ONLINE EVENT APRIL 8, 2021, 6:15 P.M.

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Dear readers,

We hope you enjoy this special Excellence in the Law section, which recognizes a wide range of accomplishments in the Rhode Island legal community. In the pages that follow, we celebrate a diverse group of individuals chosen by a committee drawn from members of our editorial department: Lawyers of the Year, Up & Coming Lawyers, Leaders in the Law and members of our Hall of Fame, as well as our honorees for Excellence in Pro Bono and Judicial Excellence.

We had hoped to celebrate these honorees at a networking luncheon. But given the ongoing pandemic, we still cannot safely do so in person. Instead, we will host Excellence in the Law as an online event on April 8, starting at 6:15 p.m. We hope that you can join us for the program, which will feature U.S. District Court Judge Mary S. McElroy as our keynote speaker.

The pages that follow offer some insights into the honorees being celebrated. Please join me in congratulating them.

Susan A. Bocamazo, Esq.
Publisher, Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Up & Coming**
- Cassandra L. Feeney .......................................................... 3
- Gregory N. Hoffman .......................................................... 3
- John D. Meara ................................................................. 4
- Kathryn M. Rattigan .......................................................... 4
- Adam H. Thayer ............................................................... 5
- Joshua D. Xavier .............................................................. 5

**Leaders in the Law**
- Armando E. Batastini ....................................................... 6
- Robert V. Chisholm .......................................................... 6
- Dana M. Horton .............................................................. 7
- Lorraine N. Lalli .............................................................. 7
- Ralph R. Liguori ............................................................. 8

**Hall of Fame**
- Victoria M. Almeida ....................................................... 8
- Vincent F. Ragosta Jr. ..................................................... 9
- Ronald J. Resmini ......................................................... 9
- Richard A. Sinapi ......................................................... 10
- Steven E. Snow ........................................................... 10

**Pro Bono**
- Neville J. Bedford ......................................................... 12

**Judicial Excellence**
- Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell ............................................ 12

**Lawyers of the Year**
- Sarah T. “Sally” Dowling ................................................ 14
- Deborah S. Gonzalez ................................................... 14
- Thomas W. Lyons III ..................................................... 14

Profiles by Correy Stephenson
As a new associate at Barton Gilman, Gregory N. Hoffman was called on to help the firm’s partners on a variety of cases. Increasingly, he found he was drawn to family law.

“I enjoyed connecting with clients on a personal basis and trying to help them solve the problems they were experiencing in their lives,” he says. “The more family law cases I worked on, the more I found that my temperament and disposition work well in the domestic relations area.”

A calming influence on his clients, Hoffman also appreciated that family law offered him the opportunity to get into court and argue cases as a young attorney.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the area of family law — previously a court-intensive practice — particularly hard, however. Hoffman now finds himself outside of the courtroom trying to be productive with opposing counsel and working to resolve as many issues as possible without the need for direct judicial oversight.

“We just try to keep our cases moving so that our clients can get some certainty and finality on emotionally difficult issues,” he explains. “It can be really challenging managing all of the emotions and expectations of our clients, keeping peace while working toward a resolution and dealing with a situation that is decidedly not normal.”

President of the Roger Williams University School of Law Alumni Association, he also sits on the board of directors for the law school and oversees the various alumni committees.

Hoffman participates in RWU Law’s Pro Bono Collaborative, working with the Bradley Hospital guardianship program to assist low-income families with special needs children to obtain guardianships when the children turn 18.

“Barton Gilman is proud of our colleague Gregory N. Hoffman named a 2021 Up & Coming Lawyer by Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly Excellence in the Law Awards and we congratulate all of the 2021 honorees.”
JOHN D. MEARA
Associate, Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell
Roger Williams University School of Law

As a 3L at Roger Williams University School of Law, John D. Meara took an advanced trial advocacy class in which each student was assigned a former client of the professor, Mark Mandell. Meara met with the parents of a young woman who was in a vegetative state as a result of a local bar overserving a patron to the point that he subsequently drove the wrong way on I-95.

