

JUSTICE KEVIN M. DOUGHERTY

Justice Kevin M. Dougherty graduated from Temple University, and then attended Antioch School of Law in Washington, DC. Following that he started his legal career as an assistant district attorney in Philadelphia, and later went into private practice.

In 2001, Dougherty was appointed to the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, and he won election to a full 10-year term later that year. Justice Dougherty requested to be assigned to Family Court because he felt that he could influence the lives of our most vulnerable citizens and help mold troubled youth into happy, healthy and productive members of society.

In recognition of his administrative skills and commitment to reforming the juvenile justice system, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed Justice Dougherty to be Administrative Judge of the Philadelphia Family Court in 2005 eventually serving as the longest Administrative Judge in Philadelphia history. In this capacity, Justice Dougherty initiated numerous diversionary programs benefiting the most at-risk and vulnerable children in Philadelphia including the Cross-Over Program, the Adolescent Medicine Initiative, and the Expungement Initiative.

In 2014, Justice Dougherty was reassigned as the Administrative Judge of the Trial Division, First Judicial District, as such ran the largest court system in Pennsylvania while serving as Chair of the Administrative Governing Board.

Justice Dougherty was elected to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on November 3rd, 2015. With a passion for the states 117 Problem Solving Courts and issues facing children and families, Justice Dougherty alongside his fellow Justices has taken a keen interest in making the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania a model for the country when it comes to issues such as access to justice, alternative sentencing, transparency within the court system, and most importantly keeping an open dialogue between the various stakeholders within the judicial branch of government.

Justice Dougherty resides in Northeast Philadelphia with his wife Lisa, and children Sean (26) and Kaitlin (21).

KIM ALI

PHILADELPHIA CHILDREN'S
HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM

Kimberly Ali began her tenure with the City in 2000 as a DHS social worker. She rose through the ranks of DHS, with leadership positions that included Director of Provider Relations and Evaluation of Programs and Operations Director for Ongoing Services in the Children and Youth Division. Most recently, she was Deputy Commissioner for Child Welfare Operations.

Ms. Ali holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice and a Masters in Social Work from Temple University.

ARDHIKA AZIZ

Ardhika Aziz is a self-advocate and a valued member of the community Autism Peer Specialist (CAPS) team at Mental Health Partnerships. He was first diagnosed with autism at the age of three and has always used his diagnosis as an opportunity to make the most out of his experiences. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from Temple University this past year and he would like to apply his experience working as a CAPS and materials from his Neuroscience courses to conduct autism research in the future and expand services for individuals on the autism spectrum.

MORGAN BATHGATE

Morgan Bathgate is a college student at Messiah University studying Psychology. She graduated in 2020 from Mechanicsburg Area Senior High where she also played water polo, swam competitively, played violin, maintained a 4.0 GPA and took six Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

She was diagnosed with Autism when she was 3 years old. Morgan likes to remind people that she may think differently, learn differently and at times struggle to focus—but she embraces her extraordinary abilities. She is different—but not less.

Morgan describes herself as family oriented, artsy, techie, bookish, musical and adventurous. She loves nature, animals, video games and drawing.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JESSICA
BENHAM

State Rep. Jessica Benham took office on a platform of fighting for the interests of residents in the 36th Legislative District and solving the critical problems that her constituents face: lack of access to quality health care and to economic opportunity, poor air and water quality, and failing infrastructure. Benham's background is in advocacy for health care, education and worker's rights, with experience advocating for legislation on the federal, state and local levels. Prior to holding public office, Benham was Director of Development for the Pittsburgh Center for Autistic Advocacy (PCAA), a grassroots self-advocacy project run by Autistic people for Autistic people. She co-founded PCAA after moving back to college, and it remains the only LGBTQ Autistic-led advocacy organization in the Greater Pittsburgh Area.

Through her work with PCAA, Benham has worked to ensure that individuals with disabilities are treated fairly in the legislative process. She has provided feedback and consultation for legislation including the Autism CARES Act on the federal level and health care efforts at the state level. She advocated strongly for Paul's Law, which states that an individual can't be deemed ineligible for an organ transplant simply because of a disability and was signed into law in Pennsylvania in 2018.

