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Prior to joining OCA, Mr. McDonnell served as the Principal Court Attorney to Supreme Court Justice Daniel P. FitzGerald and an Adjunct Professor of Law at New York Law School. He currently serves on numerous state-wide committees in the field of criminal law. He is also past chair of the Criminal Justice Operations Committee at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

Mr. McDonnell received his Bachelor's degree from Hobart College in Geneva New York, and his law degree from Washington and Lee University School of Law.