“That experience had a profound impact on me,” he recalls. “It demonstrated for me the importance of doing plaintiffs’ work and the impact these cases can have on someone’s life.”

Meara began his legal career primarily doing defense work. He helped draft petitions for writ of certiorari in two cases heard by the Rhode Island Supreme Court that involved the Providence Retirement Board, and he worked on a high-profile case before the Superior Court challenging the constitutionality of a Smithfield ordinance that heavily restricted the ability of individuals to avail themselves of the state’s Medical Marijuana Act.

Despite his successes, he realized he needed a better fit and switched sides of the bar. Three years ago, he joined Mandell’s firm, where he now focuses his practice on clients who have been catastrophically injured due to another’s negligence.

“Working to obtain justice on behalf of my clients and provide closure to them is something I truly enjoy,” he says. “It is a weighty obligation but one that I love.”

A member of the Rhode Island Association for Justice and the American Association for Justice, Meara has coached a moot court team at his alma mater since he graduated in 2011, calling it “an incredibly rewarding experience.”

A board member of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence since 2016, he has served as president of the board for the last three years.

KATHRYN M. RATTIGAN
Counsel, Robinson & Cole
Roger Williams University School of Law

A member of the business litigation group and data privacy and cybersecurity team at Robinson & Cole, Kathryn M. Rattigan helps her clients navigate their way through the myriad of local, state, federal and international laws and regulations on privacy.

“The great thing about this practice is that I get to work with different industries and clients of all different sizes dealing with a range of issues,” she says. “One day I could be working with a startup on its privacy policies and procedures; the next, it could be a national company that suffered a data breach or an employee’s stolen laptop.”

In addition, the rapidly changing area of the law keeps Rattigan on her toes as cyber threats change and the law struggles to keep up with the technology.

“Privacy means different things to different people. Some people view privacy as an absolute right, while others see it as something that must be balanced alongside other considerations.” Such as free speech or national security, she says. “My passion for this field stems from the uncertainty and potential for growth and development of new policies.”

Committed to giving back, Rattigan is active in the Rhode Island Bar Association, Rhode Island Women’s Bar Association, International Association of Privacy Professionals, American Health Lawyers Association and Boston Bar Association. She is the former chair of the Massachusetts Bar Association Health Law Section and an adjunct professor at Roger Williams University, where she teaches technological innovation and the law.

A member of Robinson & Cole’s Women’s Committee, Wellness Committee and Hiring Committee for the National Grid Summer Fellowship, she also participates in the RCNEXT group.

Rattigan volunteers with her alma mater’s Pro Bono Collaborative, serves on the advisory board for Inner Explorer, and sits on the Stonehill College Board of Fellows and President’s Advisory Council.

Congratulations to
John Meara

On being named an
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Congratulations to our
Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly Excellence in the Law honorees

Dana M. Horton
Leaders in the Law Award

Kathryn M. Rattigan
Up & Coming Lawyer Award

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Joshua D. Xavier takes pride in keeping his clients compliant. An employment attorney, his interest in the practice area grew from his passion for civil rights and a desire for all employees to enjoy a healthy, safe and discrimination-free workplace.

To achieve that, he spends the majority of his day fielding questions from employers on issues ranging from severance agreements to drug testing, and from wage and hour concerns to the Family and Medical Leave Act. He also helps draft employment handbooks that have “a long-lasting effect” on a workplace, he says. The rest of his time is spent focused on litigation.

“My practice is a healthy combination of advising, counseling, answering questions and full-fledged litigation,” he says. “Employment has a major role in people’s lives, and, in many cases, we spend more time working than we do with our families and friends. I take pride in the fact that my efforts lead to lawful compliance and making sure that employers value their employees and do not unlawfully discriminate.”

