



REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION

Riding the Storm of Redevelopment – Legal Tactics for Charting the Course Forward

March 7-9, 2019

Omni Royal Orleans

Program Chair

Wayne R. Beyea, MSU School of Planning, Design and Construction

FACULTY

Program Coordinator



Wayne Beyea, JD, AICP, Program Chair, is a faculty member and Senior Specialist in the School of Planning, Design and Construction at Michigan State University (MSU). He has over 25 years of experience in private and public practice focused on zoning, planning and land use law. He teaches land use and sustainable development law and regulation courses and has trained thousands of local and state officials on effective planning and zoning techniques and innovative development solutions including teaching at the Harvard Law School campus, Executive Education/Graduate School of Design. He received his J.D. (concentration in environmental and natural resource law) and B.S. (Urban Planning) degrees from MSU and MPA degree from the University of Maine. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan Real Property Law Section and has served as a civil mediator in the State of Michigan.

Friday, March 8, 2019



Brenda M. Breaux, Executive Director for the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA), is responsible for providing strategic leadership, stability and growth opportunities for the Authority and the community

they serve. Prior to this new role, Brenda served diligently as the Chief Operating Officer of NORA for four (4) years where she was responsible for overseeing and managing Human Resources, Land Management, Land Stewardship, Real Estate Development and the day to day operations of the Authority. In this position, Brenda also directed legal strategies and participated in dispute resolution. Brenda also served as Senior Chief Deputy City Attorney for the City of New Orleans where her duties included but were not limited to, management of 37 attorneys and support staff with direct responsibilities for housing, development and finance matters, the Mayor's Blight Initiative, DCDBG and CDBG projects, liaison between City, State and Federal entities for the downtown medical complex project and negotiations between the City and State regarding the former Road Home properties. Additionally, she served as the Deputy Executive Director for the Housing Authority of New Orleans, while there Brenda was responsible for Development, Construction, Section 8, Procurement, Human Resources and Administrative Services and other executive level positions. Brenda has proven that years of experience and leadership has provided her with the opportunity to manage large scale affordable housing and complex real estate development projects in New Orleans and Biloxi, MS. Brenda earned her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science



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from Spelman College, her Juris Doctor from Loyola University of New Orleans College of Law and has been practicing law for 23 years.



Matt Kreis of the Center for Community Progress is based in Chicago, Illinois and serves as the Counsel for Programs and Administration at the Center for Community Progress. At Community Progress, Matt primarily focuses

his work on helping state and local leaders from across the country identify, analyze, and reform those systems of law and policy that have contributed to decades of disinvestment in some of our cities most vulnerable neighborhoods. Prior to joining the Center for Community Progress in November 2015, Matt spent more than nine years as an attorney at the City of Chicago's Department of Law. During his time at the City of Chicago, Matt focused on identifying, developing, and implementing effective code enforcement tools to combat blight and problem properties. Matt worked with City and elected officials to craft and propose legislation designed to improve property conditions and efficiency throughout the City; trained inspectors on the proper use of local law in enforcement efforts; helped to develop a mobile, electronic enforcement tool to more quickly and efficiently identify blight and health and safety code violations; co-created and supervised a team of attorneys and support staff to act as an in-house title company to support tens of thousands of City code enforcement actions; and served as an advisor

to various department Commissioners engaged in enforcing housing and building codes. Matt holds a B.A in Biology from Augustana College and a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law.



Seth Knudsen is the Director of Real Estate Development & Planning for the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority. Seth leads the design and implementation of NORA's Residential Development, Commercial Revitalization and Land

Stewardship programs. Seth previously served NORA as a Real Estate Development Project Manager and managed NORA's partnerships, property dispositions and investments in hundreds of affordable housing units and catalytic community economic development projects across the city. Prior to his tenure at NORA, Seth held various roles in New Orleans government which included managing planning and development initiatives at the Housing Authority (HANO), City Planning Commission, Office of Recovery Management and in the Chief Administrative Office, as well as the non-profit City-Works. Seth holds a Bachelor's degree in Urban Studies from Tulane University, a Master's degree in City Planning and Graduate Certificate in Urban Design from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Urban Redevelopment from the University of Pennsylvania. He is also a certified Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Associate.



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Brent Laliberte of Bayou Title, Inc. is the Founder, President and Board Member of the New Orleans Metropolitan Association of Title Attorneys (NOMATA), and is a former President and current Board Member of the Louisiana Land Title

Association. He also holds the National Title Professional (NTP) designation of the American Land Title Association. He was named the Title Person of the Year by the Louisiana Land Title Association in 2014. He has also previously served as a board member and Treasurer of the Mortgage Lender's Association of Greater New Orleans as well as a board member of the New Orleans Metropolitan Association of Realtors (NOMAR). In addition to his law degree, Brent has a title insurance license, a real estate broker's license and is certified by LREC to teach CE classes. He and his wife Kathy are owners of Bayou Title, Inc., the largest title company in the State of Louisiana, and their twins, Adam and Amanda, are currently first year law students at LSU Law School and Loyola New Orleans School of Law, respectively.



