

Beyond One L



# Beyond One L

*Stories About Finding Meaning and  
Making a Difference in Law*

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EDITED BY

NANCY LEVIT & ALLEN ROSTRON

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We dedicate this book with love to:

Tim, Dylan, Aaron, Jon, Jess, Macs, Clara, Barb, Bob, and Bonnie  
*NEL*

Cameron and Carter  
*AKR*

and with gratitude to the thousands of students  
who have enriched our lives.  
*NEL and AKR*



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# Introduction

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NANCY LEVIT & ALLEN ROSTRON

Scott Turow's *One L* is the classic account of the first year of law school. Every year, thousands of those about to enter law school, or just thinking about applying for admission, read Turow's riveting description of his experiences as a new student at Harvard Law School. The book has frightened, informed, and inspired a generation of lawyers-to-be.

*Beyond One L* is a collection of stories taking a further look at the often dramatic and sometimes traumatic experience of embarking on the study of law. The stories come from lawyers, law students, law professors, and judges, who attended a wide variety of law schools across the country. Several attended law school before Scott Turow, most in the years after. Two of the authors were in Turow's class at Harvard, but their experiences differed from his in intriguing ways. Many of the writers have taken their stories beyond just their first year in law school. They have written *Two L*, *Three L*, and *Bar Exam* for you. Some segue into their first years in practice. Others write about the game-changing events and decisions that altered the course of their practice or made them leave law altogether.

Much of what *One L* describes are universal truths about law school. Anyone who has run the gauntlet of legal education, no matter when or where, can relate to them. Trying to parse the dense verbiage of judicial opinions, being baffled by obscure legal terminology, relishing the atmosphere of intellectual excitement and competition, dreading the prospect of facing a decimating barrage of Socratic questioning in class. Admiring an eminently learned professor, or despising an exceedingly egotistical

one. Disdaining the “gunner” students who obsequiously seek professors’ attention, or dreading the possibility that you’ve become the “gunner” that all your classmates abhor. The fear of failure, the emotional roller coaster, the study groups, the nervous anticipation of grades, the camaraderie and bonding with fellow sufferers, the amount of focus that law school demands, the stress of having a course grade depend on a single exam at the end of the semester, the exhilaration of facing and surviving a momentous challenge. These and many other daunting and rewarding aspects of law school remain remarkably unchanged.

The diversity of law school experiences, and the way those experiences have changed over time, are equally striking. Turow arrived at the hallowed halls of Harvard in the fall of 1975, long before most of today’s law students were born. During Turow’s first few weeks of classes, Patty Hearst was arrested for armed robbery, former Teamsters’ Union president Jimmy Hoffa disappeared, and one of Charles Manson’s followers tried to assassinate President Gerald Ford. It was a time when disco music, mood rings, and pet rocks were the hot new fads. Law students did not have personal computers, the Internet, e-mail, or cell phones, let alone Westlaw, Lexis, Google, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter.

The vast majority of Turow’s classmates were male, white, and straight. Only about one in four of those who started law school in 1975 were women and less than one in ten were racial minorities. Today, nearly half of all law students are women and almost a quarter are minorities. Law schools now commonly have organizations for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered students.

And of course, most students entering one of the nation’s 200 law schools are not entering an Ivy League institution. Many are not, as Turow was, coming to law school after a prior career or with a spouse. Many law students are single, some are parents, some are pregnant, some are working during the day and attending law school at night.

Law school may not be as frantic, stressful, or miserable as it was in 1975. The process of legal education has changed over time and it is different at different schools. Many law professors believe in “humanizing” legal education. While they may use the Socratic method, they employ it in a less terrorizing manner. Law school is still incredibly demanding, but technology enhances the efficiency of students’ research, studying, out-

lining, and job searches. Law students in the new millennium can do a quick mass mail merge of their job search letters rather than typing each one individually on an Olivetti or a Selectric. Students now have access, for good or for ill, to blogs, discussion groups, and huge caches of outlines from prior semesters. They can readily call, text, e-mail, or Skype friends and family members for emotional support.

Most law schools today are kinder and gentler than Harvard was in 1975. The workload is somewhat less crushing, and most law schools have programs of academic support. The message is different. It used to be “Look to your left, look to your right, one of you won’t be here next year.” The message today at many schools is, “Look to your left, look to your right. These are the people who will be your colleagues, partners, or the judge in front of whom you will be practicing twenty years from now. Treat them well.” Classes now available at law schools across the country include Environmental Law, Animal Law, Law and Economics, and Negotiation. A number of schools offer mindfulness and meditation classes, and one law school in the northwest provides therapy dogs during finals. During law school, more students are finding their own directions rather than stepping on the institutional glide path where the only brass rings are top grades, Law Review, and a job offer from a big law firm. Law review and moot court are still premier activities at most schools, but there are many more activities, organizations, and ways to fit in. The first year of law school is often no longer a harrowing ordeal.

