



STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Sean M. Quinn

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

JUDGE

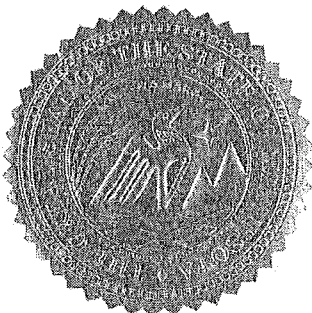
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF APPEALS

Effective: January 27, 2025

Expires: January 6, 2031

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed January 27, 2025.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz, GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon, SECRETARY OF STATE

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

Filed January 27, 2025
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State, Steve Simon

Reappointment

President of the Senate

SEAN MICHAEL QUINN

OFFICE

Minnesota Judicial Center
Suite 405
25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
651-539-1205

sean.m.quinn@state.mn.us

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

EXPERIENCE

- ***Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals (WCCA)*** - St. Paul, Minnesota
Judge
2018-Present
Appointed by Governor Mark Dayton (March 2018)
Re-Appointed by Governor Tim Walz (October 2019)

One of five judges on the WCCA tasked with reviewing all workers' compensation appeals from the Office of Administrative Hearings and the Union Construction Workers' Compensation Program. We work in panels of 3 or 5, reviewing the lower court files, the appellate briefs, participating in oral arguments, and writing the decisions. We also have original jurisdiction on petitions to vacate prior workers' compensation awards. It is a collaborative effort whereby each judge who works on a given appeal has a voice in the final product, the written decision.

- ***University of Minnesota Law School*** – Minneapolis, Minnesota
Adjunct Professor (Workers' Compensation: Litigation and Administrative Law Merged)
2024-Present

Teaching workers' compensation law to Second- and Third-Year law students. The students learn the basic historical development of workers' compensation law and the concepts as applied to modern workers' compensation practice. I developed this course, creating the syllabus, choosing the textbook, and producing the class-by-class outline. The course was approved by the law school and began the Fall of 2024.

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

- ***Mitchell Hamline Law School*** – St. Paul, Minnesota
Adjunct Professor (Lawyering: Advice and Persuasion)
2019-20 School Year

President of the Senate

Teaching legal writing to a small group of First-Year law students. The students learn the early basics of legal writing and citation and over the course of the year learn to master analyzing statutes and case law and to use that analysis as applied to a fact pattern to make persuasive written and oral legal arguments.

- ***Falsani, Balmer, Peterson & Quinn*** - Duluth, Minnesota
Partner
1992-2018

Partner in an AV-Rated civil litigation law firm. The firm had anywhere from 5 to 8 lawyers at any given time throughout my 26 years with the firm. I started as an associate in 1992. I became partner in 1998. I represented thousands of people in personal injury, workers' compensation, Social Security disability, and long-term disability matters through mediations, arbitrations, jury trials, court trials, and appeals. I had a very full and busy practice with about 200-250 clients with active cases, at any given moment.

- ***Meshbesh, Birrell & Dunlap*** - Minneapolis, Minnesota
Associate
1991

Associate in a 7-attorney civil and criminal litigation law firm. I drafted most of the criminal appeal briefs to the Minnesota Supreme Court, Minnesota Court of Appeals, and Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

- ***Foley & Mansfield*** - Minneapolis, Minnesota
Associate
1990

Associate in a 5-attorney civil litigation law firm (although the firm now has well over 100 lawyers). My primary duties while at this firm involved asbestos litigation depositions.

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

- **Carnegie Mellon University** - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
B.S. in Applied History, 1986
Minor: Architecture

President of the Senate

Internship: Historian/Researcher - Pittsburgh Brewing Company
Wrote 125-year Anniversary historical overview of brewery.

