

**Condemnation Summit XIX Speaker Bios
(Presentation Order)
October 21, 2016**

Steve Hirsch's litigation practice at Quarles & Brady LLP concentrates on real estate, construction, and commercial litigation. Mr. Hirsch has handled several jury trials concerning eminent domain, contract and lease disputes, valuation of real estate, land use regulation and other government takings of undeveloped and improved land, income-producing properties, utility property, and certificated areas and water rights. He has experience in recovering federal and state relocation benefits as well. Mr. Hirsch also has brought actions against governmental agencies arising out of zoning, permitting, and similar land use disputes. He represents developers and utilities in public utility commission matters, including cases involving issuance and modifications of certificates of convenience and necessity to serve, transmission line siting hearings, and rate proceedings.

Chris Kramer's practice at Gust Rosenfeld P.L.C. emphasizes eminent domain litigation, primarily the representation of condemning authorities. He has handled projects including major urban freeway corridors, such as the Red Mountain and Sky Harbor freeways; traffic interchanges; roadway expansions such as State Route 179 through Oak Creek and Sedona; and has condemned property throughout Arizona for roads, bridges, transit (including light rail), flood control, parks, wetlands, airports, public buildings, and utilities. Mr. Kramer's practice includes assisting clients with right of way and property valuation issues arising during a project, from design through completion. These issues may include such matters as obtaining right of way clearances; utility prior rights; relocation assistance; compliance with federal and state regulations; coordination with other stakeholders and governmental entities; and preparation of appropriate documentation.

William "Bill" Jameson currently serves as chief counsel of the Transportation Section of the Arizona Attorney General's Office. He has been with the Transportation Section, which provides legal advice and representation to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), for 30 years. He previously served as Condemnation Unit chief counsel and has represented ADOT in eminent domain litigation, construction contract disputes, and various right of way matters.

Stephanie Heizer is a native of Flagstaff, Arizona. She graduated from Arizona State University with a bachelor's degree in Spanish and graduated *magna cum laude* from Whittier Law School. Stephanie is an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Scottsdale. As part of the litigation department, she handles eminent domain actions and defends the City against a wide variety of legal claims. Prior to joining the City of Scottsdale, Stephanie practiced in general civil litigation and real estate transactional matters for both private and governmental entities, with a focus on representing municipalities in eminent domain actions. From 2004 to 2016, while at Ayers & Brown, P.C., she worked on all aspects of eminent domain, including advising clients on project-related issues prior to filing suit; handling contested order of immediate possession hearings; and conducting discovery, motion practice, oral arguments, mediations, trials, and resulting appeals. She also has experience in representing a wide variety of private and governmental clients in litigation and transactional matters related to breach of contract, landlord/tenant disputes, quiet title actions, ejectment actions, and construction defects.

Cassandra Ayres represents clients in zoning and land use matters, as well as clients in real estate litigation involving zoning, entitlement, land use and condemnation claims, including constitutional and property tax issues. She has been involved in cases concerning many of the most high-profile issues in one of the nation's most dynamic real estate communities. Ms. Ayres has been with Beus Gilbert PLLC since 2006 when she started as a clerk during her second year of law school at Arizona State University.

Ethan Steele has been practicing law in Tucson since 1983. His practice has involved the areas of real estate, contested estates, eminent domain, and numerous civil appeals. He has been called upon by many well-known Tucson attorneys to assist with trial and appellate work over the years. Mr. Steele is currently representing landowners whose properties are being taken in whole or part for public use in the following projects: Grant Road widening, Downtown Links extension of the Aviation Highway, and the Ina Road widening over I-10. Mr. Steele holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and philosophy, and received his law degree from the University of Arizona Law School.

