

JAG Metzger



Judge **Karen S. Metzger**, a Colorado native, received her B.A. degree from Colorado College and her J.D. degree from the University of Denver College of Law, where she was an editor of the Denver Law Journal. After serving as a Deputy State Public Defender in Denver, she was a Graduate and a Clinical Teaching Fellow at Harvard Law School, where she received her L.L.M. She then joined the faculty at the University of Utah Law School as an Associate Professor and also maintained a law practice in Denver. She was appointed to the Denver County Court in 1977 and to the Denver District Court in 1979, where she served in the criminal and roving civil divisions, was presiding judge of the domestic relations divisions, and was deputy chief judge.

In 1983, she was appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals, served there for almost 20 years, and authored or participated in several thousand opinions covering virtually every field of Colorado law.

Judge Metzger has participated in numerous Supreme Court projects, including the Judicial Advisory Counsel, the Criminal Jury Instructions Committee, and the Standing Committee on Family Issues. She was chair of the Public Education Committee for several years, and is currently co-chair of the Court Improvement Committee. She has also served on the ABA Board of Governors, the ABA Special Committee on Professional Utilization, and the Conference on the National Institute of Justice. She has also been a member of the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association Family Law Section, the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association, the Board of Trustees of the Denver Bar Association, and is a member of the American Law Institute.

Her teaching experience includes numerous bar association presentations, especially on trial and appellate practice and on family law, lectures in the new trial judges' and advanced trial judges' orientation programs of the Colorado Judicial Department, new judges' training for the Court of Appeals, team member for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, and Visiting Clinical Law Professor at the University of Denver College of Law. She has been an Adjunct Professor for over 20 years at the University of Colorado School of Nursing, where she co-teaches Law and Nursing Ethics.

She has conducted numerous successful settlement conferences, both as a trial judge and as an appellate judge. As a participant in the Senior Judge Program, she conducts trials in the District Courts of the state, and also serves often on the Court of Appeals.