



RAMÓN CRUZ has over 20 years of experience intersecting the fields of sustainability, environmental policy, urban planning, energy and climate change. He has worked in the public sector in his native Puerto Rico as the Deputy Director of the Environmental Quality Board, the state environmental regulatory agency and as Commissioner of the Puerto Rico Energy Commission. He has also worked in the non-governmental sector in senior positions at the Environmental Defense Fund, the Partnership for New York City and the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy. He has been a consultant for the World Bank, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

In May 2020, he was elected President of the Sierra Club, the nation's oldest and largest environmental organization with 3.8 million members and supporters in 63 chapters across the United States.

Ramón is a graduate of American University in Washington D.C. and Princeton University in New Jersey.



GARY MOODY is the Director, State and Local Climate Strategy for the National Audubon Society. In this role, Gary manages Audubon's state and local climate campaign portfolio and he works with state leadership and local chapters to develop state and local climate initiatives that align with Audubon's strategic plan and support our federal policy priorities.

Gary joined Audubon in 2014 as the state policy and advocacy lead in our Arkansas state office.

He then served two years as the Arkansas State Director, before assuming his current role on the national climate team in December of 2019. Prior to joining Audubon, Gary spent 15 years in business and political consulting running state, local and federal campaigns and helping clean energy start-up businesses manage regulatory affairs.

Gary is also responsible for Audubon's energy policy analysis. He has successfully leveraged the Audubon network to secure energy efficiency and smart renewable energy victories in both legislative and regulatory settings across multiple jurisdictions. Gary holds a BS and MA from the University of Arkansas and studied abroad as a visiting scholar at both Cambridge and Oxford.



In her position as a Senior Attorney for the Sierra Club, **CASEY ROBERTS** advocates before state public utility regulators and at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for policies that protect consumers and allow full and fair competition by renewable energy and demand-side resources. Casey leads Sierra Club's work at several RTOs/ISOs and in federal court to promote market rules that minimize costs while ensuring market access for resources to provide the attributes that a changing electric grid and public policy require. Appearing before state regulators, she has worked on retail rate design to promote affordability and energy efficiency, as well as to encourage the growth of low-cost distributed energy resources. Casey also

leads Sierra Club's advocacy on the U.S. EPA's rule to limit toxic water pollution from coal-fired power plants.

Casey received her JD from the University of California, Berkeley in 2007, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of Ecology Law Quarterly. Following law school, she clerked for Judge James Parker in the District of New Mexico, and Judge Diana Murphy on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Casey received her BA from Rice University in biology and public policy and then worked as an environmental policy consultant in Cambridge, MA. Before she joined Sierra Club in 2011, Casey was a fellow at the Natural Resources Defense Council and at Altshuler Berzon LLP, working on labor, low-wage employment, environmental, and civil rights litigation. Casey is based in Denver, Colorado.



CAROLYN SHEARMAN is a longtime Arkansas environmentalist and volunteer leader for Sierra Club's Central Arkansas Group, Ozark Society, and Friends of the Ouachita Trail. She has served on the Lake Maumelle Watershed Taskforce and participated in both the Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee and the Buffalo Watershed Management Plan. Currently, Carolyn serves on the Metroplan Regional Advisory Council, representing Sierra Club.



DONNA GRAY serves as the Executive Director of the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC), where she leads the General Staff in developing recommendations to the Commission. Recommendations are presented through the filing of subject matter expert testimony on a wide range of issues in proceedings that come before the Commission. Ms. Gray actually began her public utility regulatory career with this state agency and returned to the agency just over two years ago to lead the General Staff. She has more than 30 years of experience in public utility regulation, having testified as an expert witness on a wide range of policy and ratemaking issues at the state and federal levels as a member of the APSC General

Staff and as a regulatory consultant. She has held senior leadership roles for more than 25 years, overseeing the development of the General Staff's position in numerous proceedings. In addition to her regulatory experience, Ms. Gray has ten years of experience in collegiate teaching and administration, as well as budget and fiscal review for the legislative branch in Arkansas. Ms. Gray holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Missouri State University and is a Certified Rate of Return Analyst.