Activities: Teaching Assistant: Architectural Woodshop
Teaching Assistant: Computer Skills Workshop
Staff Sportswriter for The Tartan
Intramural Sports Governing Board

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS (based on peer review, not on paying a fee)

- **“Volunteer Lawyer of the Year”** (Volunteer Attorney Program)
2010
The Volunteer Attorney Program (VAP) recognizes one lawyer each year for outstanding *pro bono* services provided to the community.
- **“Volunteer Law Firm of the Year”** (VAP) – obviously my entire firm was recognized.
2006; 2007; 2011; 2013
VAP recognizes one law firm each year for outstanding *pro bono* services provided to the community.
- **“North Star Lawyer”** (Minnesota State Bar Association)
2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017
The MSBA honors lawyers who provide at least 50 hours of *pro bono* legal services during the year. I was part of the Inaugural Class of lawyers in 2012. The MSBA gave the 2013 President’s Award to this inaugural group.
- **“Super Lawyer”** (Super Lawyers)
2005; 2011; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018
The top 5% of lawyers from the state are honored based upon a peer review survey identifying those with a high degree of professional competence.
- **“Rising Star”** (Super Lawyers)
2001; 2002
A “Super Lawyer” designation for lawyers under the age of 40.

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

- **BV Rating** (Martindale Hubbell)
1998-2018
Rating based on “Very High” ethical standards, plus “Distinguished” standards in Legal Knowledge, Analytical Capabilities, Judgment, Communication Abilities, and Legal Experience.
- **Best Lawyers in America**
2017
Peer reviewed survey recognition limited to the top 5% of the lawyers in the country.

President of the Senate

VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY SERVICE - PROFESSIONAL

- **Lawyers in the Classroom**
 - 2019 Humboldt High School in St. Paul
 - 2024 Mora High School

The Minnesota Supreme Court hears an oral argument at a high school in the state once per year. In advance of that event, lawyers volunteer to spend two hours teaching the students about the legal process, the make-up of the judiciary, and what to expect as they watch the Supreme Court hear a case.

- **Volunteer Attorney Program (VAP)**
 - Chair: Board of Directors (2012-2017). I oversaw a Board of approximately 15 members for an organization that endeavors to find volunteer lawyers in civil legal matters for indigent folks over 11 NE Minnesota counties. I ran our monthly meetings. I assisted the Executive Director in day-to-day operations as well as fundraising and grant reviews.
 - Regular participant in VAP (1994-2018). Over time, I represented hundreds of clients, *pro bono*.
 - “Ask an Attorney” (AAA). This is the triage program for new VAP clients. I volunteered 3-4 times a year to meet with individuals to assess their legal problem and direct the client to resolution, either through their own means or through further long-term representation from a volunteer lawyer.

