



Public or Privileged? Preserving Legislative Records

Tuesday, Aug. 15 | 2:45 PM-3:45 PM

Speaker Biographies

James Entrekin*

General Counsel

Legislative Services Agency of Alabama

Jimmy Entrekin serves as General Counsel for the Legislative Services Agency of Alabama, where he provides a variety of legal counsel and assistance to both the Agency and the Legislature and its members. Prior to joining the Legislative Services Agency in July of 2018, he served as Legal Counsel and Chief of Staff in the Office of the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives. Jimmy is a proud graduate of Samford University and the University of Alabama School of Law. He also served as a law clerk for the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals.

Kristen Fraser*

Senior Counsel

Office of Program Research, Washington House of Representatives

Kristen L. Fraser holds degrees from the University of Washington in political science (B.A. cum laude 1988, Phi Beta Kappa) and law (J.D. 1991; assoc. editor, Washington Law Review). Kristen works for the Office of Program Research, which provides nonpartisan legal, fiscal, and drafting services to the members and committees of the Washington House of Representatives. She began her legal career as an OPR intern in 1989 and returned to the legislature in 1993, serving as counsel to the fiscal committees of the House and as Records & Litigation Coordinator for OPR. Kristen advises legislators and the House administration on a number of complex legal issues, including legislative powers and prerogatives, initiatives and referenda, K-12 finance and litigation, separation of powers, and public records. She speaks and publishes frequently on the state constitution and the legislative process; her most recent law review article, "McCleary: Positive Rights, Separation of Powers, and Taxpayer Protections in Washington's State Constitution," was published in 2016 in the Washington Law Review online, and she is currently at work on a new article to update previous publications on the law of law-making.

From 2011 through 2020 she was an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law, where she taught Washington State Constitutional Law.

Jon Heining*

General Counsel

Texas Legislative Council

Jon Heining believes that strong states and strong state legislatures are critical to the success of our great American experiment in self-government. Accordingly, he serves the legislature of his state as general counsel to the Texas Legislative Council. As general counsel, Heining provides guidance on a variety of legislative, administrative, contractual, and compliance-related issues. In addition, he drafts or reviews several categories of legislative documents. Jon is dedicated to developing and sustaining the supportive environment and sense of mission at the council that is necessary to effectively support the Texas legislature's operations. Of particular relevance to today's session, Jon designed and administers the council's records retention program and advises other Texas legislative entities with respect to records retention.

In his spare time, Jon enjoys bicycling, camping, preparing and eating smoked meats, and gardening poorly. Jon lives in Austin, Texas, with his beloved wife, children, and dogs.

***Denotes the speaker is an attorney**