Barbara U. Rodriquez-Pashkowski's practice at Gust Rosenfeld P.L.C. concentrates on environmental law, including UST matters, due diligence, air quality, water quality, RCRA, CERCLA, and WQARF. She brings to her clients years of experience including UST and State Assurance Fund compliance and appeals, air quality and water quality permitting and regulatory compliance, asbestos compliance, RCRA regulatory compliance, state and federal Superfund and litigation, environmental rule writing and legislation. Barbara works with various federal, state, and local governmental entities and private companies on a broad range of environmental issues. Prior to joining Gust Rosenfeld, Barbara worked in the Environmental Enforcement Section of the Arizona Attorney General's office as Chief Counsel for the Air, Game and Fish, Underground Storage Tanks and Agriculture (AGUA) Unit. She represented the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in administrative hearings, litigation and litigation coordination, rule writing, legislation, the negotiation of complex environmental settlements, and training for its state Superfund, UST, State Assurance Fund and air quality programs.

John Loper has been involved in the right of way and appraisal of real property for 48 years. He has performed appraisals throughout Arizona and the western states. Mr. Loper has a B.S. degree from the University of Arizona, holds the ASA designation in real property from the American Society of Appraisers and is a Certified General Real Property Appraiser in Arizona. Mr. Loper has qualified as an expert and testified in all 15 Arizona Counties as well as U.S. District Courts, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, State and Federal Tax Court and the U.S. Court of Claims. His area of practice includes commercial, industrial and residential property with extensive experience in the area of eminent domain valuation.

Bernadette Duran-Brown is an eminent domain and real estate litigation attorney at Nossaman LLP who focuses on eminent domain, inverse condemnation, regulatory takings and valuation matters. Ms. Duran-Brown also has experience assisting clients with land use, entitlement matters, and landlord/tenant-related disputes. Ms. Duran-Brown has worked for some of the largest public agencies and projects in California, such as San Bernardino Associated Governments, San Diego Association of Governments, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority, and Los Angeles Unified School District. She plays an active role in project planning and implementation, from initial planning and the precondemnation acquisition process all the way through trial and appeal. She has advised public agency clients on a variety of infrastructure improvements, such as roadways, railroads, schools, and flood control projects.

Judge Randall Warner was appointed Judge of the Superior Court of Arizona in August 2007 by Governor Janet Napolitano. He has served on family court, criminal court and civil court assignments. He is currently the Civil Presiding Judge in Maricopa County and has a complex civil calendar. He chairs the Court's Commercial Court Practices and Procedures Committee, and is a member of the Supreme Court's Committee on Superior Court and the State Bar's Civil Practice and Procedures Committee. Before joining the bench, Judge Warner was a partner at Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, LLC where he had an appellate and commercial litigation practice. Judge Warner teaches frequently on civil practice issues, legal writing and effective advocacy.

Judge Timothy Thomason is a Maricopa County Superior Court Judge. Prior to his appointment to the bench he was a trial lawyer for thirty years at Streich Lang (now Quarles and Brady) and Mariscal Weeks (now Dickinson

Wright). Judge Thomason is a fellow in the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers. Among his many publications is the Arizona Trial Practice Manual.

Judge Neil Wake has been a United States District Judge for the District of Arizona since 2004 and a Senior United States District Judge since July, 2016. He received his B.A. degree, with high distinction, from Arizona State University in 1971 and his J.D. degree, cum laude, from Harvard University in 1974, where he was a member of the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review. He is admitted to practice in Arizona, Colorado, and the Navajo Nation. From 1974 to 2004 he engaged in a litigation practice in Phoenix, primarily in the fields of business, administrative, constitutional, election, Indian law, and appellate litigation. He practiced in several law firms, including his own firm. He was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for business litigation and appellate litigation from 1989 until leaving law practice and has been a Fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers since 1993. He served on the State Bar of Arizona's Civil Practice and Procedure Committee for nearly 20 years, authored chapters on administrative law in the *Arizona Appellate Handbook* since 1980, and was Chair of the State Bar Appellate Practice Section in 2003-2004. He is the Chair of the Committee on Local Rules of Practice, U.S. District Court, 2006 to the present.