TIPPI MCCULLOUGH is the Arkansas State Representative for District 33 in Little Rock including portions of Pulaski County and is the Democratic House Caucus Minority Leader. For the 92nd General Assembly, she served on the Revenue and Taxation and Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military affairs committees. She is also a member of the Joint Auditing and Arkansas Legislative Council committees. She taught English and coached basketball for 33 years all over Arkansas. She is an environmental advocate and outdoor enthusiast who is an avid mountain, road, and gravel biker, occasional paddler, and loves to travel with her wife Barbara Mariani and camp.



ROSS NOLAND is an environmental attorney and conservation advocate. Ross serves as the Executive Director of the Buffalo River Foundation, where he works with landowners to realize their conservation objectives, recruits new donors, and conducts field activities on BRF easements and properties. As owner of the Noland Law Firm, Ross works with nonprofits in administrative and management matters, and represents private property owners harmed by environmental pollution. Ross is an avid whitewater paddler who grew up floating Arkansas's wild and scenic waterways. Ross and his wife Ali are now passing their love of the outdoors on to their two children, Willa and Brady. Ross holds a B.A. and J.D. from the University of

Arkansas, and an LL.M. in Environmental Law from George Washington University.



HIEU LE is a campaign representative that leads Sierra Club's involvement in electrifying medium and heavy duty vehicles, National Drive Electric Week, Rev Up Electric Vehicles campaign, Volkswagen Settlement Advocacy efforts, and supports priority states on EV policy. Prior to joining the Sierra Club, Hieu worked on various democratic and progressive campaigns. He holds a bachelor's in Political Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



RICHARD H. MAYS is the managing member of Richard Mays Law Firm, PLLC. His primary areas of practice are general civil practice, with emphasis on litigation involving environmental law, oil and gas, contracts, real estate, water rights and other civil litigation and Appeals.

Mr. Mays served as Department Attorney for the Arkansas Department of Pollution and Control & Ecology (now Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality) in 1979. In 1980, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he served as Senior Enforcement Counsel and Acting Assistant Administrator for Enforcement in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Enforcement until 1988, when he entered the private practice of law with several law firms in Washington, D.C. until returning to Arkansas in 1998.

Mr. Mays has handled numerous large and controversial cases, including a suit to close the C & H Hog Farm in the Buffalo River watershed; numerous suits against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers involving development on Greers Ferry Lake; development of an intermodal facility in a floodplain of the Arkansas River in Pope County; construction of a regional shopping center in wetlands in North Little Rock; and construction and operation of a coal-fired electrical generating plant in southwest Arkansas. He is representing numerous individual and neighborhood association in a suit against the Arkansas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to prevent the widening of Interstate 30 in Little Rock-North Little Rock.

Mr. Mays obtain a B.A. degree from the University of Oklahoma and a law degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He has spoken at numerous environmental conferences sponsored by Federal Publications, Inc., Government Institutes, Inc., ALI/ABA, Executive Enterprises, and various bar associations. He has authored five books on environmental law, one of which (Environmental Law Forms Guide (West Pub.)), is the largest set of environmental legal forms in publication.



REPRESENTATIVE VIVIAN FLOWERS' education, volunteerism, and work in public service catapulted her to service for the state of Arkansas when she was sworn into the 90th Arkansas General Assembly as State Representative for District 17 in 2015. Now in her third second term, she serves on the House Public Transportation and Agriculture, Forestry & Economic Development Committees, as well as the Legislative Joint Auditing and Advanced Communications & Information Technology Committees. She is the immediate past chair of the Arkansas Legislative Black Caucus, was recently elected as Region X Chair of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL), and continues to serve as the Women in Legislative

Leadership (WILL) Arkansas state chair. She served on the Governor's Council on Medicaid Reform during her first term.