Xavier is active in the community. He is a board member for the Rhode Island Center for Justice and the Montessori Community School of Rhode Island, and he was appointed in 2020 to the Merit Selection Panel for the U.S. District Court, tasked with reviewing the performances and office operations of U.S. Magistrate Judges Lincoln D. Almond and Patricia A. Sullivan.

He is a member of the Employment Law Alliance, Rhode Island Bar Association, Rhode Island Thurgood Marshall Law Society, Rhode Island Hispanic Bar Association, Rhode Island chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and Rhode Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He also serves as a volunteer attorney with Roger Williams University School of Law’s Pro Bono Collaborative and currently participates in the Special Immigrant Juvenile Project.

“I take pride in the fact that my efforts lead to lawful compliance and making sure that employers value their employees and do not unlawfully discriminate.”
Excellence in the Law 
April 5, 2021

LEADERS IN THE LAW

ARMANDO E. BATASTINI
Partner, Nixon Peabody
Roger Williams University School of Law

Though Armando E. Batastini began his legal career as a pure commercial litigator, over time his practice has evolved into “a hybrid model,” he says. The leader of the distressed commercial debt litigation team at Nixon Peabody, Batastini represents businesses and owners in a wide variety of contractual, shareholder and commercial realty disputes while spending a significant portion of his time as counsel for holders of commercial debt in all aspects of workouts, foreclosures, receiverships and guaranty enforcement actions.

“I really enjoy the variety in my practice,” he says. “Each case is different and presents its own unique set of problems.”

ROBERT V. CHISHOLM
Partner, Chisholm, Chisholm & Kilpatrick
Boston University School of Law

A single case influenced the trajectory of Robert V. Chisholm’s legal career. In the early 1990s, he began representing his uncle, a military veteran, after his claim for disability benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs was wrongfully denied. It was Chisholm’s introduction to the newly created U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and when the case was over other veterans began reaching out to him for help.

“I started getting interested in what was happening to these veterans and became more and more involved in this area of law,” he says. “I love what I do and I love representing our clients, because we can make a difference in people’s lives.” Chisholm says. “Obtaining benefits can literally change someone’s life by providing for stable housing and medical care. It is really rewarding when we are able to make a life-changing impact.”

Chisholm has leveraged his expertise to educate other attorneys as the practice area has grown over the years. A founding member of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association (and former president of the organization), he is also a former president of NOVA, the National Organization of Veterans’ Advocates.

As part of his leadership and work with NOVA, Chisholm helped to pass a significant amendment to 38 U.S.C. § 5904, which now permits veterans to hire an attorney after a Notice of Disagreement is filed.

A member of the Rhode Island Bar Association, Rhode Island Association for Justice and military law section of the Federal Bar Association, Chisholm also provides pro bono representation to veterans and their dependents.

Over the years, he has been recognized for his work, inducted into NOVA’s Hall of Honor and awarded the organization’s Kenneth Carpenter Achievement Award for Excellence. In 2016, he was the recipient of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Hart T. Mankin Distinguished Service Award.

“Obtaining benefits can literally change someone’s life by providing for stable housing and medical care.”

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Congratulations to our partner
Armando Batastini
2021 Honoree: Leaders in the Law
LEADERS IN THE LAW

DANA M. HORTON
Partner, Robinson & Cole
New England Law | Boston

From a young age, Dana M. Horton wanted to be a lawyer. "I have always felt very comfortable advocating for myself and for others," she says. Today, she is an insurance litigation attorney at Robinson & Cole, where she focuses on advising and representing insurance companies in large property loss subrogation matters, property insurance coverage disputes and bad faith claims. She works on cases from inception to conclusion and on any given day could be in court, at a (virtual) hearing or working on discovery.

While she enjoys the variety, she says that nothing beats a trial. "Trying cases is the best part of the job. After all the time and effort, you get to make your argument to a judge or a jury." In addition to her caseload, Horton is involved in firm leadership. Co-chair of Robinson & Cole's women's committee, she also sits on the wellness committee and the diversity, equity and inclusion committee. Horton mentors younger attorneys at the firm and oversees a program that encourages and helps to foster opportunities for newer attorneys to network and interact with more experienced members of the firm.

