Senior Assistant Attorney General Ron Matthias, a 29-year veteran of the California Attorney General's Office, has served as the Statewide Capital Litigation Coordinator for the California Department of Justice since 2007. He has briefed and argued cases at every level of the state and federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States, the Ninth Circuit, and the California Supreme Court, as well as the United States District Courts and the California Courts of Appeal. Following his graduation from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1981, Ron worked for two years as a full-time instructor at the University of Puget Sound School of Law (now Seattle University School of Law) and U.C. Berkeley Law, before joining the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office in 1983. He has also served as a part-time instructor at St. Mary's College and has lectured frequently for numerous local, state, and national prosecutor groups, including the California District Attorneys Association, the Association of Government Attorneys in Capital Litigation, and the National District Attorneys Association/U.S. Department of Justice National Advocacy Center. He has testified before the United States Congress on legislation affecting habeas corpus litigation, and as has participated as a panelist at educational forums presented by various organization, including the National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute and the U.C. Hastings Institute for Criminal Justice. Ron received the California Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Legal Services in 1992, the Association of Government Attorneys in Capital Litigation Board of Directors' Appellate Advocacy Award in 2007, and the California District Attorneys Association's William E. James Award for appellate advocacy and service to crime victims in 2013. His principal professional interests are capital litigation, legal ethics, and federal habeas corpus.