However, her advocacy efforts are not limited to health care. Benham also has experience fighting for workers' rights, notably during her time as a graduate worker at the University of Pittsburgh, where she was involved in efforts to organize a union of graduate student workers through the United Steelworkers.

Benham has B.A. degrees in Political Science and Communication Studies from Bethel University, an M.A. in Communication from Minnesota State University, and an M.A. in Bioethics from the University of Pittsburgh.

She currently resides in the Southside Slopes with her cat, Ravi.

JILL BOWEN, PhD

COMMISSIONER, DBHIDS

Dr. Jill Bowen was appointed in 2020 to serve as Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS). She is responsible for overseeing the \$1 billion healthcare agency, comprised of seven unique divisions: Administration and Finance; Planning and Innovation; Community Behavioral Health; Intellectual disAbility Services; Behavioral Health; Division of Behavioral Health and Justice; and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer.

Dr. Bowen joined DBHIDS in 2018 as the Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Finance, ensuring the organization thrives administratively, financially, and operationally.

Dr. Bowen has more than 30 years of experience in behavioral health services and management. Dr. Bowen has an extensive track record in staff development and training, organizational management, and strategic planning. Prior to joining DBHIDS, she was Senior Adviser for Mental Health with the Office of the Mayor in New York City. In this role, Dr. Bowen oversaw the implementation of "Thrive NYC," a mental health initiative launched by New York City's first lady Chirlane McCray in November 2015. Thrive NYC invested \$850 million over four years and includes 54 initiatives designed to change the mental health system in New York City. She has previously held senior leadership positions as Assistant Vice President/Chief Transformation Officer for NYC Health +Hospital's Behavioral Health Services, and at Kings County Hospital as Senior Associate Executive Director for Organizational Innovation and Excellence, as well as for Kings County Hospital's Behavioral Health Services.

Trained as a clinical psychologist, she received her doctoral degree at the Derner Institute for Advanced Psychological Studies/Adelphi University. Her work has included direct care as a member of an interdisciplinary clinical team and supervisory work in clinical and forensic psychology. She was the Deputy Director of the Forensic Psychiatry Service at Kings County Hospital Center before moving on to work as a senior leader within Behavioral Health, focusing on strategic planning and process improvement.

She is gold-level-trained in lean improvement methodology and played a significant role in the development of initiatives that contributed to wide-ranging behavioral health clinical and operational improvements at Kings County Hospital Center. She is a frequent lecturer, and co-editor and co-author of the first book exclusively devoted to mental health and lean healthcare, *Lean Behavioral Health*.

BONNIE L. CARNEY

Magisterial District Judge Bonnie L. Carney was elected in 2003 and is currently serving her third term at Magisterial District Court 22-3-01 in Wayne County.

Prior to her service on the bench, Judge Carney was a local business owner for more than two decades. Active in the community, Judge Carney serves as a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the Special Court Judges Association and on numerous Wayne County Advisory Boards including those focused on behavioral and developmental programs and early intervention.

LAURA DERIGGI

Laura has been with Community Behavioral Health since 1999 beginning as the Director of Clinical Management responsible for the oversight of behavioral health services. She is currently the Director of Integrated Clinical Consultation Services for Community Behavioral Health and the Department of Human Services. In that role, Laura is responsible for program development, integrated service planning, training and clinical consultation. Her role with DHS includes assessing behavioral health needs of dependent and delinquent children, youth and families, program development, clinical consultation to the Courts and consultation to the new Community Umbrella Agencies. She specializes in case planning and program development for young adults involved in multiple systems of care.

Laura is originally from Pittsburgh. Prior to her move to Philadelphia, she was responsible for planning and program development for behavioral health services, assisted in developing a unified system of care for clients with serious mental illness and mental retardation, directed the Act 152 drug and alcohol managed care program, and worked in private managed care. Laura's experience includes both private and public sector human services and encompasses every disability area and system. She is an adjunct professor at Alvernia University since 2000 teaching various courses in behavioral health and human services, and most recently in the Undergraduate Social Work Program.

She is also adjunct professor at West Chester University and Alvernia University, teaching in the MSW Programs. Laura is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work in 1989. She was awarded the Social Work Alumni Fellowship and the Student Leadership Award. In 1989, she was awarded the Citizen of the Year award in the City of Pittsburgh for her work with homeless individuals and won the Distinguished Advocate Award presented by the Support Center for Child Advocates in Philadelphia in 2007.