An active member of the Rhode Island Bar Association, she sits on the Superior Court Bench Bar Committee (after serving as chair for five years), the Federal Court Bench Bar Committee, the Executive Committee and the House of Delegates. A member of the Rhode Island Women's Bar Association, she is a past president of the New London County Bar Association.

Horton gives back through pro bono work, handling guardianships for adults residing within residential group homes. The chair of the Town of Westerly Board of Tax Assessment Appeals, she is also the president of the Springbrook Elementary School PTO and sits on the human rights committee for Perspectives Corporation.

"Trying cases is the best part of the job. After all the time and effort, you get to make your argument to a judge or a jury."

LEADERS IN THE LAW

LORRAINE N. LALLI
Assistant Dean, Roger Williams University School of Law
Roger Williams University School of Law

Lorraine N. Lalli decided to become a lawyer because she was looking for a career where she could make a difference in the community. After several years in private practice, she jumped at the chance to join Roger Williams University School of Law to help her alma mater and the legal profession as a whole improve their diversity efforts.

A campus leader on diversity, Lalli is a member of the admissions committee and the diversity and inclusion steering committee at the law school, as well as a member of the university's council on inclusive excellence.

"I really focus an equity lens on everything I do and try to identify where my work can be most impactful, to help move organizations and systems towards systemic change," she says.

Lalli also supports diverse students in their academic, professional and personal goals, beginning as early as high school through the law school's Diversity Symposium. The annual event brings together diverse high school and college students with diverse judges, lawyers and elected leaders. "Being able to support our students in their dreams and their vocations is really powerful and rewarding work."

Outside the office, Lalli has served on the Judicial Nominating Commission, the Providence School Board and is active in the Diversity and Inclusion Professionals organization. She volunteers on the United Way of Rhode Island's Community Investment Committee and serves on the boards of directors for the Mt. Hope Learning Center and One Neighborhood Builders.

An avid runner, she has completed five marathons.

"Being able to support our students in their dreams and their vocations is really powerful and rewarding work."

JONES KELLEHER LLP
Attorneys at Law

Congratulations to our Partner and friend Ralph R. Liguori for being chosen by Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly as a 2021 Leader in the Law.

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RALPH R. LIGUORI
Partner, Jones Kelleher
New England Law | Boston

Ralph R. Liguori has devoted his career to the law, first as a police officer and for the last 27 years as an attorney.

Growing up in a small Italian enclave in Providence after immigrating to the United States just shy of 10 years old, Liguori became a municipal police officer and “fell in love with the law and the notion of helping people.”

He went to law school at night and established his own firm after graduation, practicing law by day and working nights as a police officer. After 20 years of doing both, he made the transition to practicing law full time.

“It was an absolutely crazy ride, but I have thoroughly enjoyed it,” he says. “My passion for the law and helping people has never changed; I just have a different role.”

Liguori focuses his practice on personal injury litigation, with cases involving medical malpractice, premises liability and insurance subrogation.

“I really enjoy moving the ball down the field for my clients every day,” he says. “Sometimes it is just a little bit, and other days it is a lot. But I like being able to look back at the end of the day knowing that I advanced my client’s case toward a resolution.”

A past president of the Rhode Island Association of Justice and the Justinian Law Society, Liguori currently chairs the RIAJ’s COVID-19 Response Committee. He also sits on the board of the National Italian American Bar Association, and is a fellow with the Rhode Island Supreme Court Disciplinary Board. He’s a former member of the Rhode Island Parole Board.

Liguori is a founding board member of the Joan DeCotis Foundation, which aims to raise awareness of lung cancer and support promising clinical trials.

“I like being able to look back at the end of the day knowing that I advanced my client’s case toward a resolution.”

