



District Judge John J. Haney



Judge Haney, Marshalltown, was appointed to the district court bench in May of 2014. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and raised in Marshalltown. He received an AA degree with honors from Marshalltown Community College in 1991, his BA degree with honors from Grinnell College in 1993, and his law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1996. Prior to his appointment, Judge Haney was in private practice and also served as a Marshall County magistrate from 2007. He is a member of the Marshall County Bar Association and The Iowa State Bar Association.

Judge Haney is married with four children and ten grandchildren.

District Associate Judge Steven P. Van Marel



Judge Van Marel, Ames, was appointed to the bench in 1987. Born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, he attended Iowa State University. After earning his degree in community and regional planning in 1980, Judge Van Marel attended the University of Iowa College of Law and received his law degree in 1983. He has worked as the Assistant Wapello County Attorney and the Assistant Story County Attorney. Judge Van Marel is a member of the Iowa Judges Association.

He is married with two children.

District 3A

District Associate Judge Charles K. Borth



Judge Borth, Spencer, was appointed to the bench on October 1, 2009. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Mankato State University in 1992 and his Juris Doctorate from Drake University Law School in 1995. He served as Assistant Clay County Attorney and was in private practice in Spencer since 1997. Judge Borth is a member of the Clay County Bar Association and The Iowa State Bar Association.

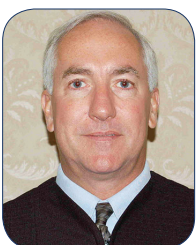
District Associate Judge Ann M. Gales



Judge Gales was appointed to the bench effective February 25, 2014. She works primarily in the three-county area including Emmet, Kossuth, and Palo Alto counties. Judge Gales received her undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and her law degree from Duke University School of Law. Her previous legal experience included working in the U.S. Department of Justice—Antitrust Division in Chicago, Illinois, serving as an Assistant Kossuth County Attorney, and working as a sole practitioner in Algona, Iowa. She is a member of the Iowa State and Kossuth County Bar Associations.

She is married with three children.

District Associate Judge David C. Larson



Judge Larson, Spirit Lake, was appointed to the bench as a full-time district associate judge in 1998. He is a resident of Dickinson County and routinely hears cases in Dickinson, O'Brien, and Osceola counties, and will occasionally preside in the other counties as needed. Judge Larson received his bachelor's degree from Iowa State University and graduated from Creighton University School of Law. He spent 17 years in private practice and served as an alternate district associate judge from 1983–1998 prior to his appointment as a district associate judge. Judge Larson is a member of The Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.



Judicial Biographies - Districts 3A & 3B

Associate Juvenile Judge Mary L. McCollum Timko



Judge McCollum Timko was appointed to the bench in 1988. She earned her bachelor's degree with distinction from the University of Iowa in 1979. She received a master's degree with honors from the same institution in 1984 and a law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1982. Judge McCollum Timko served as an assistant county attorney for Johnson County from 1982 to 1988 and has served as an adjunct professor at Buena Vista University since 1993. Judge McCollum Timko is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and served on the Iowa Supreme Court's Court Improvement Project. She is a member of the Child Advocacy Committee, the Parents and Children Together Committee, and the CASA Advisory Board, serving as director until 2008. She is a judge for Cherokee/Ida Family Treatment Court and the founder and judge of the Buena Vista County Family Drug Court. She serves on the Drug Endangered Children Committee, the Native American Advisory Committee for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Siouxland, the Faith Hope and Charity Board of Directors (until 1995), the Storm Lake Softball Association Board (until 2003) and the "I Will Not Worry" Foundation.

District 3B

District Judge John D. Ackerman



Judge Ackerman, a lifelong resident of Woodbury County, Iowa, was appointed to the bench in September 1997. He graduated summa cum laude from Morningside College in Sioux City with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1979. Subsequently, he graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1982 with high distinction. Judge Ackerman was in private practice with the Heidman Law Firm in Sioux City, Iowa, from 1982 until he was appointed to the bench. Judge Ackerman participated in the creation of the Woodbury County Drug Court in 1999, and he continues to be involved in that court and serves as the presiding district court judge. Judge Ackerman has served on the board of directors for the Siouxland Community Soup Kitchen since its inception in 1987 and has also been on the board of directors for the warming shelter since it originated in 2015. Judge Ackerman is a member of the Iowa State and Woodbury County Bar Associations.

District Judge Steven J. Andreasen



Judge Andreasen was appointed as a district judge in January 2008. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in 1989 and his law degree from the same institution in 1992. Judge Andreasen was in private practice in Sioux City from 1992 until serving as a magistrate in Woodbury County in 2006 and 2007 before his appointment to the bench. He is a member of the Iowa State and Woodbury County Bar Associations and the Iowa Judges Association.

He is married with one child.

District Judge Jeffrey A. Neary



Judge Neary was appointed to the bench in 2002. He received his bachelor's degree in German from Westmar College, Le Mars, in 1981, and his law degree from the University of South Dakota School of Law in 1987. Judge Neary served as a part-time magistrate for Plymouth County in the mid 1990s and was an assistant federal public defender in the Northern District of Iowa until his appointment to the bench. He also served as an Assistant Woodbury County Attorney, was in private practice with Sioux City and Le Mars law firms, and served with the U.S. Army Reserves as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps until his honorable discharge in 1999. Judge Neary is a member of The Iowa State Bar Association, is a past member of the South Dakota Bar Association, and served as President of the Iowa Judges Association from 2015 to 2016. He is currently an adjunct professor at Western Iowa Tech Community College teaching



Judicial Performance Review Results

District 3A

- 5 - Excellent (performance is outstanding)
 4 - Good (performance is above average)
 3 - Satisfactory (performance is adequate)
 2 - Deficient (performance is below average)
 1 - Very Poor (performance is well below average and unacceptable)

Charles Borth

Ann Gales

David Larson

Mary Timko

Knowledge and application of the law	4.59	4.45	4.51	4.42
Perception of factual issues	4.59	4.50	4.40	4.55
Punctuality for court proceedings	4.70	4.69	4.39	4.52
Attentiveness to arguments and testimony	4.63	4.72	4.56	4.45
Management and control of the courtroom	4.68	4.48	4.33	4.42
Temperament and demeanor	4.73	4.68	4.56	4.48
Clarity and quality of written opinions	4.55	4.63	4.33	4.59
Promptness of rulings and decisions	4.67	4.06	4.10	4.50

- 5 - Strongly Agree
 4 - Agree
 3 - Neither
 2 - Disagree
 1 - Strongly Disagree

Avoids undue personal observations or criticisms of litigants, judges and lawyers from bench or in written opinions.	4.76	4.57	4.74	4.53
Decides cases on basis of applicable law and fact, not affected by outside influence.	4.61	4.45	4.54	4.40
Is courteous and patient with litigants, lawyers and court personnel.	4.86	4.78	4.67	4.50
Treats people equally regardless of race, gender, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or disability.	4.81	4.77	4.76	4.63
Retention percentage	100	97	95	93
Number of respondents	59	55	62	61