What comes after the 1L year is the path toward lawyers’ professional lives. The second and third years of law school are packed—with elective courses, internship or externship programs with judges or government agencies, live client clinics, moot court, and law journal experiences. Students are searching for jobs and studying for (and dreading) the bar exam, usually a two-day event with one day testing knowledge of multi-state law through 200 multiple choice questions and the other day devoted to a grueling series of essay questions. Law school grads faced a grim job market after the financial crisis of 2008, but the market began recovering in 2015 and the Bureau of Labor projects that over the next decade job growth for lawyers will be about average compared to other occupations. The median annual salary for lawyers in 2016 was \$118,160. The structure of legal practice is changing, with an increase in the number of solo practi-

tioners and small firms, globalization taking lawyers across the world, and the development of firm initiatives toward diversity, pro bono work, and community involvement.

The culture of legal practice is changing as well, with greater collaboration, teamwork, and mentoring. Law firms are becoming more nimble, recognizing both their clients' and lawyers' desires for something other than the billable hour model. As the Cleveland law firm of Tucker Ellis says, "Clients want to pay us for what we do, not how long it takes us to do it." Lawyers seek greater work-life balance and firms are beginning to accommodate them, with formal leave, flexible work schedules, and sabbatical policies. Truth be told, most law firms have not installed, as Google did in its Zurich office, a slide from an upper floor down to the lunchroom. But Bartlitt Beck offers a basketball court and a rock-climbing wall. A small firm in Kansas has a nice foosball table in the break room.

Most lawyers change jobs at least once—only 15 percent hold the same job at the end of their career that they had at graduation. The national average is to change jobs three times. Some lawyers who contributed stories for this book had real game-changers: a lawyer at a conference happens to wander into a session on judicial careers and winds up being inspired to become a judge; a college journalist becomes a lawyer and then ultimately goes back to writing and develops the largest legal tabloid blog in the country; a former state supreme court Chief Justice steps down from the bench and becomes a Buddhist monk. These stories are of people who found meaning in law or used their legal training as a springboard to another career. Some of the stories in *Beyond One L* offer, at least in some small part, an antidote to disillusionment with the legal profession.

Stories are a particularly fitting way to reflect on law school experiences and glimpse possible alternative futures. Storytelling is a fundamental part of legal practice, teaching, and thought. Telling stories as a method of practicing law reaches back to the days of the classical Greek orators who were lawyers. Before legal education became an academic matter, the apprenticeship system for training lawyers consisted of mentoring and telling "war stories."

Over the last few decades, storytelling has become a subject of enormous interest and controversy within the world of legal scholarship. Law review articles appeared in the form of stories. Law professors pointed out that legal decisions were really just stories that told a dominant narrative.

Critical theorists began to tell counterstories to challenge or critique the traditional canon. Some used fictional stories as a method of analytical critique; others told accounts of actual events in ways that gave voice to the experiences of outsiders.

Storytelling began to make its way into legal education in new ways. For instance, a major textbook publisher developed a new series of books that recount the stories behind landmark cases in specific subject areas, such as Torts or Employment Discrimination, to help students appreciate not only the players in major cases, but also the social context in which cases arise. Meanwhile, Scott Turow, John Grisham, and a legion of other lawyers invaded the realm of popular fiction and conquered the bestseller lists.

Legal theorists began to recognize what historians and practicing lawyers had long known and what cognitive psychologists were just discovering—the extraordinary power of stories. Stories are the way people, including judges and jurors, understand situations. People recall events in story form. Stories teach; they illuminate different perspectives and evoke empathy. Stories create bonds; their evocative details engage people in ways that sterile legal arguments do not.

The stories in *Beyond One L* reveal much about why the first year of law school leaves such intense and lasting impressions. Whether attending law school is in your future or your past, we hope you enjoy reading them.





