

Washington State Sentencing Guidelines Commission
Member Biographies*

Kecia Rongen
Chair, Indeterminate Sentence Review Board

Kecia Rongen has worked within the criminal justice system for 20 years, specializing with the sexual offender population. Just prior to coming to the Board, she served as the Administrator for Sexual Offender Programs within the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration. In addition, she has served on a number of legislative workgroups related to sex offender management. She has served as the Chair of the statewide Sex Offender Policy Board twice from 2010-2012 and 2014-2016 and as a Board Member for the WA Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers. The Governor appointed her to the Board in 2012 and appointed her as Chair in September of 2015.

Hon. Catherine D. Shaffer
King County Superior Court

Judge Catherine D. Shaffer is a King County Superior Court Judge in Seattle, Washington, a position she has held since November 2000. She has served as a judge in the Criminal, Civil and Family Law Divisions of the King County Superior Court and has presided over a number of complex civil and criminal cases.

Judge Shaffer has served as a Governor and past chair of the Bylaws Committee and Domestic Violence and Education Committees of the American Judges Associations (AJA). She has served as the past President of the AJA, past President of the American Judges Foundation, past chair of the Washington Superior Court Judges Association (SCJA) Legislation Committee and Criminal Law & Rules Committee, past President of the King County Law Library Board, and past co-chair of the Washington State Bar Association Access to Justice Board's Impediments Committee.

Judge Shaffer is a faculty member at the National Judicial College and the Washington State Judicial College, and an Instructor in Trial Advocacy at the University of Washington. She received her J.D. from Columbia School of Law, where she served on the Law Review, and her B.A. from Wellesley College. Her awards include the 2007 White Ribbon Award from the Alliance of People with disabilities and Access to Justice Judicial Leadership Award, the 2012 King County Washington Women Lawyers Presidents Award, and the 2013 American Judges Association Judge Bob Jones Memorial Award.

Hon. William C. Houser
Kitsap County Superior Court

Kitsap County Superior Court Judge William C. Houser graduated from Willamette University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Willamette University College of Law. He was admitted to the Oregon State Bar in 1983 and the Washington State Bar in 2003.

Judge Houser's varied career includes his work as a prosecutor, partner in a small law firm and public defender. Immediately prior to his 2014 appointment to the bench by Governor Inslee, he was an attorney with the Kitsap County Public Defender Division.

Tim Wettack
Citizen Representative

Career: Labor Relations. Retired in 2010 after 40+ years representing Management. Negotiated over 1,000 private sector labor contracts, including multi-employer and/or multi-union bargaining, in multiple industries with numerous labor unions.

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Education: BS (1965) MS (1971), Business, University of Kansas

Military: US Naval Officer, 1965-1969. 2 combat deployments to Vietnam. SEAL platoon commander.

My interest in criminal justice and sentencing stems from my older son, Timothy. He graduated from UW in December 2010 with a degree in Law, Societies and Justice. His classes on prisons fascinated him. A February 2012 visit to the Concerned Lifers Organization (CLO) prisoner group at WSR Monroe made a huge impact upon him. Tragically, five days after his prison visit, he was killed in a motorcycle accident. I believe Timothy would have pursued his great interest in prisons. I am attempting to contribute in his stead and in his honor.

Kimberly N. Gordon **Criminal Defense Attorney**

Kimberly Gordon defends the criminally accused and the constitution. She has successfully litigated everything from misdemeanors to complex frauds and serious felony cases in Washington's city, state, and federal courts.

In addition to the Commission, Governor Inslee appointed Kim to Washington's Justice Reinvestment Task Force. She served on the Criminal Justice Act Standing Committee for the Western District of Washington and served on that jurisdiction's Local Criminal Rules Review Committee in 2013. Kim served as president of the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in 2012 and was a long-term Co-Chair of WACDL's Legislative Committee. In 2011, she received WACDL's President's Award, in recognition of her distinguished service to the criminal defense bar.

Kim is a founding partner of Gordon & Saunders PLLC, a firm dedicated to the representation (pre- and post-conviction) of individuals charged with crimes. She effectively argued numerous felony appeals for the Washington Appellate Project, began her trial practice at The Defender Association (becoming the Misdemeanor Supervisor in 2002), and was a member of the criminal defense team at Schroeter, Goldmark and Bender. Her education includes Hastings College, Tulane Law School, and the National Criminal Defense College.

Kim has been repeatedly named a "Super Lawyer" and one of the "Top Attorney's in Washington" in the area of criminal defense. She has lectured on criminal defense and criminal justice policy at a wide range of institutions and organizations, including the University of Washington School of Law, Seattle University School of Law, National Legal Aid and Defender Association, National Institute of Trial Advocacy, Washington Defender Association, Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, King County Bar Association, Washington State Office of Public Defense, and Washington State Bail Agents Association.

Dr. Jennifer Albright **Citizen Representative**

Dr. Jennifer Albright has a PhD in Criminal Justice from Washington State University where her areas of emphasis included policing and juvenile corrections.