Flowers completed her undergraduate studies in political science and professional technical writing at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and completed her Master of Public Service degree at the Clinton School of Public Service in 2006, as a graduate of the Inaugural Class. Upon graduation, she accepted a position as Director of Recruitment for Diversity at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), and later served as Chief Operating Officer. She led the department's diversity recruitment, program, and leadership efforts at UAMS for nearly a decade. Prior to graduate school and UAMS, Flowers established a solid record as a volunteer as well as a strong public service background that includes service in state government, the non-profit sector, journalism, and politics. Having served on numerous state and non-profit boards and commissions – including the Women's Foundation of Arkansas and Arkansas Minority Commission - she currently serves as a board member of the Women's Council on African American Affairs and is a Founding Member of Higher Heights.

A 5th generation Arkansan and a proud Pine Bluff native, Flowers currently resides in the Historic District of downtown Pine Bluff. She is a member of the Pine Bluff Branch of the NAACP, and an active member of St. John AME Church.



KYMARA SEALS is the Policy Director of the AR Public Policy Panel, which was established in 1963 and addresses social and economic justice issues. She is part of a team of people and coalitions through the Citizen's First Congress who help create good sound public policy but also fight against policy that is bad for Arkansas.

Kymara has been involved in social justice issues and engaged in civic activities since the young age of nine. She has worked on the National Staff of NAACP to register, educate and mobilize voters to the polls based upon policy issues. She continues this work today.



TERESA TURK is a retired NOAA fisheries scientist and currently serves on the Fayetteville City Council representing Ward 4. In 2019, she was instrumental in blocking the proposed Arkansas Nutrient Trading Regulation No. 37 and sponsored the resolution to ban expanded polystyrene (EPS) from being used in Fayetteville.

Since returning to Fayetteville in 2012, Teresa started her own environmental consulting company focused on marine science and policy. She has been part of a research team investigating the C&H hog operation in Mt. Judea and continues to spearhead the collection of monthly water quality samples.

Teresa represented BRWA and the environmental community during the recent ADEQ stakeholder review of Regulation 2, proposed Anti-Degradation Implementation Methodology, update of the Continuing Planning Process, and the 2020 Water Quality Assessment Methodology. She is a founding member of the Ozark River Stewards and works with a suite of other environmental organizations throughout the state.

Teresa grew up in Arkansas (Little Rock and Texarkana) exploring the Southern pine forests, hiking the Ouachita Trail and floating the Buffalo National River. She received her BS in Zoology and MA in Anthropology at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. Upon completion of her Master's degree, she headed to Alaska and started working in the Bering Sea on board Soviet factory trawlers. She returned to school and received her MS in Fisheries Science from the University of Washington. During her career at NOAA she developed domestic and international natural resource monitoring and stock assessment survey programs.

In her spare time, she likes to bike, hike, kayak and make documentary films about local Arkansans.



BILL KOPSKY is executive director of Arkansas Public Policy Panel. The Panel is a 54 year old 501.c.3 non-profit that helps Arkansas families and residents improve their communities and develop policy solutions by taking collective action and building coalitions. The Panel is the organizer of the Arkansas Citizens First Congress, a coalition of 68 community organizations founded in 1998 as a 501.c.4 sister organization to lead progressive policy change in Arkansas. The two organizations' agendas, elected by their members, includes economic, education, environmental, and civil rights issues, as well as promoting civic engagement. Bill completed biology and creative writing degree requirements with a minor in philosophy at the

University of Colorado where he was a student organizer. He is a graduate of the Southern Empowerment Project Community Organizing School and joined the Panel in 1996 where he was mentored by Brownie W. Ledbetter and other civil rights, community, environmental, labor, and feminist leaders. He became the Panel's Executive Director in 1999. He is married to Liz Smith, Ceramic Arts Professor at the University of Central Arkansas, and they have 2 young children.