- **Community Education (Duluth)**
From 2008 through 2018, I taught free classes on Social Security Disability. There were 2-3 classes a year. For a few years, I taught the same course 1-2 per year in Forest Lake. The classes focused on helping people understand the system, rules, regulations, and how to go about proceeding ahead with a claim.
- **“Lawyers on the Line” (WDSE-TV)**
A half-hour call-in show on local public television. I appeared as a panelist on numerous occasions, from 1998 through 2018, on topics of Civil Litigation, Social Security Disability, Workers Compensation, Personal Injury, and Ethics. I also moderated the program several times on every legal topic.
- **Homeless Connect (Duluth)**
Volunteer providing free legal advice to homeless individuals.
- **University of Minnesota – Duluth**
Mock Trial Team - Attorney Coach
1994-2002
I coached and served as legal advisor to groups of undergraduates, mostly to prepare them for the various roles as advocates or witnesses in mock trial competitions.
- **Mediator/Arbitrator**
American Arbitration Association (No-Fault Automobile Insurance Arbitration Panel) 1998-2018.
- **Seminar Author/Speaker/Lecturer (CLEs)**
I have spoken at many CLEs on topics of my expertise. The most significant CLE has been the Workers’ Compensation Deskbook, considered by practitioners to be the “bible” of Minnesota workers’ compensation law. In the past, I authored two different chapters of the Deskbook.
 - 2024 *Workers’ Compensation Court of Appeals: Warnings, Counsel, Cautions, and Advice – WCCA Best Practices* (The WCCA gives tips to WC lawyers on best practices and things to avoid)
 - 2024 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Institute* (A View from the Bench – Practice Tips for Your Workers’ Compensation case)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- 2024 *Hennepin County Bar Association: Judicial Perspectives – Insights for New Lawyers* (Panel conversation offering career advice and insights to new lawyers)
- 2022 *West Metro CLE: Workers’ Compensation in Minnesota - From the Bench* (A WC trial judge and appellate judge explain the process of a WC claim)
- 2021 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Deskbook* (Appellate Review at the WCCA)
- 2020 *MAJ: Workers’ Compensation* (A View from the WCCA’s Newest Member)
- 2018 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Institute* (Social Security 101 – A Primer for the Workers’ Compensation Lawyer)
- 2018 *MAJ: Playing Well with Others: Coordinating, Protecting, and Maximizing Your Client’s Benefits and Recoveries* (WC/SSI/SSDI)
- 2016 *MAJ: Short Shot* (Social Security 101 – A Primer for the Personal Injury and Workers’ Compensation Lawyer)
- 2016 *MAJ: 34th Annual Convention* (Workers’ Compensation 101 – A Primer for the Personal Injury Lawyer)
- 2015 *MAJ: 15th Annual Mid-Winter Meeting (Planes, Trains and Automobiles [and Boats])* (Anticipating [and Preventing] Problems with Foundation and Admissibility of Non-Medical Expert Opinions)
- 2014 *Volunteer Attorney Program: Second Annual NE Minnesota Pro Bono Social and Panel* (Moderator of panel of 5 speakers)
- 2014 *Minnesota CLE: The Wearable Personal Health and Fitness Device Boom & What It Means in the Workers’ Compensation Context* (I spoke with a fellow WC lawyer and a Medical Doctor)
- 2013 *Volunteer Attorney Program: NE Minnesota Pro Bono Social and Panel* (Moderator of panel of 4 speakers)
- 2013 *MAJ: The New Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Laws* (I spoke on all the issues with 2 fellow panelists)
- 2013 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Institute* (Landmines in Drafting Stipulations for Settlement)
- 2012 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Deskbook* (Permanent Total Disability)
- 2012 *Minnesota CLE: Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Institute* (Bothersome Medical Treatment Parameters Questions – and Their Answers)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- 2011 *Disability Rights*: SSA Disability Hearings (Application and Appeals Process; Practice Tips for Representing Clients at SSA Hearings)
- 2008 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Deskbook (Finding and Using Background Information and Criminal Records – How to Help Rather Than Hurt Your Case)
- 2008 *MARP/IARP*: Annual Summer Conference (Bridging the Gap: Practical Litigation Information for the Rehabilitation Provider)
- 2007 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Deskbook (Temporary Partial Disability Benefits)
- 2007 *Minnesota CLE*: Workers' Compensation Institute (Medical Treatment Parameters – Do They Even Matter?)
- 2007 *MTLA*: Workers' Compensation (Meeting the Permanent Partial Disability Threshold in Permanent Total Disability Cases)
- 2006 *MTLA*: Workers' Compensation (Idiopathic Injury Cases)
- 2004 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Institute (Wage Quiz Show - The Tough Cases)
- 2004 *MTLA*: 4th Annual Mid-Winter Meeting (Summary of Third-Party Workers' Compensation Subrogation)
- 2003 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Institute (104 Weeks Have Run - Now What?)
- 2003 *MTLA*: Workers' Compensation (Case Law Update)
- 2002 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Institute (The 10 Toughest Permanency Rating Questions – and Their Answers)
- 2002 *Lorman*: Selected Topics in Minnesota Workers' Compensation (Practice and Procedure) & (Permanent Total Claims)
- 2002 *Lorman*: Preparing for the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Hearing: Practical Tips and Strategies (Workers' Compensation Procedures – Start to Finish)
- 2001 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Deskbook (Temporary Partial Disability Benefits)
- 2001 *Lorman*: Selected Topics in Minnesota Workers' Compensation (Practice and Procedure) & (Permanent Total Claims)
- 2001 *Arthritis Support Group*: Social Security Seminar (Social Security Disability Benefits)
- 2000 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Institute (Emerging Issues in Permanent Partial Disability)
- 2000 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Deskbook (Case Law Update)
- 2000 *MILE*: Workers' Compensation (Subrogation)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- 2000 *Lorman*: Selected Topics in Minnesota Workers' Compensation (Permanent Total and Social Security Disability Issues)
 - 1999 *MTLA*: Workers' Compensation (Coordination of Benefits)
 - 1999 *MILE*: Workers' Compensation (Intervention and Coordination of Benefits)
 - 1998 *Teamsters*: Basic Steward Training (One Attorney's Advice to Business Agents re: Workers' Compensation)
 - 1998 *Minnesota CLE*: Minnesota Workers' Compensation Institute (Fun, Falls, and Automobiles)
 - 1998 *HalfMoon LLC*: Discovery Skills for Paralegals (Practical Tips for Drafting and Responding to Discovery)
- **Seminar Author/Speaker/Lecturer (Firm Seminar)**

