

**LINDA LEA M. VIKEN**  
**RESUME**  
*(items in italics are current activities)*

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

1967 graduate of University of South Dakota, B.S. in Business Education, with honors

December 1977, J.D. from University of South Dakota School of Law

**Court Admissions:**

South Dakota Supreme Court, 1978

United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, 1978

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 1981

United States Supreme Court, 2005

**Certifications**

Board Certified Family Law Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy since 1999

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Certified Matrimonial Law Arbitrator since 2006

Completed 40 hours of Family Law Mediation training through the American Bar Association, Family Law Section. Attended Negotiation Training at Harvard Law School.

**WORK**

*(items in italics are current activities)*

Partner in law firm, Finch and Miller (later Finch & Viken), Rapid City, South Dakota, 1978-1983

Partner in law firm, Finch, Viken, Viken & Pechota, 1983-1991

Part-time Magistrate Judge, Seventh Judicial Circuit, Rapid City, South Dakota, 1983-84

Partner in law firm, Viken, Viken, Pechota, Leach & Dewell, 1992 to 2003.

Principal in Viken Law Firm, 2003-2014

Adjunct Professor, Family Law Legal Drafting & Practice Course, 2013-2014  
University of South Dakota School of Law

Faculty, National Institute For Trial Advocacy (NITA) Family Law Program, 2015, 2016

Partner, Viken & Riggins Law Firm, 2014 - 2019

*Viken Law Firm–Viken Family Law Mediation 2019*

## ORGANIZATIONS

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

ORDER OF WOMEN LEGISLATORS: Member 1974-76; 1991-1994

*FELLOW, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS, 1986-*; Member, Racial and Ethnic Bias Committee; Member, Legislation Committee; Member, Economics of Law Practice; Member, Federalization of Family Law Committee; Chair, Federalization of Family Law Committee, 1998-2003; Member, Amicus Committee; Member, Certification Review Committee; CLE Chair, 2006-2009; Secretary of the Academy, 2003-2004, Vice President of the Academy, 2004-2008; First Vice President of the Academy 2009; President Elect of the Academy 2010; **President of the Academy 2011**; Immediate Past President 2012; Member, Bylaws Committee, 2008-2010; Chair, Bylaws Committee, 2012-2018; Member, Policies Committee, 2008-2010; Ex Officio, Policies Committee, 2014-2018; *Member, Bylaws and Policies Admin., 2019*; Member, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, 2008-2010; Chair, AAML/ABA-FLS Liaison Committee, 2008-2010; Chair, Nomination Committee, 2009-2010; Chair, Strategic Plan Implementation Committee, 2009-2010; Publications Review Committee, 2009-2010; Parliamentarian, 2014-2015; Budget & Finance Committee 2009-2010; Member, Best Practices Committee 2011; Chair, Best Practices Committee, 2012-2013; Member, Executive Committee Structure Committee, 2012-2013; Member, Post Nuptial and Cohabitation Agreements Committee, 2012-2013; Liaison, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, 2012-2013; Member, Impact of Special Needs Children on Custody and Financial Determination, 2013-2015; Member, Domestic Tort Litigation Committee, 2014-2016; Member, Domestic Violence Committee; 2014-2015; Member, Domestic Violence Task Force, 2015-2016; Member, Council of Committee Chairs, 2013-2016; *Member, Past Presidents Committee (formerly Best Practices Committee), 2012-*; *Representative, Joint Editorial Board for Uniform Family Law of the Uniform Laws Commission* ; Observer Family Law Arbitration Drafting Committee, Non Parental Child Custody and Visitation Act Drafting Committee, f/k/a Third Party Child Custody and Visitation Study Committee, Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement (Hague Convention) Drafting Committee, Uniformed Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act Drafting Committee, Premarital and Marital Agreements Drafting Committee, Uniform Voidable Transactions Act (formerly Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act) Drafting Committee; *Member, Legislation Committee, 2016-*; Member, Child Support Guidelines Study, 2016-2017 Member, Long Range Planning Commission; *Member Governance Task Force; Member Mediation Committee*

*FELLOW, INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF FAMILY LAWYERS, 2012*; Member, US CHAPTER OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF FAMILY LAWYERS, Member, Publications Committee; Member, Expansion Committee; Committee Member, Bylaws.

*AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION: Joined 1977; member of various sections; Committee on Family Law, 1979-; State Membership Chair, 1983-84; Custody Committee, 1983-84, 1994-95; Marriage and Cohabitation Committee, 1987-88; 1990-; Family Law--Federal Legislation and Procedures Committee, 1987-88; 1991-92; 1994-95; Family Law Section 1995- Litigation Section 2017- ADR Section 2018-*

*STATE BAR OF SOUTH DAKOTA: Admitted 1978; Law Related Education Committee 1978-81; Young Lawyers Section; Coordinator for Rapid City Adult Education Program 1978-79; Mental Health Committee, Chair, 1978-80; Domestic Relations Committee 1981-82; Chair, Pamphlets Committee 1982-83, Pamphlet Committee member 1983-84; Chair, Family Law Committee, 1984-87, 88-89; Ethics Committee, 1992-96; Environmental Committee, 1996-97; Member, Family Law Committee, 1998-2002; Bar Media Liaison Committee 2002-2011; Public Information Committee, 2004-2014; ADR Section, 2004-2005, 2017-; Family Law Section, 2004-2007, Chair 2005-2007; Practice Rules Revision, 2005-2008; Strategic Plan Committee, 2013-2014; Member, Family Law Committee, 2008-; Member, Women In Law Committee; ADR Committee 2018-*

*PENNINGTON COUNTY BAR: 1978-; Chair, Domestic Relations Committee, 1983; Bar/Bench Liaison Committee 1984-86; Secretary, 2004; Vice President, 2005; President, 2006*

*SOUTH DAKOTA TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, member; Practice Made Easier Committee, 1997-1998, 2010 -*

*NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY FAMILY LAW ADVISORY BOARD, 2008-2011*

*NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2017*

*DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FAMILY TRIAL LAWYERS SINCE 2009*

*ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE (ALI) 2015*

*FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION SINCE 2016*

*ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY & CONCILIATION COURTS, Member*

**COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES:**

JAYCEETTES: Member 1970-74; Board of Directors 1971-74

CIVIC FINE ARTS CENTER OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA: Board of Directors 1972-74

SD CONSUMERS LEAGUE: Member 1972-76

CHURCH: (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) Guild Chairman 1972; lector 1974-78;

Cathedral Parish (Rapid City, South Dakota) lector 1978-88; Blessed Sacrament parish, lector 1988-1996

PROBLEMS IN LIVING CENTER: (Mental Health Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota) Board of Directors 1975; Secretary 1976; Vice President 1977

CHILDREN'S INN OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA: Advisory Board 1978

FAMILY SERVICES OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA: Board of Directors 1978; Secretary 1978

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN: 1979-81

SD COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: Legal Committee 1978

RAPID CITY WOMEN'S CENTER: Advisory Committee 1978-80

NATIONAL COLLEGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, Secretarial Division 1979-85  
Committee Chair 1980-85

WEST RIVER MENTAL HEALTH BOARD (Rapid City, South Dakota): 1979-80

BLACK HILLS LEGAL SERVICES, INC.: Board of Directors 1980-83; Treasurer 1981-83

RAPID CITY RED CROSS: Board of Directors, 1980-83; Secretary 1981-83

BLACK HILLS REGIONAL FOOD BANK: Initial Board of Directors, 1983;  
Advisory Committee, 1991-

PENNINGTON COUNTY JAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE Member 1985

RAPID CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT Facilities Planning Committee, 1987-88

*RAPID CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: 1991-  
Governmental Affairs Committee 1993- Board of Directors 2018-*

CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE: Advisory Committee 1991-

SOUTH DAKOTA COALITION FOR CHILDREN, (Later called Voices For Children) Vice Chair, 1995; Chair, 1999, Past Chair, 2001

PARALEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, Western Dakota Technical Institute 1994-

PENNINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

SPIRIT OF DAKOTA AWARD SOCIETY, 2002-2004

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE BLACK HILLS COUNCIL, INC.  
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 1998  
POLICIES & STANDARDS COMMITTEE 1999-2000  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2000-2001  
BYLAWS COMMITTEE 2002  
CEO - UNIVERSITY FINANCE & SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE 2002  
CEO - UNIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE 2002

