

Elena A. Cappella is the Deputy Director of the American Law Institute. In that capacity, she works closely with Director Lance Liebman on the development, evaluation, and administration of Institute projects. She also manages the Institute's Philadelphia office, where she supervises fiscal and other operations. She has worked with all of the Reporters for the emerging Restatement Third of Torts, most intensely with Professors James Henderson and Aaron Twerski on the Products Liability segment under former ALI Director Geoffrey Hazard. Before moving to Philadelphia in 1990, she spent six years as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Judicial Commission, the agency responsible for dealing with judicial misconduct and disability complaints.

Ms. Cappella holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's in communication. Her law degree is from the University of Wisconsin, the institution to which, after a clerkship with Ninth Circuit Judge Alfred T. Goodwin in Portland, Oregon, she returned briefly to teach torts, criminal procedure, and women and the law. She then co-directed the Conditions of Confinement Unit of the Wisconsin State Public Defender Office. She has also served on the Board of the Association of Judicial Disciplinary Counsel, as Chair of the Advisory Committee of the American Judicature Society's Center for Judicial Conduct Organizations, as Chair of the Wisconsin Women's Network Task Force on Women in the Criminal Justice System, and as a consultant to the Wisconsin State Bar Commission on Legal Education. Prior to law school, she headed the Madison Chapter of the National Organization for Women.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Ms. Cappella was elected to membership in the American Law Institute in 1992.