



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Planning Board Sessions:

Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., Legal Services Counsel
New Hampshire Municipal Association

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Stephen C. Buckley directs NHMA's legal services program as Legal Services Counsel, with responsibility for providing legal advice to members and overseeing training programs and educational publications for municipal officials. He was in the private practice of law from 1984 to 2014 concentrating in representing municipalities. In his hometown of Bow, Steve was a member of the planning board for 12 years and served as a member of the budget committee, and he currently serves as a member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. He is a past chairman and current member of the executive committee of the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, and he is currently chairman of the New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions. Steve received his B.A. from San Diego State University and his J.D. from UNH School of Law.

Benjamin D. Frost, Esq., AICP, Managing Director of Policy and Public Affairs
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority

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Ben Frost coordinates legislative initiatives and strategic planning, and serves as internal legal counsel for the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. He frequently lectures on issues of affordable and workforce housing, land use law, and ethics. Ben has over 35 years of experience as a land use planner and over 25 years as an attorney. He is a founding member of the Governing Council of Housing Action NH, a low-income housing advocacy organization. Ben is the Treasurer of both the NH Planners Association and the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association, and he serves on the Amicus Curiae Committee of the American Planning Association. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Geography (with a focus on USSR environmental policy) from Colgate University and Syracuse University, respectively and a J.D. from Cornell Law School with a concentration in business law and regulation. He lives in Warner, NH, where he serves as Chairman of the planning board. In their spare time, Ben and his wife Christine seek to employ permaculture principles in the design of their woodland paradise.

Zoning Board Sessions:

Christopher L. Boldt, Esq.
Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, PLLC

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As a partner in DTC since January 2007, Chris conducts a state-wide practice out of the Firm's Meredith offices for a wide range of property owners, businesses and municipalities. He enjoys helping clients find solutions to problems as cost-effectively as possible. Chris counsels a wide variety of City and Town Managers/Administrators, Boards of Selectmen and City Councils in all parts of NH; and he appears before land use boards and Superior Courts across the State as well as before the NH Supreme Court and various State Agencies. Chris handles a wide variety of municipal and taxation matters, conveyancing and title issues, boundary and easement disputes, matters involving the creation and interpretation of conservation easements, land use and development matters, shoreland and wetlands issues, site plan and variance applications, and related mediation, litigation and appeals. Since February 2004, Chris has been an active member of the NHBA Title Standards Subcommittee charged with reviewing and revising the NH Title Standards under the auspices of the NHBA Board of Governors. Chris is a member of the Belknap and Carroll County Bar Associations and the NH Bar Association. Chris frequently lectures on a variety of municipal, title and land use topics for the Local Government Center, the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives, the NH Bar Association, Primex and the NH Land Surveyors Association. Chris has also served as a Selectman and Library Trustee in Sandwich and is an active member of St. Andrew's in the Valley Episcopal Church in Tamworth. Chris earned his B.A. from Trinity University in 1984, a Diploma of Anglo-Irish Literature from Trinity

College, Dublin in 1985 and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1988. Chris became licensed to practice law in Texas in 1988, in New Hampshire in 2002, and in Vermont in 2016.

C. Christine Fillmore, Esq.

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Christine Fillmore is an attorney with the firm of Drummond Woodsum (recently merged with Gardner Fulton & Waugh). She advises towns, cities and village districts on a wide variety of issues, including governance, budgeting and annual meetings, right to know law, road law, land use and enforcement, health and building inspection, contracts and ordinances, local welfare assistance, and environmental issues. In her current position and previously as a staff attorney with the NH Municipal Association, Christine's practice has focused exclusively on representing municipalities and their officials and employees since 2005. She also has a background in corporate transactions and environmental law from her practice with Rath, Young & Pignatelli from 1998-2005, where she was first exposed to municipal law.

Matthew R. Serge, Esq.

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Attorney Serge is a member of the Municipal Group at Drummond Woodsum and MacMahon in Manchester, advising towns and cities on a wide range of issues including: land use matters, zoning enforcement actions, right to know law, welfare assistance, and general government relations. His experience on behalf of municipalities and other clients includes participation in numerous New Hampshire Supreme Court appeals, individually and as co-counsel. Attorney Serge served as law clerk for the New Hampshire Superior Court and also served as law clerk for the Honorable Linda S. Dalianis of the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He graduated summa cum laude from the New England School of Law in 1999, was class valedictorian, and served as Executive Director for the New England Law Review. He has served as a lecturer in the New Hampshire Municipal Association law lecture series in 2009 and 2012, and was a graduate of the NHBA Leadership Academy in 2011.