**Edward S. Steinmetz**

**Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge**

**Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings**

After graduating from the Gonzaga University School of Law in 1984, Ed served as a Law Clerk for the Montana Supreme Court. From 1985 through 1989, Ed continued in public service as a Special Master for the Montana Water Courts, Bozeman, Montana.

After being admitted to the practice of law in the State of Washington in 1990, Ed accepted his current public service position as an Administrative Law Judge for the Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). During his nearly 30 years at OAH, Ed has presided over hearings for nearly all of OAH’s referring agencies, boards and commissions.

In 1994, Ed was assigned to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) caseload, and served as a member of the OAH UI Tax Panel for approximately 15 years. He has conducted over 15,000 Unemployment Insurance related cases. As a Senior ALJ, Ed managed the UI Tax and Training Benefits teams for OAH. He was also responsible for nearly all Regulatory caseload hearings conducted in eastern Washington from 2002 through 2008.

In 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2017, Ed was selected by the U.S. Department of Labor to participate in the “National Appeals Review” work group in Washington D.C.. The purpose of these periodic reviews is to assess the adequacy of the UI administrative hearing process in each of the U.S. states and territories.

Ed began working as an Assistant Chief Judge for Quality Assurance in 2016, and currently serves as Lead for OAH’s Case Quality Review process. In June 2019, Ed began service as President of the Board of Governors for the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appeals Professionals (NAUIAP). This is a national training organization dedicated to improving and maintaining high quality UI hearings and decisions at both the trial and appellate levels.

**J. Sara Cromwell, Chair**

**Oregon Employment Appeals Board**

Sara Cromwell was appointed to the Oregon Employment Appeals Board June 1, 2014 by Governor John Kitzhaber. In September 2017, Governor Kate Brown appointed her as the board’s chair, and, effective June 1, 2018, Governor Brown appointed Sara to a second term as EAB chair.

Sara graduated cum laude from Southern Oregon University in 1997 with a B.S. degree in history, and received her J.D. from Willamette University School of Law in Salem, Oregon in 2000. Sara is licensed to practice law in Oregon, and spent the first few years of her career working primarily as a court-appointed attorney representing indigent clients in post-conviction trials, and in post-conviction, habeas corpus, and criminal appeals before the Oregon appellate courts.

Sara first joined the Employment Appeals Board’s legal staff in September 2004. Between 2004 and 2014, she developed EAB’s training and legal staff resources, became EAB’s designated trainer, served five pro tem board appointments and one pro tem appointment as the board’s chair, and led EAB through to the successful implementation of two case management system modernization efforts.

Sara is currently a member of the Oregon State Bar’s Administrative Law Section’s Legislative Subcommittee, Appellate Practice Section, and Labor & Employment Law Section. She volunteers as a moot court and trial practice judge for the Willamette University College of Law and is active in the WUCL mentoring program. She is also co-editor of, and an active contributor to, the NAUIAP Navigator Newsletter.