



**Alima M. Atoui, Esq.**

Albany County Surrogate's Court  
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Alima Atoui is a 2004 graduate of the University at Albany and a 2011 graduate of Albany Law School. During law school, Alima received a Dean Sponsler Honors Teaching Fellowship and the Arthur J. Harvey '30 Fund Civil Liberties Law Fellowship, and was a member of the Albany Law Review. Alima graduated law school summa cum laude and was awarded the Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Clinical Student Award. Following law school, Alima served as an Appellate Court Attorney for over three years in the Law Research department of the Appellate Division, Third Department. During that time, Alima also worked in the Chambers of the Hon. Karen K. Peters and the Hon. Robert S. Rose. Alima is currently employed as the law clerk to the Hon. Stacy L. Pettit at Albany County Surrogate's Court. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and its Trusts & Estates Section, the Capital District Women's Bar Association and the Albany County Bar Association.



**Deborah S. Kearns, Esq.**

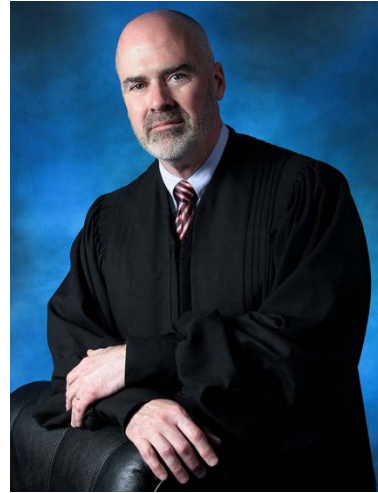
Albany County Surrogate's Court  
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Deborah Kearns works for the New York State Unified Court System as Chief Clerk of the Albany County Surrogate's Court. She started her legal career in private practice where she represented individuals and not-for-profit entities in estate, gift and income tax planning and most recently was on the faculty at Albany Law School. While at Albany Law School, she directed the Tax & Transactions Clinic and was responsible for the coordinated delivery of pro bono legal services through a faculty supervised clinical legal education program. In addition to her work in the clinic, she also taught Trusts & Estates and related courses, and lectured extensively on estate, gift and income taxation as well as on tax controversy matters.

Deborah has been active in the New York State Bar Association throughout her career and currently serves on the executive committee of the Trusts and Estates Law Section as a Vice Chair of the Taxation Committee of the Trusts & Estates Law Section and as the Third Judicial District Representative. She is a member of the Albany County Bar Association, serves on numerous committees for the Office of Court Administration and is an adjunct faculty member at Albany Law School. Deborah is a summa cum laude graduate of Albany Law School and received her LL.M. in Taxation from New York University.

**Hon. Anthony McGinty**  
Ulster County Family Court  
16 Lucas Ave  
Kingston, NY 12401  
(845) 340-3601  
amcginty@nycourts.gov



### **Supervisory Experience**

**Supervising Judge for the Family Courts, Third Judicial District:** 2016 – Present  
Responsible for administration and operations of the Family Courts in the seven-county Third Judicial District, reporting to the District Administrative Judge.

### **Bench Experience**

**Family Court Judge:** 2005 – Present  
Preside over a full range of cases in the Ulster County Family Court: custody and visitation, guardianship, neglect and abuse, juvenile delinquency, child support, paternity, domestic violence, and adoption. Elected to first term in 2005. Re-elected unopposed in 2015.

**Fulltime Acting Supreme Court Justice:** 2011- Present  
Assigned to a part in Supreme Court hearing primarily matrimonial matters 2011 to 2016. From 2015, assigned to hear and determine applications for pistol permits.

**Acting County Court Judge:** 2005 – Present  
Serve as back-up to the full-time County Court Judge handling felony criminal matters, probation violation matters, Sex Offender Registration Act hearings, and petitions for post-conviction relief.

**Town Justice:** 2002 – 2005  
Town of Rosendale Justice responsible for criminal and civil matters.



## **Related Experience**

### **Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee:** 2013 – Present

Member of a statewide committee responsible for drafting new legislation and court rules for the Chief Administrative Judge. Duties include meeting with state legislators to discuss the Court system's legislative agenda. Serve on the Family Court forms subcommittee.

### **Family Court Curriculum Committee:** 2013 - Present

Appointed by the Chief Administrative Judge to the group that develops statewide training programs for Family Court judges

### **New York State Family Court Judges Association:** 2005 - Present .

Past president (2013-2014) of the professional association of Family Court judges of New York State. Previously served on the Board and in various offices of the association.

## **Prior Legal Experience**

### **Partner, McGinty & McGinty, P.C., Rosendale, New York:** 1996 - 2005

Attorney in private practice focusing on family law and criminal law.