HALL OF FAME

VICTORIA M. ALMEIDA
Senior Counsel, Adler, Pollock & Sheehan
Suffolk University Law School

Over the course of her 45 years as a practicing attorney, Victoria M. Almeida has had several “firsts,” from working on cases of first impression to being the first woman in state history appointed executive counsel to a governor.

“I am honored to be a part of the law, a glorious vocation that enables lawyers to enrich others with the application of law and justness to a myriad of life and business experiences,” she says.

Co-chair of Adler, Pollock & Sheehan’s government relations practice group, Almeida has a vast and diversified civil and criminal practice. Her notable cases range from the successful defense of the former state Senate president on ethics charges to winning a challenge to a state law that required employers to provide health insurance to employees receiving workers’ compensation benefits.

“I am honored to be a part of the law, a glorious vocation that enables lawyers to enrich others with the application of law and justness to a myriad of life and business experiences.”

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Congratulations to our colleague Victoria M. Almeida on receiving RI Lawyers Weekly Excellence in the Law Hall of Fame Award

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VINCENT F. RAGOSTA JR.
Principal, Law Offices of Vincent F. Ragosta Jr.
Gonzaga University School of Law

Growing up, Vincent F. Ragosta Jr. would visit his father’s law office on weekend afternoons. While he didn’t quite understand what the lawyers were doing, “I knew it was something important and I was intrigued,” he recalls. “I never really thought about another career.”

While in law school Ragosta developed an interest in labor law that has remained steadfast over the last four decades.

“I was really taken by the intellectual side of labor law as well as the diversity of skill sets that labor lawyers use,” he says. “Collective bargaining requires you to be diplomatic and at times a forceful negotiator, and if bargaining fails, then dispute resolution can take the form of arbitration or litigation.”

Ragosta has played a role in some of the biggest labor disputes in Rhode Island, representing the City of Providence in winning an injunction against a wildcat strike by firefighters, negotiating the state’s first municipal collective bargaining agreements, which eliminated longevity salary supplements for all employees, and winning a widely publicized Superior Court decision permitting the layoff of the Cranston crossing guards.

Although he primarily represents employers, including municipalities and government agencies, “being selected by union-side attorneys and business agents to serve as a mediator and arbitrator in labor impasses are among my most gratifying experiences as a management-side labor lawyer,” Ragosta says.

He also takes particular pride in his niche practice of prosecuting police misconduct cases, from the Providence Police Department’s promotional tests cheating scandal to incidents of police brutality to the so-called “ticketgate” scandals.

“I believe it serves an important public interest when an officer who has engaged in either dishonesty or brutality is removed from the force,” he says.

A member of the committee which developed the rules for court-annexed arbitration for the Rhode Island Superior Court, he actively serves as a court-annexed arbitrator and a mediator for the Department of Labor and Training. Ragosta chairs the Town of East Greenwich Personnel Board and is a member of the American Arbitration Association’s National Labor/Management Council as well as the Rhode Island Bar Association’s Labor and Employment Committee.

RONALD J. RESMINI
Managing Partner, Law Offices of Ronald J. Resmini
Suffolk University Law School

Although Ronald J. Resmini took an indirect path to the law, he has spent more than five decades trying to right wrongs and correct injustices for his clients.

He concentrates his practice in the areas of personal injury, accident and tort law. His notable cases include litigation that established the only exception to the recreational use statute, the largest verdict in Bristol County District Court history, intrauterine device litigation and the Station Fire cases.

“When I take on a case, I believe in it,” he says. “I can only argue a case that I truly believe in.”

Now proudly joined by all three of his sons at his law firm — Resmini recalls that within six months of their births he had their names placed on the door of the office — he has one career goal left: to try a case at the age of 90.

“I would love to live long enough to do it and do it well,” he says. “Someone could help me stand up and sit down, but as long as I can talk, I would do it. If I could choose my time of death, it would be at the end of my closing argument.”