## Authors' Biographies

MELISSA ANDERSON graduated from St. Mary's School of Law in 2011. As a child, Melissa and her siblings suffered severe abuse at the hands of her parents, who beat, tortured, and starved their 16 children. At the age of 17 she escaped by joining the Army, where she met her husband. After leaving active duty, Melissa began her journey to law school at a community college, working her way from basic arithmetic to a bachelor's degree at the University of Arizona and then on to law school. Melissa managed to graduate at the top of her class despite juggling her coursework with her responsibilities as a mother of six with a husband on active duty in Iraq. Melissa's father is now serving two life sentences for abusing Melissa and her siblings, and Melissa devotes her career to practicing family law and representing the victims of child abuse. Melissa is also the author of a children's book, *The Big Fib*.

IAN AYRES graduated from Yale Law School in 1986. Two years later, he earned a Ph.D. in Economics from M.I.T. Ian's wide-ranging interests have led him into a number of fields, and he has enjoyed success in each of them. In 2006, his book with Greg Klass, *Insincere Promises: The Law of Misrepresented Intent*, won the Scribes book award for legal scholarship. Ian also writes a column for *Forbes* magazine, contributes to the Freakonomics blog, and has been a commentator on public radio's *Marketplace*. All told, he has published 11 books and written more than 100 professional articles on a wide array of topics. His best-selling books include: *Carrots and Sticks: Unlock the Power of Incentives to Get Things Done*, *Super Crunchers: Why Thinking-By-Numbers Is the New Way to Be Smart*, and *Why Not? How to Use Everyday Ingenuity to Solve Problems Big and Small* (with Barry Nalebuff). Ian is currently the William K. Townsend Profes-

sor of Law and an Anne Urowsky Professorial Fellow in Law at Yale Law School, and he also teaches at Yale's School of Management.

JOSH BLACKMAN graduated from the George Mason University School of Law in 2009. Later that year, while working as a federal district court law clerk, Josh launched FantasySCOTUS.net, a website hosting predictions and analysis of upcoming cases being decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. The site was an instant success, attracting the attention of national media outlets and prominent judges alike. Josh is a founder and currently the president of the Harlan Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to teaching high school students about the Constitution and American law through interactive online games. Following a Sixth Circuit federal appellate court clerkship and a Teaching Fellowship at the Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law, he joined the South Texas College of Law faculty in the fall of 2012. He is the author of *Unprecedented: The Constitutional Challenge to Obamacare* and *Unraveled: Obamacare, Religious Liberty, and Executive Power*.

PAMELA BRIDGEWATER graduated from Florida State University College of Law. Much of her career was spent working as a lawyer, advocate, and activist for reproductive rights. She worked as a legal aid lawyer specializing in advanced directives for people living with HIV/AIDS and defended reproductive health care clinics and service providers. Her work in this area led to collaborations with scholars and policymakers, and Pamela served on the boards of Our Bodies Ourselves, *Wagadu: A Journal of Transnational Women's and Gender Studies*, and the Kopkind Project for Journalists and Activists. Pamela's professional articles have been published in prominent law reviews and journals, and she blogged at [www.hiphoplaw.blogspot.com](http://www.hiphoplaw.blogspot.com). She was the editor, with Donald Tibbs and andré douglas pond cummings, of *Hip Hop and the Law*. Pamela taught for many years at American University's Washington College of Law. She passed away in 2014.

ALAFAIR BURKE graduated from Stanford Law School in 1994. After clerking on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Alafair cut her teeth as a Deputy District Attorney with the Multnomah County District Attorney's office. Although she left the DA's office for private practice in the Buffalo, New York, office of Phillips Lytle LLP in 1999 before joining the faculty of Hofstra University School of Law in 2001, Alafair's experience as a prosecutor has continued to shape her career. She has published more than a

dozen professional articles and presented at numerous conferences, many of them dealing with topics related to prosecution. She has also found an outlet for her experiences in the realm of fiction, having published two series of best-selling mystery novels, including *Judgment Calls*, *Missing Justice*, *Close Case*, *Dead Connection*, *Angel's Tip*, *212*, and the standalones, *Long Gone*, *The Ex*, and *The Wife*.

STEPHEN L. CARTER graduated from Yale Law School in 1979. After clerking first on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and then for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Stephen joined the faculty of Yale Law School in 1982. Over the past two decades, Stephen has published a dozen books, both fiction and nonfiction. On the academic side, he has written, among other books, *Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby*, *The Confirmation Mess: Cleaning Up the Federal Appointments Process*, and *The Violence of Peace: America's Wars in the Age of Obama*. His first novel, *The Emperor of Ocean Park*, spent 11 weeks on the *New York Times* Bestseller List. In addition, Stephen writes a column for *Bloomberg View*, has contributed to *Newsweek*, *Christianity Today*, and *The Daily Beast*, and blogs on professional football for the *Washington Post*. Stephen is currently the William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law at Yale Law School.