Danielle Lewinski serves as Vice President and Director of Michigan Initiatives for the Center for Community Progress, a national nonprofit focused on helping communities develop solutions for vacant and problem properties.

At Community Progress, Danielle directs the

organization's technical assistance, leadership and education, research, and policy work throughout Michigan. Before joining Community Progress, Danielle worked as the Director of Planning and Technical Programs for Michigan Community Resources, where she created and executed the planning and technical assistance offerings of the Detroit Vacant Property Campaign (DVPC) including strategy development, data analysis, and mapping services aimed at helping communities address vacancy, blight and abandonment. In addition to leading the DVPC work, Danielle acted as a primary liaison between the civic engagement and technical teams for Detroit Future City, the strategic framework for the city of Detroit. Prior to Michigan Community Resources, Danielle worked on vacant property and blight issues for community development corporations in Detroit and Pontiac, MI. Danielle earned a Master of Urban Planning degree and a Graduate Certificate in Real Estate Development from the University of Michigan, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in African and African American Studies from Mount Holyoke College. She is a Certified Economic Development Finance Professional through the National Development Council and will soon be awarded an Executive Scholar Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.



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Saturday, March 9, 2019



Todd Fenton, Royal Oak Economic Development Manager is based out of Royal Oak, Michigan, Todd graduated from the University of Michigan in 2000 and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 2007, where he received a Juris

Doctor cum laude and was a member of the Justice Frank Murphy Honor Society. Fenton was the past President and CEO of Ellman Pike, LLC, a business and economic development consulting firm specializing in real estate transactions and incentive negotiations for developers looking to invest in Southeast Michigan from 2013-2014. Prior to forming Ellman Pike, Fenton worked as a senior level economic development official with the Wayne County, Michigan Land Bank and the Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE) from 2008-2013. He is currently the Economic Development Manager for the City of Royal Oak, Michigan, and was certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional by the National Development Council in 2010. Fenton is a member of the Michigan Economic Developers Association, where he serves on its Advisory Committee, the State Bar of Michigan's Real Property Law Section, the International Economic Development Council, and the International Council of Shopping Centers, where he serves on East Michigan's P3 Planning Committee.



Adam Kutinsky is a Member of Dawda, Mann, Mulcahy & Sadler, PLC. He is a trial attorney with a wealth of experience in complex litigation before judges, juries and arbitrators. Mr. Kutinsky chaired the State Bar of Michigan Insurance and

Indemnity Section and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, which requires a nomination from within the fellowship and is limited to 1% of all practicing attorneys in each jurisdiction. Mr. Kutinsky is AV Rated - Preeminent - by Martindale-Hubbell in the practice areas of commercial litigation and real estate disputes. The publication "Best Lawyers in America" identifies Mr. Kutinsky among the top litigators in Michigan. His activities include speaking to lawyers and professional groups and authoring legal publications, including the remedies chapter of the authoritative ICLE publication, Michigan Residential Real Estate Transactions, Second Edition. He was named a Michigan Super Lawyer in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 2017, & a Top 100 MI Super Lawyer in 2018. dBusiness Magazine has recognized Mr. Kutinsky as a Top Lawyer every year since 2012. Mr. Kutinsky is also a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU®), which is the equivalent to a CPA designation in property-casualty insurance and risk management. He speaks to lawyers and professional groups on the subjects of insurance coverage and litigation, and has authored many publications on the subjects. His honors include



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being named person of the year at the annual meeting of the CPCU® Society, being interviewed on National Public Radio, WDET, The Craig Fahle Show, and being the subject of articles in Michigan Lawyers Weekly and the Detroit Legal News, each of which related to his insurance

Women), an active member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, and a member of the State Bar of Michigan's Real Property Law Section Council.



Brandy L. Mathie, a shareholder with Kerr Russell in Detroit, devotes her practice to real estate matters, with a particular focus on development, financing, acquisitions, dispositions, leasing, and the formation of special-purpose business entities.

Brandy has successfully guided clients through various transactions involving commercial, residential, mixed-use, and municipal properties, and understands both the legal and business challenges that can arise. Brandy is known for devising creative solutions to even the most complex issues, with the ability to analyze and synthesize complicated historical real estate into understandable checklists, charts and forms. She has participated in real property transactions across the U.S., some of which have involved complex public-private partnerships, sustainable energy, and other emerging areas of real property law. A *cum laude* graduate of Wayne State University Law School with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan, Brandy is also a Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys, a member of CREW (Commercial Real Estate