The author of “Rhode Island Tort Law & Personal Injury Practice,” “Rhode Island Civil Practice and Procedure,” and “Rhode Island Actions & Remedies” (each a two-volume series), Resmini was an originator and former chairman of IOLTA as well as an originator of court-annexed arbitration.

He co-founded the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers Association in 1974 and was selected to the National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys, as well as a board examiner of the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

A member of the committee which developed the rules for court annexed arbitration for the Rhode Island Superior Court, he has served as a court-annexed arbitrator and a mediator for the Department of Labor and Training. Resmini chairs the Town of East Greenwich Personnel Board and is a member of the American Arbitration Association’s National Labor/Management Council as well as the Rhode Island Bar Association’s Labor and Employment Committee.

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Ronald J. Resmini
on his well deserved
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For decades, Richard A. Sinapi has been involved in high-stakes civil rights and employment law cases, as well as a force behind new legislation. While he has a general law practice, Sinapi has a significant concentration in employment law, working on everything from workers’ compensation to discrimination to wage and hour cases. He also takes a particular interest in First Amendment and Fourth Amendment issues, often working as a cooperating attorney with the ACLU of Rhode Island.

On the legislative front, Sinapi has helped revise agency regulations as well as co-drafted and lobbied for the enactment of numerous pieces of legislation. One highlight is a revision to the state’s wage act which included the creation of a private right of action for state wage and hour violations and the misclassification of employees as independent contractors.

“For me, the practice of law has always been and will continue to be a noble calling, with justice over profits and gain,” Sinapi says. While that can sometimes result in tough decisions about what cases to take, he takes pride in the success and longevity of his firm over the last 34 years. “I’ve been able to grow this firm and mentor a lot of attorneys while taking on meaningful cases that protect and further civil rights and help out the average person,” he says.

Sinapi recently ended his term as the president of the Rhode Island Association for Justice. A member of the Justinian Law Society of Rhode Island, the National Employment Lawyers Association, the National Police Accountability Project and the American Trial Lawyers Association, he is active in the Rhode Island Bar Association as a member of the Superior Court Bench Bar Committee, Workers’ Comp Bench Bar Committee and Labor and Employment Law Committee, as well as the House of Delegates.

In 2010, the ACLU of Rhode Island presented him with the William G. McLoughlin First Amendment Award in recognition of his more than 20 years of work fighting for free speech.

“For me, the practice of law has always been and will continue to be a noble calling, with justice over profits and gain.”

Sinapi Law is proud to congratulate our Friend, Leader, and Managing Principal attorney, Richard A. Sinapi for his selection as a 2021 “Hall of Fame” Excellence in the Law Honoree by Rhode Island Lawyers Weekly.

We also congratulate all of the 2021 Excellence in the Law honorees for their contributions to our profession and communities.
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NEVILLE J. BEDFORD  
Principal, Law Office of Neville Bedford  
Roger Williams University School of Law

For Neville J. Bedford, the importance of community involvement and service to others was instilled at an early age. Growing up in a home that welcomed 19 foster children over the course of 17 years, he learned “that all people are important regardless of their origin, race, color or creed.”

After law school, Bedford spent a few years at other firms before hanging out his shingle in 2005. His practice includes family law, business disputes, personal injury law, criminal law, intellectual property, and for-profit and nonprofit consultation.

“...I am overwhelmed when I encounter former clients years after representing them and they stop by to let me know that they listened to my advice, followed it, and experienced positive changes,” he says.

Bedford dedicates a significant portion of his time to pro bono efforts, from a monthly clinic at Mathewson St. Church (now conducted via telephone due to COVID-19 restrictions) to efforts with the Pro Bono Collaborative at Roger Williams University School of Law.

Bedford’s service also includes work on various community boards. A former member of the board of directors of Sojourner House and RIDEP, he currently chairs the board of Providence Community Radio, co-chairs the board of Project Weber/Renew, and sits on the Salvation Army’s advisory board.