JUDGE CHARLIE EHRlich

Judge Charles Ehrlich was elected to the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas in 2011. Since January 2012, Judge Ehrlich has been assigned to Criminal Division and now hears cases in the Major Trials Program. Judge Ehrlich was a Supervising Judge of the Indicting Grand jury from 2013-2016.

Prior to his election as a Common Pleas Court Judge, he worked as an associate at Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman, & Goggin from 2010-2012 handling asbestos and general casualty cases. Before joining Marshall, Dennehey, Judge Ehrlich was an Assistant District Attorney in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office from 1985-2010 serving as a prosecutor in the Juvenile, Child Abuse and Homicide Units and subsequently as a supervisor of the Family Violence and Sexual Assault Unit and the Municipal Court Unit.

He earned his BA in Political Science from Tufts University in 1976. While working in Washington from 1977- 1985 as a legislative and administrative assistant in the offices of Congressmen David Cornwell and Don Albosta, Judge Ehrlich attended law school in the evening program at American University and received his JD in 1981. From 2011 – 2017, Judge Ehrlich was a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Criminal Procedural Rules Committee. Currently, Judge Ehrlich is Co-Chair with Judge Gwendolyn Bright of the Criminal Conversations Program and the New Criminal Division Judges Education Program in the First Judicial District. Judge Ehrlich is also the Co-Chair with Judge Timika Lane of the Common Pleas Court Criminal Rules Committee in Philadelphia.

In 2020, Judge Ehrlich was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to serve on the newly established County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee within the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

MARINA ERMHOLD

Marina Ermhold graduated from Shippensburg University with a BS degree in Criminal Justice. She has spent her career working in juvenile probation, foster care and adult probation and parole. Marina is the mother of a child with autism.

JUDGE JOHN H. FORADORA

Judge John H. Foradora has served as president judge of Jefferson County Court of Common Pleas since 2002 and was appointed to the Court of Judicial Discipline in October 2017.

Prior to his judicial service, he was Professor of Business Law at DuBois Business College as well as a partner at Pontzer & Foradora from 1997 through 2001. From 1996 through 1997, he was a partner at Foradora & Foradora. From 1992 through 1996, he was a litigator at Fernan, Whitney & Masson. He worked as a part-time public defender from 1992-1995 in Jefferson County. In 1991 and 1992 he was a law clerk for the Court of Common Pleas of Elk and Cameron counties.

Judge Foradora received his B.A. from Juniata College in 1988 and his J.D. from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1991.

VITO P. GEROULO

Judge Vito P Geroulo is a graduate of the Scranton Preparatory High School, and received a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Scranton in 1969. Judge Geroulo attended Fordham law School at Lincoln Center in New York City from which he received his Juris Doctorate Degree in 1972. He was engaged in the private practice of law from 1972 until 2002 when he assumed his duties on the bench of Lackawanna County.

Judge Geroulo served as an Assistant Public Defender and as Chief Public Defender for Lackawanna County. He was active in the Lackawanna Bar Association, serving two terms on the Board of Directors and as president of the Bar Association in 1996. Judge Geroulo currently serves as chairman of the Lackawanna County Criminal Justice Advisory Board and previously served as chair of the Prison Board of Lackawanna County.

He has served as a member of the Judicial Ethics Committee for the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges since 2007 and served as the chair of the Ethics Committee from 2015 to 2020. Judge Geroulo presides over the Mental Health Treatment Court of Lackawanna County which he co-founded in 2007. He has been married for more than 50 years to the former Elaine Mooney and they reside in the Hill Section of Scranton. Judge and Mrs Geroulo are the parents of Attorney Elaine Geroulo, Sara Rutledge, Rebecca Szymanski and Attorney Thomas Geroulo, and grandparents of six grandsons.

DEREK GREEN

COUNCILMAN, PHILADELPHIA

In 2015, Councilmember Derek S. Green, Esquire won the Democratic primary for City Council At-Large in Philadelphia by receiving the highest number of votes cast in the election, and, later that year, he was elected as a member of the City Council of Philadelphia. In 2019, he was elected for another term.