CAIT CLARKE graduated from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law in 1999, and then earned an S.J.D. from Harvard Law School. Cait served as the Director of Strategic Initiatives at the National Legal Aid & Defender Association, and then as the Director of Federal Programs at Equal Justice Works in Washington, D.C., a group whose mission is "to mobilize the next generation of public interest lawyers." Throughout all of these years, Cait has been a corporate and non-profit negotiation consultant with Watershed Associates, and is the author of two bestselling books on negotiation, *10 Minute Guide to Negotiating*, and *Dare to Ask: The Woman's Guidebook to Successful Negotiating* (co-authored with Neil Shister). Cait is presently the Chief of the Defender Services Office at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C.

HALA FURST graduated from the Roger Williams University School of Law in 2010. Prior to attending law school, Hala worked as an actress in Minnesota and California. Since graduating, Hala has been working as a Program Analyst and Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

JUDGE FERNANDO GAITAN graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law in 1974. He started his career as an attorney for the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company before joining the judiciary as a Missouri trial court judge in 1980. He was appointed to the state's court of appeals in 1986 and was nominated to the federal judiciary by President George H.W. Bush in 1991 as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. He served as the Chief Judge of that court from 2007 to 2014, when he assumed senior status.

JUDGE DONN KESSLER graduated from Yale Law School in 1975. Immediately after law school, he served as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of Hawaii for two years, and then as an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In private practice, he was a trial and appellate attorney at Christian Barton Epps Brent & Chappell in Richmond, Virginia, Jennings Strouss & Salmon, and Ulrich, Kessler & Anger, and then Jones Skelton & Hochuli, all in Phoenix, Arizona. Before his appointment to the Arizona Court of Appeals in 2003, Judge Kessler served for four years as a pro tem judge for that court. He retired from the court in 2017. A strong believer in public service, Judge Kessler was the first chair of the State Bar Appellate Practice Section, as well as chair of the State Bar Antitrust Section, a member of the State Bar Civil Practice and Procedure Committee, and President of the Arizona Association of Healthcare Lawyers. He is the co-author of the *Arizona Healthcare Professional Liability Handbook* and of *Federal Appellate Practice: Ninth Circuit Second Edition*. An equally strong believer in mindfulness practices, Judge Kessler is willing to share his tips about searching for satisfaction and reacting with compassion.

DAVID LAT graduated from Yale Law School in 1999. After clerking on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, a stint with the New York office of Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, and working as a federal prosecutor in New Jersey, David left the practice of law for a career in publishing. David's foray into the media world began in 2004 when he started *Underneath Their Robes*, a cheeky blog about federal judges. When the blog's success created tension with his day job, David left the U.S. Attorney's Office and launched his second blog, *Above the Law*, a legal tabloid. David is currently the editor at large of the site, which enjoys massive popularity as a source of legal news, gossip, and commentary. He is also the author of *Supreme Ambitions: A Novel*.

MIKE LAUSSADE graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 2006. While in law school, Mike managed to find time between classes and serving as the Editor in Chief of the *Texas Law Review* to write his wildly successful (and hilarious) blog, *Buffalo Wings & Vodka*. Mike is currently a partner in the Dallas office of Jackson Walker LLP and practices corporate and securities law. He has been recognized as one of the “Best Lawyers in Dallas” by *D Magazine* and named to the “Texas Super Lawyers-Rising Stars” list.

JONATHAN LITTLE graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law in 2007. During law school, Jon ran 120 to 140 miles per week, training for the Olympic Trials in the marathon. (He qualified for the Trials by running a 2:21:48 marathon.) After graduation, Jon worked in the county attorney’s office in Flagstaff, Arizona. He developed a criminal defense practice, trying cases from cock-fighting to murder, and then moved to Indianapolis to pursue cases for athletes who had been molested by coaches in various U.S. Olympic Committee regulated sports (such as USA Swimming, USA Gymnastics, and USA Tae Kwon Do). Jon’s work on behalf of sexual abuse victims has been featured in various media outlets from *20/20* to the *New York Times*. In 2010, due directly to Jon’s advocacy, the U.S. Olympic Committee founded its first “Safe Sport Program.” Now a partner at Saeed & Little, Jon centers his practice on athlete abuse cases and civil rights cases.

