



Norma R. Houston, UNC School of Government

Norma Houston joined the School of Government in 2006. Prior to that, she served as chief of staff and general counsel to State Senate President Pro Tempore Marc Basnight. She has also served as Dare County attorney, assistant attorney general in the NC Department of Justice, and staff attorney for NC Prisoners Legal Services. Houston earned a BS in criminal justice and psychology and a JD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a member of the North Carolina State Bar and serves on the boards of several organizations. Houston is an adjunct faculty member at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law and also teaches state government in the School's graduate program in public administration.



John J. Aldridge, III, Assistant General Counsel (NC Sheriff's Association, Inc.)

John Aldridge is Assistant General Counsel to the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association. He is retired from the North Carolina Department of Justice. At the time of his retirement, John was the Special Deputy Attorney General in charge of the Law Enforcement Liaison Section. There, in addition to rendering daily advice to law enforcement agencies across the State, he represented the law enforcement certification commissions of North Carolina; the State Bureau of Investigation; the State Crime Laboratory; and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. John received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from East Carolina University in 1980 and a Juris Doctor from Campbell University School of Law in 1983. Following completion of law school, John was accepted into the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps where he served as a criminal prosecutor and advisor to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Following his active duty tour, John served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the Air Force Reserves for 21 years. He retired from the United States Air Force on August 31, 2008, at the rank of Colonel. John was awarded the Legion of Merit for his work in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Following his active duty tour with the United States Air Force, John was an instructor/coordinator at the North Carolina Justice Academy where he spoke on such topics as the law of arrest, search and seizure, firearms, and domestic violence. John is also certified as a Specialized Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor. He also received North Carolina's highest award for public service, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2013. John has authored several publications on various aspects of North Carolina's Firearms Laws, Domestic Violence Laws, and North Carolina's Sex Offender Registry Program.



Shannon H. Tufts, Assistant Professor and Director, Center for Public Technology, UNC School of Government

Shannon Tufts designed and implemented the first local government Chief Information Officers Certification program in the nation and continues to run CIO certification programs for local and state government IT professionals. She created a National Certified Government Chief Information Officer program in 2007, in order to serve the growing needs of public sector IT professionals across the nation. Tufts has taught numerous courses on public sector information systems across the US, including IT investment strategies, embracing technology, project management, and stakeholder engagement in technology-enabled government. She serves on several federal, state, and local government committees to promote the effective use of technology in the public sector. Her publications in the area of e-government and public sector information technology include *Humanizing IT: Advice from the Experts* with G. David Garson, numerous book chapters, and articles in *Social Sciences Computer Review* and *Popular Government*. Tufts holds a BA from UNC-Chapel Hill, an MPA from UNC-Charlotte, and a PhD in public administration with a concentration in public sector information systems from North Carolina State University.

Sara DePasquale, UNC School of Government



Sara DePasquale joined the School in May 2013. Previously, she was an attorney for seventeen years at Pine Tree Legal Assistance Inc., beginning her legal career there as a Skadden Fellow. In her last nine years at Pine Tree Legal, she was the directing attorney of Maine's first and only children's law project, KIDS LEGAL. She served as an adjunct professor with the University Of Maine School Of Law teaching juvenile law. She is a member of the North Carolina State Bar, State of Maine Bar, the U.S.

District Court of Maine Bar, and the U.S. First Circuit Bar. DePasquale received a BA with honors in history and sociology from Binghamton University, is a magna cum laude graduate of the University Of Buffalo School Of Law, and also earned a dual degree with an MSW in child welfare/family systems from the University at Buffalo School of Social Work.



The Honorable Scott C. Etheridge, District Court Judge:

Since 2002, Scott C. Etheridge has been a district court judge for the 19B Judicial District, which presides over Montgomery, Moore, and Randolph counties of North Carolina. He was re-elected to the 19B Judicial District in 2014, winning a new term that expires on December 31, 2018. Scott has been a visiting judge in other district courts across the State. He has received and maintains his certification as a Certified Juvenile Court Judge. Prior to winning his election for judge, Scott was a partner in the private practice law firm of Gavin, Cox, Pugh, Etheridge, and Wilhoit, LLP; practicing primarily in criminal law and family law matters. He has also served in the capacity of a Public Defender, a Commonwealth's Attorney, and is a former member of the Board of Elections in Randolph County. He received his BS from Old Dominion University and a JD law from Campbell University. He has been a presenter at various events and conferences across the State of North Carolina, including continuing legal education for both attorneys and paralegals.