As a member of City Council, Councilmember Green chairs the Committee on Finance and Disabilities and serves as the Vice Chair of the Committees on Aging and Law and Government. Additionally, he serves as the Chair of the Philadelphia Gas Commission, President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, President of the Democratic Municipal Officials, Board Director for the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Board Director for the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau, Board Director for the National League of Cities, and Regional Director for the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

Before his election, Councilmember Green was the Special Counsel to Councilmember Marian B. Tasco. In this capacity, he proposed and drafted legislation as well as reviewed and monitored local, state, and federal legislation. He also served as counsel to the Philadelphia Gas Commission Chair and the Committees on Finance and Public Health and Human Services and managed various Council hearings and meetings with constituents and executives.

Prior to working in City Council, Councilmember Green served as a Deputy City Solicitor in the Housing and Community Development Division of the Corporate Group of the City's Law Department. As a Deputy City Solicitor, he represented the Offices of Housing and Community Development and Neighborhood Transformation Initiatives, Commerce Department, and Vacant Property Review Committee and annually drafted, negotiated, and reviewed over \$100 million in housing and economic development contracts funded by the City, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Additionally, Councilmember Green's legal experience includes positions as an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia and Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the State of Delaware (Securities and Criminal Divisions). He is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and State of New Jersey. He is also a graduate of the University of Virginia and Temple University School of Law and is a member of the Center for Progressive Leadership's inaugural class of Political Leadership Fellows, and served as

a faculty member and alumni Board Director. Furthermore, the Pennsylvania Law Weekly named Councilmember Green as a Lawyer on the Fast Track, Cheyney University honored him with the President's Outstanding Community Leader Award, Community College of Philadelphia presented him with their Distinguished Leadership Award, Democratic Municipal Officials awarded him with their President's Award, Urban Education Fund honored him with the Gimper Award for Outstanding Service, Bensalem High School honored him with its first Distinguished Alumni Award, Leadership Philadelphia selected him as one of the region's key connectors and leaders, Metro Philadelphia selected him as one of 6 new young political leaders, and the Philadelphia Daily News named him one of the 10 under 40 rising political stars. In 2018, he was selected as NewDEAL Leader.

Before becoming an attorney, Councilmember Green was a consumer and small business lender for Meridian Bank. He also served in a leadership capacity in a number of civic and professional organizations including President of the Center in the Park, Inc. and East Mount Airy Neighbors, Inc. ("EMAN"), First Vice President of the Germantown YMCA, Vice President of Young America Political Action Committee, Co-Vice Chair of the PA Bar Assoc.'s Legal Services to the Public Committee. Further, he served as a Board Director for the Green Tree School, Mt. Airy USA CDC, Urban League of Philadelphia, West Oak Lane Charter School, West Philadelphia YMCA, and served as pro bono counsel for the Family Life Centers of Canaan Baptist Church and Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown.

Councilmember Green and his wife, Sheila, co-founded the first Autism Support Class at Houston Elementary School to help other Autistic children like their son. To aid other families affected by Autism, they are a top regional fundraiser for Autism Speaks.

THOMAS HASSELL

Thomas Hassell is a board member of the Greater Harrisburg Area Autism Society Affiliate. Tom is also the head of an adult ASD support group "Spectrum friends", a board member of United for Autism, a member of the ASERT advocacy advisory group, a former member of an Employment Coalition for the Focus Behavioral Health, a member of the Peer to Peer committee, and a former member of the Information Sharing Autism Sub-Committee. In 2017, Tom was honored as the recipient of the Dennis O'Brien Autism Advocacy award.

PRESIDENT JUDGE

RITA DONOVAN HATHAWAY

President Judge Rita Donovan Hathaway is a graduate of Boston State College and Duquesne University School of Law. Judge Hathaway began her legal career as a prosecutor in the Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office, where she was Chief Trial Attorney and the Supervisor of the Child Abuse and Sexual Crimes Unit.

She was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 1997, and in 2018 became the first woman elected President Judge in the 230—year history of Westmoreland County. Judge Hathaway served as President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges in 2008-2009. She is a past member of the Ethic Committee of the Conference, and served as an appointed member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing from 2011-2019.

Judge Hathaway resides in Murrysville with husband. They have two children and nine grandchildren.

KATE HOOVEN

Kate Hooven is the Justice System Project Coordinator for ASERT (Autism Services, Education, Resources and Training) where she is using her former background in PA's Juvenile Justice System, and her passion for advocating for children and adults living with autism, by training probation officers, police officers, attorneys, judges, correctional officers and others employed in the justice system to raise awareness of the impact an autism diagnosis has on those individuals involved in our juvenile and criminal justice systems.