Jennifer currently serves as a Project / Program Manager IV for the King County Department of Adult and Juvenile detention where she provides analytic, research and policy support to both the adult and juvenile divisions, as well as supporting department management in Department and County- wide

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programs and initiatives. She is currently involved in the development of requirements for a total replacement of the Department's aging Jail Management System as well as assisting in re-development of a comprehensive staffing analysis and plan for the two adult divisions.

Previously Jennifer worked with the Seattle Police Department where duties included complex policy and program analysis around many aspects of the SPD's work, including officer use of force, crisis intervention, staffing and response time. She was responsible for the development of business and technical requirements for a business intelligence system that supports better analysis of data and management of the Department.

Dr. Albright has 20 years of experience in research and policy analysis in many aspects of criminal justice policy at the state and local levels in Washington state and served as staff to the Sentencing Guidelines Commission in the early 2000's. Dr. Albright is also an adjunct professor in the Criminal Justice Department at Seattle University.

Jon Tunheim Prosecuting Attorney, Thurston County

Jon Tunheim is the elected Prosecuting Attorney in Thurston County and represents the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys on the Sentencing Guidelines Commission. Originally from South Dakota, Tunheim earned his bachelor's degree at South Dakota State University and soon moved to Washington to attend law school at the University of Puget Sound School of Law. While in law school, he joined the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office as a legal intern. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1990, and immediately appointed as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, serving the office in that capacity until elected Prosecuting Attorney in 2010. During his career, Tunheim personally prosecuted hundreds of cases, focusing on cases involving sexual assault, domestic violence, and crimes against children. As a deputy prosecutor, Tunheim was a leader in the effort to create Monarch Children's Justice and Advocacy Center, an organization providing coordinated services to child victims of abuse and neglect. He is also a co-founder of the Family Justice Center, a similar program providing services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.

Tunheim is an active member of Washington's legal community. He is a past president of the Washington Government Lawyers Bar Association and of the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. In addition to serving on the Washington State Sentencing Guidelines Commission, he is also the current president of the Washington State Association of Drug Court Professionals and serves as a co-chair of Washington's legislative Criminal Sentencing Task Force.

Stephen Sinclair Secretary, Department of Corrections

Stephen Sinclair was appointed Secretary of the Washington State Department of Corrections on April 25, 2017. After serving in the United States Army, he began his 28+ year career at the agency as a correctional officer and gained progressively greater responsibilities as investigator, sergeant, associate superintendent, superintendent, and assistant secretary. As superintendent of the Washington State Penitentiary, Sinclair created and pioneered the Sustainability in Prisons Project, which employs incarcerated individuals in jobs that reduce the cost of facility operations, provides meaningful vocational work and skills training while reducing idleness, and allows them the opportunity to give back to the community. The lab employs more than 120 people and is a national model of innovation that reduces recidivism. Sinclair has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington. He is a member of the Association of State Correctional Administrators, the American Correctional Association

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and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. Sinclair is a 2009 recipient of the Governor's Award for Leadership in Management.

Phillip Lemley
Councilmember, City of Richland

Born- SE Arkansas on my grandfather's farm

Raised in- Texarkana and Little Rock, AR.

College- Attended University of Arkansas Little Rock

Military- USMC 1960-1968

Licensed Private Pilot

Work history- I have worked for some of the largest corporations in the world including SW Bell Telephone, Time Inc., AT&T, US West, Lucient Technologies and Bechtel National Inc. as project manager, project engineer and program manager. I have lived all over the US and around the world, one of which was the tropical island of Penang Malaysia.

I have owned my own company with offices in North Carolina, Arkansas, Tennessee and Texas. All were utility construction companies and three cable television franchises.

I moved to Richland in 2001 as the project engineer for Bechtel National's 12.2-Billion-dollar Nuclear Waste Treatment Plant being built at Hanford for the Department of Energy. My responsibility was the communications, data and security networks for the entire plant of 23 buildings. I retired in 2010.

I was elected to the Richland City Council in 2010 and have served two more terms and will be up for re-election in 2019. My council duties include serving as liaison to seven different boards and commissions where I serve on the board of directors on two of those. I am on the board of directors on one additional organization, Tri-Cities Residential Services Inc. where I am the board President.

I have five state/county duties that include the 8 county SE WA. Aging and Long-Term Care Council of Governments, where I represent Benton County. I serve on the WA State Council on Aging, WA State Emergency Management Council, WA State Building Code Council and of course the WA State Sentencing Guidelines Commission.

I have one Federal duty and that is The DOE's Hanford Advisory Board where I represent the Benton Franklin Council of Governments.

I am a member of the Richland Rotary club and have been for 11 years and have served on the Board of Directors and as Program Chairman.

My past Board of Directors duties have been the Benton Franklin American Red Cross, First Tee of the Mid-Columbia and the Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America where I was also the Chairman of the Rattlesnake Ridge District.

I volunteer every Sunday at the Kadlec Regional Medical Center and work in the triage center of the emergency room. I volunteer every Monday at the Tri-City Food Bank where I pick up food supplies from every grocer in the Tri-Cities.