SOUTH DAKOTA VOICES FOR CHILDREN - Endowment Trustees Committee 2007

RAPID CITY 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: BEAUTIFICATION STRATEGIC GOAL #2  
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE, Chair 2010

ASK-A-LAWYER: SET UP AND COORDINATED THE WEST RIVER ASK-A-LAWYER  
PROGRAM FOR OVER 25 YEARS. (FREE ADVICE TO CALLERS)

### **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:**

*AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW): Since 1969; President, Sioux Falls Chapter \_\_\_\_\_; President Rapid City Chapter \_\_\_\_\_*

SD ADVOCACY NETWORK FOR WOMEN, 1986-2000; Executive Committee 1988-89

*ZONTA CLUB: SINCE 1980. President 2002; District 12 Regional Parliamentarian, 1995-98; Bylaws Chair, 1995-2003*

*STARTING STRONG RAPID CITY ADVISORY BOARD 2015-*

## **HONORS AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Elected to South Dakota House of Representatives, 1972 and 1974, District 27, Minnehaha County. Served on the following Committees: Judiciary and Commerce Committees, Special Committee on Mental Health Law, Special Committee on Medical Malpractice (Chair), Subcommittee on Court Reorganization, Criminal Procedure Study Committee, Criminal Procedure Study Committee (Vice Chair), Health and Welfare Study Committee on Alcohol and Drug Dependency (Vice Chair)

Elected to South Dakota House of Representatives, District 33, Pennington County, 1988 and District 34 in 1990. Served on the following Committees: Judiciary and Commerce Committees, Corrections and Mental Health Oversight Committee, Governor's Committee on Tax Fairness and Government Cost Effectiveness, Human Services Oversight Committee, Special Committee on Statute Review, Mental Health, Executive Board, LRC, Redistricting Committee, Ethics Committee. Served as Party Whip.

Listed in the following during various years:

Who's Who of American Women  
Who's Who in Government  
Women's Organizations & Leaders  
International Who's Who in Community Service  
Who's Who in South Dakota  
Who's Who in American Politics  
The Who's Who in Women  
Dictionary of International Biography  
Outstanding Young Women of America  
Marquis Who's Who in America  
Marquis Who's Who of American Women

Member of South Dakota Constitutional Revision Commission, 1973-76

South Dakota Federal Judgeship Merit Selection Panel, Chair 1980

Chair, South Dakota Commission on Child Support 1985 and 1988; Member 1996; Vice Chair 2000; Member 2004, Member 2008

South Dakota Woman Lawyer of the Year 1987

Unified Judicial System Visitation Task Force 1997-2010

*South Dakota Board of Elections, 1999-2019. Reappointed on February 1, 2019, for a term that will expire January 31, 2023.*

Member, Joint Committee To Study Elective Community Property-Bankers, Lawyers, and Governor's Task Force on Trust Law, 2002

Member, Education- Divorcing Parents and Visitation/Custody Study Task Force 2006

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Fellow of the Year 2008

*Listed in Best Lawyers in America in Family Law 2007-2019*

*Listed as a Super Lawyer in Family Law 2007-2019*

*AV Preeminent Attorney- The Highest Possible Rating in Both Legal Ability & Ethical Standards by Martindale-Hubbell / Lexis Nexis 2010-2018*

*AV Preeminent - Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers by Martindale-Hubbell / Lexis Nexis, 2011 Inaugural Edition, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017*

First-Tier Ranking in the 2011-2012 US News - Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms"

South Dakota Trial Lawyers Association "Toast of the Trial Lawyers Award" 2012

Best of Business Rapid City Family Law 2013—Business Community Association

Special Recognition Award by the Pennington County Bar Association for many years of contribution to the success of the annual Ask-A-Lawyer Program, 2014

South Dakota Trial Lawyers “Trial Lawyer of the Year” Award, 2013-2014

Worldwide Who’s Who Lifetime Achievement (2015) inductee representing outstanding professional dedication and career longevity

*Superb Avvo Rating for professional conduct and experience since 2015*

Elite American Lawyers 2015

America’s Most Honored Professionals Top 1% 2016 by the American Registry

Women in Business Enterprising Woman Entrepreneur, 2019

Pennington County Bar Association Outstanding Lawyer 2019

USD Law School Law Review Outstanding Alumnus Award 2019

## **PUBLICATIONS**

"An Inevitable Clash of Power: Determining the Proper Role of the Legislature in the Administration of Justice," SD Law Review, Volume 22, No. 2, 1977