My former law firm hosted a free annual seminar for the public to educate on issues relating to workers' compensation, social security disability, long-term disability, and personal injury law. The audience consisted of union leadership, medical providers, and rehabilitation workers, among others.

 - 2018 *FBPQ*: Workers' Compensation (Panel: Employee Pitfalls – Don't Fall into the Tiger Trap) (How Come I Am 31% Disabled, But Really only 11% Disabled, And Thus Not Disabled At All?) & (Panel: Restriction and Light Duty Return to Work)
 - 2016 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Moderator of Panel: The Plant Closed. Now What?) & (SS, LTD, Pensions, and Other Non-WC Benefits for the Long-Term Disabled People)
 - 2014 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (2013 New Legislation) & (Occupational Diseases including Hearing Loss)
 - 2013 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Chronic System Problems and Potential Legislative Solutions) & (Social Security Disability)
 - 2011 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Idiopathic Injuries: Where is my Idio? And how did I injure it?) & (3 ways to get SS Disability Benefits)
 - 2010 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Coordination of Benefits)
 - 2009 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Gillette Injuries) (Case Evaluations) & (SS, PT, PERA, LTD and other permanent benefits)
 - 2008 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (The Social Security Backlog)
 - 2007 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Idiopathic Injuries) & (What is Included in Wage?) & (Retirement Defense)
 - 2006 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Permanent Partial Disability Claims for Unscheduled Injuries - Weber Injuries)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- 2004 *FBPQB*: Workers' Compensation (Permanent Total Disability and Social Security) & (Rehabilitation Panel)
- 2002 *FBPQ*: Workers' Compensation (Workers' Compensation Procedures)
- 2001 *FBPQ*: Workers' Compensation (Social Security and Workers' Compensation)
- 1999 *FBBP*: Workers' Compensation (No-Fault Claims) & (When is there Workers' Compensation Coverage for Injury)
- 1998 *FBBP*: Workers' Compensation – Workers' Rights Under Siege (Tips, Options, and Checklist Regarding Payment of Medical and Chiropractic Bills)
- 1997 *FBBP*: Workers' Compensation (Why My Uncle Settled His Case for Twice What I Got – Thank the Legislature for the 1992 and 1995 Cuts)
- 1996 *FBBP*: Workers' Compensation Rights and Remedies in the Post-1995 Era (Social Security Disability)

VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY SERVICE – NON-PROFESSIONAL

- **Laura Jeffrey Academy**

2020 – 2023

Board member of a Twin Cities tuition free charter middle school offering a unique STEM-focused, girl-focused educational experience, grades 5 - 8. I was appointed temporary Treasurer for the end of the 2020-21 school year and voted by the Board to be Treasurer for the 2021-22, and 2022-23 school years.

