

ROBERT J. FREEMAN

Executive Director

New York State Committee on Open Government

Bob Freeman has worked for the Committee since its creation in 1974 and was appointed executive director in 1976. He received his law degree from New York University and a BS in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.

He has addressed numerous government related organizations, bar associations, media groups and has lectured at various colleges and universities in the US, Europe, Asia and Latin America and is the recipient of numerous honors. Most recently, Freeman was given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the New York State Associated Press Association.

Robert C. Vanderbles Bio

Rob Vanderbles is a senior attorney with the New York Department of State. He is counsel to the Bureau of Fiscal Management and Division of Community Services where he ensures grantee compliance and negotiates contracts. Prior to joining the Department of State Rob worked for the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York where he represented low income individuals against debt collectors, landlords, and foreclosing banks. He is proud to have been selected for the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law's intensive Leadership Academy. Rob received his B.A. from SUNY Albany and J.D. from Albany Law School. He is licensed to practice in New York.

Wade Beltramo

Wade Beltramo is General Counsel for the New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials (NYCOM), a voluntary membership association which represents villages and cities in the State of New York. As NYCOM General Counsel, he oversees the NYCOM legal department and *amicus* program. He is also responsible for handling general municipal legal matters as well as building code, planning and zoning, cannabis, property maintenance, justice court, parking and traffic regulations, community and economic development, and local government consolidation and dissolution issues. He has been with NYCOM since April 2002.

Mr. Beltramo joined NYCOM after serving as Assistant Corporation Counsel in the New York City Law Department, where he litigated both civil and criminal cases on behalf of the City's Department of Buildings, Department of Health, Taxi and Limousine Commission, Department of Environmental Protection, and Fire and Police Departments. Prior to working for New York City's Corporation Counsel, he was an analyst in the New York City Mayor's Office of Operations.

Mr. Beltramo graduated from Grinnell College, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He received his Juris Doctorate from Brooklyn Law School.