He is an adjunct professor at his alma mater and a member of RIBA’s House of Delegates, Volunteer Lawyer Program, and Family Court Bench Bar Committee.

HON. PAUL A. SUTTELL  
Chief Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court  
Suffolk University Law School

When it came time to choose a career, Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell of the Rhode Island Supreme Court took the path of public service.

After a few years of general private practice and work as legal counsel to the minority leader in the state House of Representatives, Suttell was elected to the House in 1982. For eight years, he represented a district that encompassed Little Compton as well as portions of Tiverton and Portsmouth, working on several committees and acting as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in New Orleans in 1988.

Recognizing that “sometimes political life is not conducive to family life,” Suttell applied for a judicial post and was appointed by Gav. Edward DiPrete as an associate justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court in 1990. Thirteen years later, Suttell was tapped by Gov. Donald L. Carcieri to be associate justice on the Rhode Island Supreme Court. Carcieri appointed him as chief justice in 2009.

“Family Court can be a very sad place to be, hearing child abuse and neglect cases, but I do miss the interactions with the litigants and the attorneys,” he says. “But on the Supreme Court, we have the opportunity to shape the law and interpret the statutes that have been enacted by the General Assembly, and I really enjoy the intellectually challenging aspects of the job.”

While the COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges to the justice system, “I’m really proud of how well the courts have done in adapting to the new technologies and remote hearings,” he says.

Outside the courtroom, Suttell continues his public service as the director of the Little Compton Historical Society. A former moderator and former chairman of the trustees of the Little Compton United Congregational Church, he is also the past president of both the Little Compton Historical Society and the Sakonnet Preservation Association.

President-elect of the Conference of Chief Justices, Suttell will also chair the National Center for State Courts when he assumes the position next year.

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The big theme since I’ve been on the commission has been increasing diversity in the judiciary. But diversity is very complicated, and you have to really think about it and keep working at it.

The litigation is solely so that civil detainees’ due process rights aren’t being violated by being subjected to a substantial risk of harm to their health from the COVID virus at Wyatt.

The panel’s opinion acknowledged a very sharp division among the [courts] on whether the community caretaking function permits police to engage in searches and seizures of a home absent a court order. So, if we haven’t won every bail petition, what we have gotten is a thoughtful consideration of each case, and that’s all I can ask for.

“The big theme since I’ve been on the commission has been increasing diversity in the judiciary. But diversity is very complicated, and you have to really think about it and keep working at it.”
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SCHOOL OF LAW

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2021 Lawyers Weekly Excellence in the Law Honorees

LAWYERS OF THE YEAR
Sarah T. "Sally" Dowling
First Women of the Rhode Island Bar honoree, 1976
Deborah S. Gonzalez, Esq. ’04, L’07, P’18
Director of the Immigration Law Clinic, RWU Law
Bruce I. Kogan Distinguished Service Professor of Law, RWU Law

LEADERS IN THE LAW
Lorraine N. Lalli ’01, Assistant Dean of Students, RWU Law
Robert V. Chisholm, Chisholm, Chisholm & Kilpatrick
Co-Director, Veterans Disability Appeals Field Clinic, RWU Law
Armando E. Batastini III ’98, Nixon Peabody

PRO BONO HONOREE
Neville J. Bedford ’00, ’13, Law Office of Neville Bedford

HALL OF FAME
Victoria M. Almeida, Adler, Pollock & Sheehan
First Women of the Rhode Island Bar honoree, 1976

UP & COMING HONOREES
Gregory N. Hoffman ’13, Barton Gilman
John D. Meara ’11, Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell
Kathryn M. Rattigan ’12, Robinson & Cole
Adam H. Thayer ’12, Sayer, Regan & Thayer
Joshua D. Xavier ’14, Partridge, Snow & Hahn

JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE
Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell, Rhode Island Supreme Court
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