James Braselton's practice at Dickinson Wright PLLC emphasizes real estate related litigation, with a particular focus on eminent domain, land use and property ownership disputes. In addition, Mr. Braselton has substantial experience (in both a litigation and non-litigation context), in a variety of real estate valuation matters and municipal law. After finishing his Bachelor's degree and before starting law school, Mr. Braselton was a civil engineer, during which he practiced both as a private consultant for about five years and, for approximately two years, in the public sector with the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Mr. Braselton represents both public (condemnor) and private (property owner) clients. Mr. Braselton has represented property owners on nearly every major segment of the urban freeway system that has been constructed by the Arizona Department of Transportation in the Phoenix metropolitan area since 1985. He has also served as mediator in a number of condemnation cases involving properties located both in the Phoenix and Tucson areas.

Gary Verburg's practice at Gust Rosenfeld P.L.C. focuses on municipal law, commercial law, civil litigation, administrative law, and Federal Indian law. His experience includes contracts, real estate transactions, federal, state and tribal litigation, zoning, elections, resolutions and ordinances. Verburg served as the City Attorney for the City of Phoenix from 2005 - 2014. He managed the City's self-insurance program and he supervised the City's prosecutorial function. Previously, Verburg was an Interim City Attorney and Deputy City Attorney for the City of Glendale.

Gary Birnbaum's practice at Dickinson Wright PLLC emphasizes real estate and commercial litigation, ADR and business and real estate valuation issues in a variety of contexts. Mr. Birnbaum is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a Member of the Counselors of Real Estate (CRE). He has been a contributing Author of Eminent Domain: 50 State Survey published by the American Bar Association and Nichols' on Eminent Domain, the leading treatise in the eminent domain field. Mr. Birnbaum is the former Associate Dean, and a current member of the adjunct faculty, at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he teaches courses on eminent domain, regulatory takings and valuation. He was a co-founder of the Master of Real Estate Development (MRED) program at ASU. Mr. Birnbaum has served as a mediator in hundreds of cases and is a member of the National Panel of Arbitrators and Mediators of the American Arbitration Association.

Robert Spear is general counsel for Arizona Water Company. Mr. Spear's responsibilities include litigation management, advising the company on contract, real estate, and regulatory matters, and creating and reviewing various business and real estate documents. Mr. Spear has had the opportunity at Arizona Water Company to

advise the company on numerous eminent domain related issues. Before joining Arizona Water Company, Mr. Spear primarily handled bankruptcy matters and commercial and real estate litigation, including numerous property valuation hearings before the United States Bankruptcy Court.

Patricia Sallen is an ethics consultant and attorney. She teaches at local, state and national ethics-related CLE seminars and writes frequently on ethics topics for publication. She contributed the chapter on ethics in the State Bar's *Arizona Attorney's Fees Manual* and was an editor and writer for the new edition of the State Bar's *Arizona Legal Ethics Handbook*. She formerly served as director of Special Services & Ethics/Deputy General Counsel for the State Bar of Arizona, where among other duties she served as the State Bar's ethics counsel, advising lawyers on resolving ethical dilemmas, providing education about the Rules of Professional Conduct and serving as counsel to the Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct. She has worked as a bar counsel in the State Bar's Lawyer Regulation Office. She teaches professional responsibility as an adjunct professor at the Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Paul Johnson, MAI, CRE, is widely recognized as one of Arizona's leading real estate consultants and appraisers specializing in objective, in depth, property and sub-market analysis responsive to his clients business needs, questions, and/or problems. Paul has been in the real estate arena as a broker, appraiser, teacher, and counselor since 1966. He holds the MAI appraisal designation and the coveted CRE "Counselor of Real Estate" designation. Mr. Johnson has completed many studies for Arizona and national clients involving the use of primary and secondary data. He has authored articles on real estate topics and serves on the board of "Real Estate Issues."