"Hearsay and the Child," Family Advocate, Summer 1987, Volume 10, Number 1

"Mediation and Investigation: An Experience Worth Trying," American Journal of Family Law, Volume 2, Issue Number 1, 1988

"Recognition of Homemaker Career Opportunity Cost in Marital Dissolution Cases," South Dakota Law Review, Vol. 35 Issue 1, 1990, (co-authored with Economist Ralph J. Brown)

"Step Into a Case Without Stumbling Into Trouble," Family Advocate, Vol. 13, No. 4, Spring 1991

"Calling in the Feds: The Need for an Impartial Referee in Interstate Child Custody Disputes," SD Law Review, Volume 39, Issue 3, 1994

“Child Support in South Dakota, From Obligor Only to Shared Responsibility, An Overview,” SD Law Review, Volume 48, Issue 3, 2003

“Evaluating the Relocation Case,” Family Advocate, Spring 2006, Volume 1, Number 4

<b>LECTURER</b>
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South Dakota Trial Lawyers Seminar, "Fee Agreements," 1984

South Dakota Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Programs:

"Divorce Taxation," 1984

"Child Custody Litigation Issues," 1985

"New Developments in Child Support Enforcement," 1986

"Administrative Law," 1987

"Labor Law Lawyers School," 1988

"The Use of Mediation and Investigation in Custody Cases," 1988 Law Education Institute, Vail, Colorado

"The Military Family," 1988 - Law Education Institute, Vail, Colorado

"Documentary Presentation of Evidence in a Contested Divorce Trial," South Dakota Trial Lawyers Court Trial Seminar, 1991

"Basic Divorce Laws, Forms & Procedures," South Dakota Trial Lawyers Family & Divorce Law Seminar, 1997

"Child Custody, Visitation & Support Issues," South Dakota Trial Lawyers Family & Divorce Law Seminar, 1997

"Painless Discovery from a Plaintiff and Defense Viewpoint," South Dakota Trial Lawyers Pre & Post Trial Essentials Seminar, 1997

"Federalism of Family Law," AAML Annual Meeting, 1997

"Jurisdictional Issues - Child Support Jurisdiction," AAML Mid-Year Meeting, 2001

"Family Law in the Millenium," State Bar of South Dakota Continuing Legal Education, 2001

"Alimony Guidelines - A Plus or Minus?" South Dakota Trial Lawyers Spring Seminar, 2002

"Alimony and Child Support, The Unholy Alliance?" 2004 National CLE Conference on Family Law in Snowmass/Aspen Colorado

"Ethical Dilemmas for Counselors When Testifying in Court," Counselors / Ethics / Law West River Counseling Association, October 29, 2005



“Dividing the Perks of Employment,” State Bar of South Dakota and Committee on Continuing Legal Education Family Law CLE, 2006

“Ethical Conundrums” American Institute of Certified Public Accountants / American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers National Conference on Divorce, Las Vegas, Nevada 2008

“Higher & Higher - Trial Preparation,” Nevada State Bar Family Law Conference, Ely, Nevada, 2011

“Ethical Conundrums,” Kentucky Chapter of the AAML and Louisville Bar Association Annual Family Law Seminar, 2011

“Custody Evaluations: What Are We Looking At?” National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ Conference on Juvenile and Family Law, 2012

“Hot Topic for Family Law....the Emerging Issues,” South Dakota Trial Lawyers Association, 2014

“Parental Rights in South Dakota” w/Kylie M. Riggins. Ellsworth AFB, 2014

“Impact of Special Needs Children on Divorce.” American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, November 2015

“Guarding the Home Front: Protecting the Spouse,” American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, March 2016

“Military Members and Divorce / Custody,” SD State Bar Family Law CLE, April 2017

“Family Law - Tax Reform & Alimony,” SD State Bar Early Bird CLE, June 21, 2019

“Important Issues to Consider When Estate Planning Meets Family Law,” Webinar sponsored by The ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law, August 9, 2018

PANEL PARTICIPANT WOMEN’S EQUALITY DAY, August 26, 2018

Revised January 2020