Prior to Mrs. Hooven's decision to stay home with her three children, one of whom has an Autism Spectrum Disorder, she was a Juvenile Court Consultant for the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges Commission, a Home and School Visitor for Central Dauphin School District and a Juvenile Probation Officer for Dauphin County Juvenile Probation. Mrs. Hooven's passion is in educating and raising awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders as well as advocating for families loving a child with an ASD.

JUDGE BRIAN JOHNSON

Judge Brian Johnson is currently the President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. He was elected Judge of that Court in 2003, began his term in January 2004, and has served in the Civil, Family and Orphan's Court Divisions since that time. He has served as Administrative Judge of the Orphans' Court Division from January 2008 to February 2011 and September 2015 to the present and has served as Administrative Judge of the Civil Division from January 2007 to December 2020. He has served as President Judge from January 2021 to the present.

Judge Johnson serves on the Juvenile Court Judges Commission by appointment of Governor Thomas W. Wolf, upon nomination of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, since July 2016. He served, by selection of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, as a member of the Supreme Court Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee from March 2009 to February 2015 and on the Statewide Children's Roundtable from May 2007 to May 2016. He chaired the Lehigh County Children's Roundtable from November 2006 to June 2019 and co-chaired the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Leadership Roundtable from March 2007 to September 2016. He chaired the Guiding Principles Committee of the Pennsylvania Children's Statewide Roundtable, leading said committee in drafting the Mission Statement and Guiding Principles for the Child Dependency System in Pennsylvania and chaired the CPCMS Users Group Committee.

Judge Johnson has been a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association since 1984, a member of the Bar Association of Lehigh County since 1982 and a member of the Donald E. Wieand Inn of Court since 2000. Prior to his election to the Court of Common Pleas, Judge Johnson was Special Counsel with the Philadelphia-based national law firm of Duane Morris LLP and was a member of that firm's litigation department in its Lehigh Valley office. Prior to that, from 1986 to 1996, he engaged in the private practice of law based in Lehigh County as a sole practitioner and as a partner in the firms of Johnson & Ashcraft and Johnson, Ashcraft & Giordano. From 1983 to 1986, he was an associate with the firm of Lanshe, Lanshe & Lanshe. In the course of his career as an attorney, he practiced primarily in the areas of civil and criminal litigation, business and real estate transactions, municipal law, and wills and estates. He served Lehigh County as an Assistant Public Defender from 1981 to 1983, as Criminal Arraignment Master from 1984 to 1986, as Assistant County Solicitor from 1987 to 1989 and as Criminal Costs and Fines Master from 1990 to 1991.

Judge Johnson has taught a Master's degree course, Legal And Ethical Issues In Psychology as an adjunct instructor for Chestnut Hill College, School of Graduate Studies, from January 2011 to May 2020. He taught Business Law in the ACCESS program at Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales, now DeSales University, from 1986 to 1987. He has been a speaker at various continuing education programs and civic and educational events. Judge Johnson is a graduate of Villanova University (B.A. English 1977) and Temple University School of Law (J.D. 1981).

CHRISTOPHER M. KING

Captain Christopher M. King has served as a Pennsylvania State Trooper since January 25, 1999. Captain King is currently the Director of the Office of Community Engagement. He oversees the Heritage Affairs Section and the Community Affairs Section. The Heritage Affairs Section serves as the Department liaison to underserved communities across the Commonwealth. In addition, they prevent and respond to hate/bias-related crimes and are actively training Troopers on implicit bias. The Community Affairs Section consists of Community Affairs Officers who consistently provide a positive police presence in our communities with a concentration on building relationships in areas of the Commonwealth where those relationships do not currently exist or need improvement.

Prior to being the Director of the Office of Community Engagement, Captain King was the Executive Officer to the Deputy Commissioner of Operations and the Executive Officer to the Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Professional Responsibility. He also worked as a Criminal Investigation Supervisor, Criminal Investigation Assessment Officer, and Criminal Investigator. He served as a Crisis Negotiator with the Special Emergency Response Team and served on several committees that directly impacted the State Police.