ANDREW JAY MCCLURG graduated from the University of Florida College of Law in 1980. After spending several years in private practice, Andrew began his career in academia in 1994. He has published dozens of law review articles, and his book *1L of a Ride: A Well-Traveled Professor’s Roadmap to Success in the First Year of Law School*, now in its third edition, is assigned reading for first-year students at many law schools around the country. He also published *The “Companion Text” to Law School: Understanding and Surviving Life with a Law Student* to help law students’ loved ones survive law school. Andrew is also well known for his humor. For four years, he wrote *Harmless Error*, a legal humor column published in the *American Bar Association Journal*. He has also published *The Law School Trip*, a parody of legal education, co-edited *Amicus Humoriae: An Anthology of Legal Humor*, and blogs at the popular site *lawhaha.com*. All jokes aside, Andrew has held a number of academic positions, including the

Herbert Herff Chair of Excellence in Law at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, which he has held since 2006.

MARC POIRIER graduated from Harvard Law School in 1978. After law school, Marc spent 12 years with the Washington, D.C., firm Spiegel & McDiarmid LLP, practicing in the area of energy regulation. As a renowned scholar in the areas of hate crimes, same-sex marriage, and national resources management, Marc was twice the recipient of the Dukeminier Award honoring the best law review articles published each year. Marc was in demand as a speaker on the subject of same-sex marriage, and he also worked as an advocate on behalf of environmental and conservation interests. He served on the boards of the Coastal Society, the Society of American Law Teachers, and Diamond Metta Lesbian and Gay Buddhists of New York. Marc was the Martha T aylor Research Scholar at Seton Hall University School of Law for many years before his death in 2015.

DEBORAH WAIRE POST graduated from Harvard Law School in 1978. She began practice in the corporate section of a Houston law firm before embarking on her career in legal education at the University of Houston Law School. Deborah has published noteworthy works in the areas of business associations, legal education, and critical race theory, including the contracts casebook *Contracting Law* and *Cultivating Intelligence: Power, Law, and the Politics of Teaching*. Deborah was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development and Professor of Law at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, and she was a member of the Society of American Law Teachers Board of Governors for more than a decade and a co-President of the Society of American Law Teachers.

LISA PRUITT graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1989. In 1999, she joined the faculty at the UC Davis School of Law, a post she continues to hold. In the previous decade, Lisa's career spanned the globe. She worked as an associate for a private firm in London, lectured at the University of Amsterdam and Leiden University in the Netherlands, and served as a consultant to the International Criminal Tribunal in Kigali, Rwanda, investigating sexual assaults committed during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. As a scholar, Lisa's work on law draws on these diverse experiences to discuss the intersection between law and cultural conflicts and she has developed a specialty regarding the law of rural locations and an accompanying blog: <http://legalruralism.blogspot.com/>.

A multiple-time nominee for the Distinguished Teaching Award and a former Chair of the AALS Section on Women in Legal Education, Lisa has also served as a member of the Board of Governors of the Society of American Law Teachers.

SAIRA RAO graduated from New York University School of Law in 2002. Before going to law school, Saira worked as a journalist at WUSA TV in Washington, D.C., and WSVN TV in Miami. After graduating, Saira clerked on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals before practicing with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. In 2007, Saira published her first novel, *Chambermaid*, which received enthusiastic reviews from national media outlets and the legal blogosphere.

JUSTICE MARILYN SKOGLUND did not graduate from, or even attend, law school. Her IL experience was reading for the law. Marilyn graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1971. Several years later, after relocating to Vermont and as a working mother, she read for the law and passed the state's bar exam on her first try. With undergraduate degrees in sculpture and art history, she worked as a graphic designer for R. Buckminster Fuller, the architect and inventor best known for creating the geodesic dome. She spent more than a decade in various leadership positions with the state's Office of the Attorney General before being appointed as a trial court judge in 1994. Three years later, Marilyn became the second woman to serve as an Associate Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, a post she continues to hold. As an Associate Justice, Marilyn has left her mark with the Art in the Supreme Court program, which hosts art exhibits in the bottom floor of the Supreme Court building.