- **Free Mom Hugs**

2018 – present

I have attended many Free Mom Hugs events at Twins, Saints, and Loons games, where we offer hugs to anyone in the community, especially the LGBTQ+ population, who feel rejected by their own families, or otherwise just need a hug.

- **Duluth East Recreational Soccer**

- 2010: Head Coach U-15 (Girls)
- 2009: Head Coach U-13 (Girls)
- 2008: Assistant Coach U-15 (Boys)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- **Chester Park Recreational Soccer**

- 2008: Co-Head Coach of U-13 (Girls)
- 2007: Co-Head Coach of U-12 (Girls) – *AYSA Champions*
- 2006: Head Coach of U-13 (Boys)
- 2005: Head Coach of U-12 (Boys)
- 2004: Head Coach of U-12 (Boys)
- 2003: Assistant Coach of U-10 (Boys); Assistant Coach of U-8 (Co-ed)
- 2002: Head Coach of U-10 (Boys); Head Coach of U-8 (Co-ed)
- 2001: Head Coach of U-8 (Co-ed); Head Coach of U-6 (Co-ed)
- 2000: Head Coach of U-8 (Co-ed); Head Coach of U-6 (Co-ed)
- 1999: Head Coach of U-6 Team (Co-ed)

- **Central Little League**

- 2007: Assistant Manager of Seniors (13) (Boys)
- 2004: Assistant Manager of Majors (10-12) (Co-ed)
- 2003: Assistant Manager of Minors (9-10) (Boys)
- 2002: Manager of U-10 (Boys)
- 2000: Manager of U-8 (Co-ed)
- 1999: Manager of U-8 (Co-ed)

- **Congdon Park Softball**

- 2006: Manager of U-11 (Girls)
- 2005: Manager of U-11 (Co-ed)
- 2004: Assistant Manager of U-9 (Co-ed)

- **Adopt-A-Highway**

From 2006 thru 2012, 3-4 times annually, my former law firm volunteered to clean up a 2-mile stretch on Interstate 35 near the Carlton County/St. Louis County border. We did the actual cleaning; it was not farmed out to others.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS – CURRENT

- **Minnesota State Bar Association**

- Appellate Practice Section
- Civil Litigation Section
- Workers Compensation Section
- District 1 (Dakota County)
- District 2 (Ramsey County)
- District 11 (Greater Duluth)

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate

- Affinity Bar Associations (Minnesota American Indian Bar, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar, Minnesota Black Lawyers Bar, Minnesota Hispanic Bar, Minnesota Lavender Bar)
- SOLACE (Support of Lawyers/Legal Personnel—All Concern Encouraged)
- **Douglas K. Amdahl Inn of Court**
- **Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society**
- **American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota**

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS - PAST

- **Minnesota Association for Justice (MAJ)**
 - Treasurer (2017-18) (Had I not been appointed to the WCCA, I would have gone through the leadership succession of Secretary, Vice-President, President-Elect, and President)
 - Executive Committee (2017-18)
 - Board of Governors (2011-2018)
 - Co-Chair: Workers' Compensation Committee (2005-2018)
 - Member: Amicus Curiae Committee (2000-2018)
 - Member: Membership Committee
 - Author: Allan v. R. D. Offett: Bad Legislation Made Worse (Winter 2015)
- **11th District Bar Association (Greater Duluth Area)**
 - Chair: Fee Arbitration Committee (2009-2016)
 - Member: Ethics Committee (2007-2013)
- **Duluth Trial Lawyers Association**
 - President: 2005-2011
- **National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives**

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2025

President of the Senate