Captain King earned an associate degree in Social Science from Luzerne County Community College and a bachelor's degree in Psychology from King's College.

DAVE KNAUSS

Dave Knauss 66, was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome (a form of autism spectrum disorder) in 2003, and with generalized anxiety disorder in the 1990s. He has been married to his wife, Connie, for 35 years and has three grown daughters. Recently retired, he has held professional positions with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 29 years.

ALIKI KOUMENIS

Aliki Koumenis is an Autistic Self-Advocate, Certified Peer Specialist and Community Autism Peer Specialist (CAPS). Aliki is currently the Development Assistant for the CAPS program at Mental Health partnerships, supporting team and participant growth, providing technical assistance, and conducting outreach activities for the program.

Previously, Aliki has been employed as a CPS and a CAPS providing direct support both in the community and through online services. As an advocate for mental health and disability justice, Aliki lent her lived experience towards supporting the development of the novel Community Autism Peer Specialist program through her work on the steering committee and as a facilitator for the first two rounds of CAPS training. She is passionate about advancing societal attitudes and services for Autism to align with humanistic, person-centered, inclusive values, driven by the voices of the rich and valuable neurodivergent community.

DOCTOR

LUCAS D. MALISHCHAK

Dr. Lucas D. Malishchak is the Director of the Psychology Office for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. In this leadership role, Lucas is responsible for the administrative and clinical oversight of the mental health care system of Pennsylvania's 24 State Correctional Institutions, which includes an infrastructure that supports approximately 40,000 incarcerated individuals. Within this system, more than 13,000 individuals are currently receiving mental health care services delivered by more than 300 mental health care professionals. Additionally, Lucas is responsible for policy development and implementation of his clinical team's vision of Psychological services through strategic direction of the Central Office Psychology Office.

JUDGE CHRIS MALLIOS

Judge Christopher Mallios joined the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas in January 2016 after practicing law for more than twenty eight years. He is assigned to the Domestic Relations Section of the Family Law Division, where he presides over proceedings involving protection from abuse, child custody, divorce and criminal law. Before joining the bench he was the inaugural Sexual Violence Investigative Officer at the University of Pennsylvania, where he served as the principal investigator of complaints of violations of the University's policy on sexual violence, relationship violence and stalking.

Before that, Judge Mallios served as an Attorney Advisor for Aequitas: The Prosecutor's Resource on Violence Against Women from 2010 to 2015, where he earned a national reputation as an expert on sexual violence, domestic violence, stalking, elder abuse and human trafficking. He has traveled throughout the country training and presenting to lawyers, judges and others regarding best practices in responding to these complaints. He was a frequent presenter for the judge advocate general corps lawyers in all branches of the U.S. armed forces. He has also taught judges, lawyers and law enforcement officers how to improve the criminal justice response to gender-based violence in Liberia and Nepal.

Previously, Judge Mallios worked in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office for nearly 16 years in a series of progressively responsible positions culminating in his service as chief of the office's Family Violence and Sexual Assault Unit. He was also selected to serve as the District Attorney's liaison to Philadelphia's LGBTQ community. He was responsible for ongoing training of more than 300 prosecutors as the District Attorney's Director of Continuing Legal Education and was a frequent presenter for the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute.

Judge Mallios also teaches integrated trial advocacy as an adjunct professor at the Beasley School of Law at Temple University. He was previously appointed to be an adjunct professor at the School of Social Policy of the University of Pennsylvania, where he was an affiliate of the Ortner Center for Family Violence. Judge Mallios has also worked as a criminal defense attorney, representing many indigent defendants as a court-appointed lawyer in criminal trials including death penalty cases and in mental health court. He is a member of the Education Committee of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and he is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Temple American Inn of Court.

His honors and awards include the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations Award for Human Rights in Law Enforcement, the Philadelphia Children's Alliance Team Excellence Award and Women Organized Against Rape's Signature Award. Judge Mallios received his BS in science from the Pennsylvania State University and his JD from Temple University School of Law. He served as a law clerk on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania, and was admitted to the bars of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

JIM MARTIN

Jim Martin, Lehigh County District Attorney is the longest serving district attorney in the history of Lehigh County. He has been district attorney since January 1998 when he was appointed by the County Commissioners. He has been elected to six four-year terms in 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015, and 2019.

