerk. He previously served as a staff attorney for the West Virginia Legislature; a writ clerk in the Supreme Court's Office of Counsel; an attorney in private practice, during which time he was appointed as a mental hygiene commissioner in and for Kanawha County; and an assistant attorney general.

Andrea J. Hinerman

Andrea J. Hinerman is the Senior Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel for the West Virginia Office of Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel. She joined the ODC in 2004 and has been Senior Lawyer Disciplinary Counsel since 2008. Prior to joining ODC, she served as a law clerk for the Honorable Irene C. Burger, now a District Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, when Judge Berger was a Circuit Judge with the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in Kanawha County, West Virginia, and for the late Honorable Robert E. Maxwell, Senior District Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia. She also was previously engaged in the private practice of law in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. She earned both her Bachelor of Arts (Magna Cum Laude) and her Juris Doctorate from West Virginia University.

Judge Ronald E. Wilson, First Judicial Circuit

Judge Ron Wilson is a graduate of Weir High School. He has a 1961 bachelor's degree from American University and a 1965 law degree from the University of Maryland. In 1968 he was one of one hundred young lawyers to be awarded a U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship. After completing the educational portion of the program at the University of Michigan Law School, he was assigned to the Charleston Legal Aid program for one year and the Neighborhood Legal Services in Pittsburgh for two years.

In 1971 he joined the law firm of Jordon and Flowers in New Cumberland; that firm subsequently Jordan and Wilson. He served one term in the House of Delegates in 1971-72.

Then-Governor Jay Rockefeller appointed him to the bench in First Judicial Circuit (Brooke, Hancock, and Ohio Counties) in 1981. He was elected in 1982 and re-elected in 1984, 1992, 2000, 2008, and 2016.

Judge Wilson is chairperson of the Judicial Investigation Commission and has presided over all asbestos personal injury litigation in the State of West Virginia since 2003. He has served as president of the West Virginia Judicial Association and was chairman of the committees responsible for revising the West Virginia Judicial canons and updating the West Virginia Rules of Evidence.

He provided a civil law update for a number of years at the circuit judge's educational conferences and has lectured on a variety of subjects – but with an emphasis on the rules of evidence – at those conferences. He also has taught evidence to West Virginia law clerks and Mental Hygiene Commissioners. Judge Wilson has taught courses for the West Virginia State Bar-WVU CLE programs, the West Virginia Association for Justice, and he has been an adjunct lecturer at West Liberty University and West Virginia Northern Community College. He also served on the Harvard Medical School, Department of Continuing Education faculty for its 2013 asbestos course.

In 2004, he was named a West Virginia Bar Foundation Fellow and in 2013 he was named Judge of the Year by the West Virginia Association for Justice. He has had articles published in the West Virginia Lawyer and his dissenting opinion in *MacDonald v. City Hospital* was published in full in the Advocate Magazine.

Judge David J. Sims

Judge Sims was born in Wheeling in 1961 and graduated from The Linsly School in 1979. He has a 1983 degree in history from Georgetown University and a 1987 law degree from West Virginia University College of Law.

He was an Ohio County Commissioner from 1995 to 2012 and the owner of Sims Law Offices in Wheeling from 1987 to 2012, where he focused on real estate and litigation, before being appointed to the bench in the First Judicial Circuit (Brooke, Hancock, and Ohio Counties) by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin in 2012. He ran and won the seat in 2014 and was re-elected in 2016.

He is a member of the West Virginia Judicial Association.

