

## About the Authors

**James A. Rapp** is one of the United States' foremost authors in the area of law and education. His works include a seven-volume treatise, *Education Law*, published by the Lexis/Nexis (Matthew Bender & Co.), as well as numerous publications on subjects ranging from school crime and violence, record sharing, victims' litigation, medical malpractice, and tax law. As the father of three daughters, Jim takes a personal interest in education. He is a strong advocate of safe schools, effective discipline, agency cooperation, the critical role of parents in their children's education, and the rights of students with disabilities. Bridging the chasm between scholarly theory and real-world application, he is an attorney with a private firm in the Midwest town of Quincy, Illinois. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and Washington University School of Law.

**Shereen Arent** is the Executive Vice President for Government Affairs and Advocacy at the American Diabetes Association. She provides strategic direction and oversight of the Association's advocacy efforts, which focus on increasing federal and state funding for diabetes prevention, research, and treatment; preventing diabetes and improving the availability of accessible, adequate, and affordable health care; and eliminating discrimination against people with diabetes at school, work, and elsewhere in their lives. Arent joined the Association in 1999 as the founding staff member of the Association's Legal Advocacy efforts. As Managing Director, she developed and coordinated a nationwide campaign to eliminate discrimination against people with diabetes in employment, education, correctional institutions, and places of public accommodation. Prior to coming to the Association, Shereen established the first Equal Employment Opportunity office for the Architect of the Capitol, an agency of Congress, and was a partner at two public interest law firms, Youngdahl & Youngdahl in Little Rock, Arkansas and Newman & Newell in Washington, D.C. While in private practice, she focused on union-side labor law and employment discrimination litigation, often combining the two to represent unions as plaintiffs in employment discrimination class actions. Shereen also served as law clerk to Hon. Phyllis A. Kravitch, United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. She is a graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

**Brian L. Dimmick** is Director of Litigation at the American Diabetes Association. In this position, he oversees the Association's advocacy-related litigation efforts and provides assistance to private and government attorneys working to protect the rights of people with diabetes and to end discrimination in employment, education, correctional institutions and other areas. He previously worked as a Skadden Fellow and attorney with Disability Rights Advocates, a non-profit law firm in Oakland, California dedicated to protecting and advancing the rights of people with disabilities. He is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Stanford Law School.

**Katharine Gordon** is the Director of the Legal Advocate Program at the American Diabetes Association. She leads the Association's efforts on provide direct assistance and referrals to students, workers, parents, and prisoners discriminated against because of diabetes. Katharine has a long-standing interest in many areas of civil rights law and is particularly committed to helping vulnerable populations learn to advocate for themselves. A former

Georgetown University Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow, she is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College and the George Washington University Law School.

**Crystal Jackson** is Director of the American Diabetes Association's Safe at School Program, where her primary responsibility is managing the Association's Safe at School Campaign. Crystal, a former litigation paralegal, is a parent of a child with diabetes and a long-time ADA volunteer who joined the legal advocacy staff in 1999 after she successfully lobbied the Virginia General Assembly for passage of school diabetes care legislation that has resulted in improved standards of care for students with diabetes. Advocating on behalf of her daughter, Crystal achieved a model OCR resolution agreement for the care of students with diabetes in the Loudon County (VA) School District. Crystal has contributed to many diabetes publications including the National Diabetes Education Program's *Helping the Student with Diabetes Succeed: A Guide for School Personnel* and is a frequent guest speaker at diabetes conferences and camps. Crystal is a member of the Virginia Diabetes Council, the U.S. DAWN Youth Advisory Board, and serves on a number of diabetes and youth panels.