Martin has 30 years' experience as a prosecutor and more than 47 years' experience as a trial attorney. He is past president (1986) of the Bar Association of Lehigh County.

From 2000-2012, he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and was president of the Association from 2006-2007. He is a past president of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute, the educational and training arm of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association.

Martin is a past member (eight years) of the Governor's Victims Services Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and also had served on the Commission for Justice Initiatives, which was a Pennsylvania Bar Association and Pennsylvania Supreme Court joint commission which established templates for "Problem Solving" courts, including "Drug Courts."

Martin manages a budget of over \$13.4 million that includes about \$5 million in grant money, forfeitures reimbursement and generated revenue. He supervises more than 125 people – attorneys; administrative staff; a victim/witness unit; county detectives; homicide, drug and auto theft/insurance fraud task forces; the Regional Intelligence and Investigation Center (RIIC); the Officer David M. Petzold Digital Forensics Laboratory of Lehigh County located on the campus of DeSales University; and the Central Booking Unit.

Martin has spearheaded numerous innovations since becoming District Attorney:

- The first Investigating Grand Jury in Lehigh County's history was empaneled by Martin in 2001. Currently, the Tenth Investigating Grand Jury is hearing cases. A petition was recently filed with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to permit the Investigating Grand Jury to also act as an Indicting Grand Jury, and that has been granted.
- The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) of Lehigh County was established in 2001, as a co-located facility bringing law enforcement, Office of Children and Youth caseworkers, and health care professionals together in one place to provide victims of child abuse and sexual assault caring and professional services.
- The Municipal Emergency Response Team (MERT) was formed by Martin in cooperation with Lehigh County Chiefs of Police in 2001, and it continues to respond to high-risk situations arising in the county and, thereby, enhances public safety.
- The Bad Check Restitution Program, implemented by Martin in 2005, has recovered more than \$700,000 for victims of bad check offenses and generated over \$75,000 in revenue.

- The Lehigh County Homicide Task Force, formed by Martin in summer 2005, has assisted area police departments, particularly Allentown Police Department, in solving 130 criminal homicides to date, resulting in the arrest of 141 dangerous individuals.
- The Officer David M. Petzold Digital Forensics Laboratory of Lehigh County was initiated in partnership with the Officer David M. Petzold Memorial Foundation, DeSales University, and the District Attorney to provide state-of-the-art digital forensic analyses. The Petzold Foundation to date has contributed over \$200,000 to Lehigh County for the use of the District Attorney in equipping and running this laboratory, and it represents a one-of-a-kind county laboratory in the Commonwealth aiding local law enforcement, including neighboring Northampton County. The lab has been instrumental in assisting in investigations of numerous serious crimes, including homicides and child pornography.
- In January 2011 Martin established the District Attorney's Veterans' Mentoring Program, which pairs veterans in the community with veterans who are charged with non-violent crimes. There are currently 25 veterans who have volunteered to be mentors in this program, and they help veterans who are defendants to access VA benefits, find and apply for jobs, obtain housing, stay drug and alcohol free, and once again become productive members of society.
- The Elder Abuse Task Force, formed by Martin in 2007, continues to increase public awareness of elder abuse and neglect and assists in performing investigations of crimes against the elderly.
- The Lehigh County Central Booking Center, established by Martin in 2007, continues to save police departments throughout the county thousands of officer's hours in the processing of individuals arrested for crimes within the county. This center's operating expenses are completely covered by charges assessed against convicted defendants processed through the center. The center has consistently shown a "profit" of revenue over expenses from its inception and utilizes no tax dollars.
- In 2012/2013 Martin established the Lehigh County Firearm and Tool Mark Laboratory to provide Lehigh County law enforcement agencies with expert ballistics examinations on an accelerated basis. This modern lab is centrally located within the Cetronia Ambulance Corps/ Lehigh County Building in South Whitehall Township.
- Martin leads the development of the Lehigh County Regional Intelligence and Investigation Center (RIIC), which began operations in 2013. This center integrates data from all police departments in the county and recently included data from Northampton County departments. It also includes dozens of local, state and federal databases in one electronic crime-fighting resource, which has assisted in the investigation of numerous crimes and has dramatically enhanced the ability of criminal investigators to solve crimes. Martin was successful in obtaining a \$150,000 matching grant from the Harry C. Trexler Trust and several grants totaling \$500,000 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to enlarge the data sources integrated into the system and to enhance the gang intelligence database for use by local law enforcement. Currently the RIIC is partnering with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) in Washington, D.C., which is using its Gang Intelligence System as a "pilot" for tracking transnational gangs. This has resulted in the recent award of a \$1.1 million grant to the RIIC.
- Martin and the RIIC are partnering with area healthcare providers, Lehigh Valley Health Network and St. Luke's University Health Network, to analyze mental health related data from a law enforcement and healthcare perspective. Both sectors are often dealing with the same population. Once an individual is arrested and in the system, it is more costly and difficult to treat that person. By partnering with healthcare in a collaborative effort, steps can be taken toward a proactive approach to work toward getting such individuals the mental health treatment that they need.