GERRY SPENCE graduated from the University of Wyoming Law School in 1952. Gerry is an acclaimed trial lawyer, having tried numerous noteworthy cases, including the wrongful death lawsuit brought by the estate of Karen Silkwood on which the Academy Award-winning film *Silkwood* was based. He has famously never lost a criminal case—either as a prosecutor or defense attorney—and has not lost a civil case since 1969. In addition to his professional success, Gerry is the founder of the Trial Lawyers Academy, an advocacy school dedicated to training lawyers who represent individuals against large companies and the government. In that same vein, Gerry is the founder of Lawyers and Advocates for Wyoming, a pro bono law firm serving the legal needs of indigent clients. He is also

the author of 16 books, including fiction, *Half-Moon and Empty Stars*, nonfiction, *Trial by Fire*, autobiography, *The Making of a Country Lawyer*, and photography, *Gerry Spence's Wyoming*.

CAMERON STRACHER graduated from Harvard Law School in 1987. He is also a graduate of the prestigious Iowa Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa, where he taught legal writing and helped found the law school's Writing Resource Center. Cameron specializes in media law, and he has taught the subject at New York Law School and served as litigation counsel for CBS. He is also a prolific writer: Cameron has written three works of fiction, and three works of nonfiction, including *Double-Billing: A Young Lawyer's Tale of Greed, Sex, Lies, and the Pursuit of a Swivel Chair* and *The Curve* (with Jeremy Blachman), and his work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and other national publications. Cameron is currently General Counsel-Media at American Media, Inc., and is of counsel to the law firm Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz LLP in New York City.

WANDA M. TEMM is a law professor and the founder of the Bar Pass program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, which has been ranked as one of the best schools in the nation for bar exam preparation. She is the former director of the school's legal writing program, and she has served as president of the Association of Legal Writing Directors. Wanda was a social worker for six years before attending law school, and she graduated from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1988. Prior to becoming a law professor, she did business and appellate litigation at the firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon. Her publications include the books *Clearing the Last Hurdle: Mapping Success on the Bar Exam* and *Missouri Legal Research*.

SCOTT TUROW graduated from Harvard Law School in 1978. While still at Harvard, Scott wrote the instant classic *One L* about his experience as a first-year law student. After graduation, Scott worked as an Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago for nearly a decade before leaving for private practice. He is the author of 13 books, including *One L*, his first novel, *Presumed Innocent*, and its sequel, *Innocent*, which was published by Grand Central in 2010. His books have sold more than 30 million copies, and a number of these best-selling novels have been made into films,



including *Presumed Innocent*, *The Burden of Proof*, *Reversible Errors*, and *Innocent*. Scott Turow is a partner at Dentons.

ROBERT R.M. VERCHICK graduated from Harvard Law School in 1989. Rob began his career practicing environmental law with a Seattle firm before taking the first in a series of academic teaching positions. His scholarly work has focused on environmental regulation and climate change, as well as feminist legal theory, and he has testified before Congress on several occasions, including in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He recently published *Facing Catastrophe: Environmental Action for a Post-Katrina World* and the second edition of his co-authored *Disaster Law and Policy*. In 2009, Rob was appointed to serve in the Obama administration as the Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In that role, he helped shape U.S. policy on climate change and served on the President's Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force. In 2010, Rob stepped down from that position and returned to his position as Director of the Center for Environmental Law and Land Use and holder of the Gauthier-St. Martin Chair in Environmental Law at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, which he has held since 2004. He is the President of the Center for Progressive Reform.

ADRIEN KATHERINE WING graduated from Stanford Law School in 1982. Adrien practiced international law in New York City for five years, specializing in issues affecting Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America, before joining the faculty at the University of Iowa College of Law in 1987. Adrien's scholarly pursuits have spanned the globe. Her work has touched domestic topics such as race and gender discrimination, as well as international topics involving South Africa and the Muslim world. In addition, she has lectured all over the world and advised the drafters of the constitutions of South Africa, Palestine, and Rwanda. Among her books are *Critical Race Feminism: A Reader*, *Global Critical Race Feminism: An International Reader*, and *Democracy, Constitutionalism, and the Future State of Palestine*. Adrien is currently the Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs and the Bessie Dutton Murray Professor of Law at the University of Iowa College of Law.

JUDGE/SENSEI MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN graduated from the University of Utah College of Law. He served as a law clerk for then-Chief Justice of

the U.S. Supreme Court Warren Burger. He practiced with the Los Angeles law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, and then worked as special counsel to the governor of Utah. He served as a Justice on the Utah Supreme Court for 16 years, including four years as Chief Justice, stepping down when he began to feel that he was citing his own opinions as precedent too often. He was then a partner at Snell & Willmer for a decade. In 2011, he formed a boutique appellate litigation firm, Zimmerman Jones Booher. Michael Zimmerman's story in the past two decades is his journey into Zen meditation and his confirmation as a Buddhist monk.