### **Staff Attorney, The Legal Aid Society of Orange County:** 1992 - 1996

Staff attorney in the public defender's office for Orange County, New York. Assigned to represent adults in criminal matters in local and County Court as well as adults and children in the Orange County Family Court.

## **Education**

### **Fordham Law School, Fordham University**

J.D., 1991

### **Columbia College**

B.A., 1979

## **Memberships**

New York State Family Court Judges Association  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges  
New York State Bar Association  
Ulster County Bar Association



**Sarah Rogerson, Esq.**

Albany Law School  
80 New Scotland Ave  
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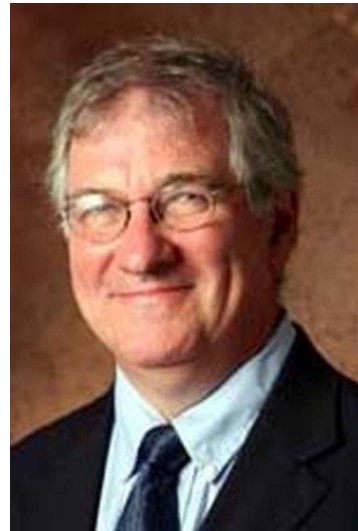


Professor Rogerson joined the Albany Law School faculty in 2011 after completing a two-year Clinical Teaching Fellowship at University of Baltimore School of Law, where she taught and supervised students enrolled in the Immigrant Rights Clinic. Professor Rogerson Directs the Law Clinic & Justice Center and the Immigration Law Clinic, an experiential course through which students represent immigrant victims of crime including child abuse and neglect, domestic violence and sexual assault. Her students also regularly participate in related legislative advocacy initiatives. Professor Rogerson combines her past experience as a public interest attorney representing immigrant adults and children in cases involving torture, domestic violence, human trafficking and guardianship petitions at the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas, Inc. with her scholarly interests examining failures in legal systems. Her scholarship is focused on the intersections between domestic violence, family law, race, gender, international law and immigration law and policy.

Immediately after graduation from Seton Hall Law School, Professor Rogerson worked for several years as an associate attorney at a law firm with practices in New York and New Jersey. In addition to her J.D. from Seton Hall Law School, she holds an LL.M. in international law at Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law and a Masters in Diplomacy and International Relations from Seton Hall University.

**Gerard Wallace, Esq.**

NYS Kinship Navigator  
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Delmar, NY 12054  
(845) 594-6398  
meimeiwallace@aol.com



Gerard Wallace, Esq. is the director of the NYS Kinship Navigator and public service professor at the U. of Albany School of Social Welfare. From 1999 to 2005, he was director of Hunter Colleges' Grandparent Caregiver Law Center. From 2005 to 2010 he was the project consultant for the AARP Kincare Project. He is co-chair of the NYS KinCare Coalition, a member of the Child Welfare League of America's Policy Commission, and past director of the National Committee of Grandparents for Children's Rights.

In 1997, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from Albany Law School, where he authored a Government Law Center policy report on kinship laws in New York State. In 1999, he authored an amicus curiae brief in the United States Supreme Court grandparent visitation case, *Troxel v. Granville* that was featured in the Congressional Digest's Supreme Court Debate. He has published in the New York State Elder Law Attorney quarterly, *Grand* magazine, New England's "Common Ground", the Journal of Gerontological Social Work, West Law's Elder Adviser, the Washington Post's op-ed page, and the Journal on Family Social Work. He is the co-editor of the 2015 CWLA Kinship Navigator Profiles, the editor of four NYS KinCare Summit reports and of a 2011 national kinship summit report, author of a recent article on kinship rights in *Grandfamilies Journal*, co-editor of an upcoming national kinship summit white paper, and numerous other op-eds and articles. In 2015 and 2016, he provided Congress with the text for its proclamations of September as Kinship Care Month.

He's the recipient of the 2009 Generations United's "National Kinship Advocate Award", the 2010 Brookdale Foundation "Janet Sainer Award" for outstanding service and dedication to Kincare families, the 2011 Presbyterian Senior Services' Maggie Kuhn Award for service to elderly New Yorkers, and the 2016 "Grandparents Around the Work" award



for outstanding advocacy. In 2012, his NYS Kinship Navigator program received a Children's Bureau grant to operate a demonstration project, one of only seven awarded nationally. In spring 2017, the Kinship Navigator program received the U. at Albany President's Award for Exemplary Public Engagement.

Since 1998, he has presented numerous continuing legal education training's on kinship law. He's also presented at conferences, summits, commissions, and local forums, and advised on the drafting of both federal and state legislation related to kinship care and has provided leadership for state and national campaigns to raise attention on kinship families.