

RACINE JUDGE BIOGRAPHIES
FINAL VERSION, 06/09/17

Laufenberg, Wynne

Circuit Court, 2017 –

Born in 1964 in Madison, Wisconsin. Laufenberg was appointed by Scott Walker to replace Gerald Ptacek upon his retirement in 2016. After obtaining her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Laufenberg went on to obtain her J.D. from Marquette Law University. From 1990 to 1996 she worked at the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office performing trial work in juvenile, misdemeanor and felony court cases. In 1997 she opened her own practice, concentrating on family, guardianship and juvenile cases. Laufenberg has been appointed by the judiciary, for over twenty years as a guardian ad litem, representing the interests of children and the elderly in the courts. Laufenberg has served as Racine County Bar Association President from 2006 to 2007 and has been an Adjunct Criminal Justice Professor at Carthage College from 2007 to 2016. Since 2011, Laufenberg has been a board member of the Women's Resource Center of Racine and chairwoman of St. Thomas Aquinas Endowment in Waterford, Wisconsin. Laufenberg also served for many years on the board for Focus on Community in Racine. She currently lived in Waterford with her husband and two children.

Piontek, Michael

Circuit Court, 2012 –

Born in 1949 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Piontek attended Boys Tech High School. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1971 before receiving his J.D. from Marquette University Law School in 1974. Between the years of 1974 and 2000 Piontek served as Assistant Corporation Counsel, Assistant District Attorney and Circuit Court Commissioner in Racine County. Piontek practiced law in a private practice from 1977 to 2012, handling over 200 jury trials within those 35 years. Piontek won the "Attorney for the Year" award in 1996 for law related education and is part of a number of associations. A member of Heroes for Health, an organization with a mission to be a catalyst for positive and lasting change leading to healthier environments and communities. He previously served as a Racine Unified School District Board Member and currently serves as a board member of the State Bar of Wisconsin Lawyer's Assistant Program (WISLAP). Michael Piontek was elected Racine Circuit Court Judge of Branch 5 in 2012.

Boyle, Timothy D.

January 16, 1967

Circuit Court, 2012 –

Born in Burlington, Wisconsin. After graduating from Burlington High School, he attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and earned a B.A. in journalism in 1989. Thereafter, he earned his law degree from Hamline School of Law in 1992. Upon graduating from law school, he joined his father, Dennis R. Boyle in the family's general law practice, becoming a third generation attorney in the firm started in Burlington by his grandfather in 1929. He was elected to the Circuit Court Branch 10 in 2012 and is currently the Deputy Chief Judge of District 2 of the Judiciary, the Chairman on the Racine County Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee and presiding judge of the Racine County Alcohol and Drug Treatment program. He is a former President of the Racine County Bar Association and member of the District 15 Office of Lawyer Regulation committee. As a lifelong resident of Burlington, he is active in his community, involved in such organizations as Kiwanis, the Burlington Back 40 4H Club, Wings Over Wisconsin, and his church and children's school, St. Charles. He is married to Mary Therese and has two daughters, Grace and Lily. Aside from his career and family, he loves the outdoors, Badgers and Packers.

RACINE JUDGE BIOGRAPHIES
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Repischak, Robert S.

December 2, 1963

Circuit Court, 2017 –

Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1963. Repischak received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1986. He received his juris doctor from the Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1990. Upon receiving his degree and admission to the bar, Repischak was employed as an associate with the firm of Michael F. Dubis, S.C. in Waterford, Wisconsin. In 1992, he started his own law office. Between 1992 and 1998, Repischak was engaged in the private practice of law, representing individuals, small businesses and municipalities in western Racine County. In 1998, he joined the Racine County District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney. In addition to his litigation duties in the felony division, Repischak also acted as the municipal prosecutor for the towns of Norway and Dover. In March of 2017, Governor Scott Walker appointed Repischak to Branch 9 of the Racine County Circuit Court, replacing the retiring Hon. Allan B. Torhorst. Currently, Repischak resides with his wife and two daughters in Waterford, where he is engaged in civic organizations, including the Waterford Lions Club. He is also an active member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

Paulson, David

Circuit Court, 2015 -

Born in Racine, Wisconsin on October 7, 1947. A graduate of William Horlick High School, Paulson attended undergraduate studies at Marquette University before receiving his J.D. from Marquette Law School in 1971. For more than 40 years, Paulson practiced law at private firms in Racine and served as the Caledonia Municipal Court Judge from 1981 to 2015. After serving as a Municipal Judge for more than 30 years, and wanting to have an effect on a broader segment of the community, Paulson was ready to move forward into the next level. He was elected as a Racine Circuit Court Judge in 2015, replacing Judge Wayne Marik. Paulson lives with his wife and has three adult children.

Nielsen, Mark

February 16, 1954

Circuit Court, 2016 -

Mark Nielsen is one of the six children of John and Kathleen Nielsen. The family traces its Racine County roots back to the middle 1880s. Nielsen spent his entire life in Racine. He graduated from Park High School in 1972 and the University of Wisconsin Parkside in 1976. Nielsen received his law degree in 1979 from Harvard Law School in Cambridge, MA. He served as an Assistant DA under Dennis Barry and Gerald Ptacek until 1982 when he joined the law firm of Schwartz, Weber & Tofte. He practiced trial law (criminal, employment and civil) for 35 years. In 2006 Nielsen became the City of Racine Municipal Judge, deciding cases for the next ten years. During his practice, Nielsen served as a court commissioner, chair of the Supreme Court's District ethics committee, President of the Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and Secretary of the Board of the State Bar Criminal Section. Judge Nielsen is proud to possess an AV rating as an attorney. He was board certified by the NBTA for 15 years and served them as a proctor for examinations. Over the course of his career he has taught evidence, trial practice and procedure to attorneys and judges. He was elected to the Circuit Court in 2016.