- Martin also obtained a grant to assist in the placement of medication collection boxes at 12 police departments throughout the county and at Lehigh Valley Hospital sites at Cedar Crest in Salisbury Township, 17th and Chew Streets in Allentown, and the Muhlenberg Campus in Bethlehem. These collection boxes are available to the public for discarding and collecting unused prescription and over-the-counter medications, thereby reducing the potential for abuse of narcotics. In addition, Martin's office has assisted in the coordination of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Take Back Days for the collection of unused medications. To date these program shave resulted in the collection and proper disposal of more than 20 tons of unwanted and potentially dangerous and abused prescription medications.
- In 2014, Martin revamped the Domestic Violence Unit of the District Attorney's Office and, with the assistance of the Court of Common Pleas, established a Domestic Violence Court through which all domestic violence cases are now prosecuted. In concert with Martin's initiative, the Lehigh County Adult Probation Office has initiated a Batterers Intervention Education Program for defendants convicted of domestic violence. This results in these defendants being more closely supervised and treated for anger management issues.
- Martin has played a leading role in the establishment of "Team MISA" which deals with defendants who have mental health and/or substance abuse problems. Team MISA is comprised of the various stakeholders in Lehigh County and in the justice system. It is chaired by the First Assistant District Attorney.
- Martin led the distribution of Narcan/naloxone, the drug which reverses an opioid overdose, to all Lehigh County Police Departments in 2014. In 2018, Martin helped to establish the Blue Guardian Program, together with Lehigh County Drug and Alcohol and the Regional Intelligence and Investigation Center. Blue Guardian is a program whereby people who have been revived through the use of naloxone receive a visit at their home within 72 hours by a police officer and a Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS). The objectives of Blue Guardian are to help people into treatment and to increase awareness of resources available to combat addiction. During the first 2 years of the program, over 60 people chose to go into treatment as a result of Blue Guardian.
- Martin established the Safe Schools Task Force, which brings law enforcement and school administrators together two times a year for the purpose of discussing security issues and other mutual concerns in the schools of Lehigh County.
- Martin, with the assistance of Victim/Witness Coordinator Kimberly Silvestri, brought a courthouse companion dog, Ramona, a Black Labrador Retriever, to assist with victims of crime; particularly the very young and old.
- Martin with the RIIC has very recently embarked on a project, the objective of which will be to attack human trafficking in the county. Martin has assembled a team comprised of representatives from the RIIC; the District Attorney's Office; Lehigh University's Computer Science & Engineering Department; AEquitas, a prosecutor's resource; the Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation at Villanova Law and members of the community. The objective of this program, which has caught the attention of the United Nations, will be to provide victims treatment and to arrest and prosecute traffickers and the consumers of sex for money.

Martin graduated from Allentown Central Catholic High School and received a Bachelor's Degree from Mount St. Mary's University in Maryland. He received his law degree from the Temple University School of Law. He resides with his wife Patricia in Center Valley.

SHELLY MATTIE

Shelly Mattie is a native of Lycoming County, currently residing in Montoursville with her husband, Ray, of 20 years and her two teenage sons, Connor (19) and Sam (17). She is a 1996 graduate of Mansfield University, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration. After graduation, she worked several years at Lycoming County Children and Youth Services in various day treatment programs. From there, Shelly worked at Tory Leather Company, her family's business, until the arrival of her first born son. At this time, she was fortunate enough to become a stay-at-home mom.

Life with two boys, one with a diverse ability and one typical child was very busy. Connor was diagnosed with autism right before his third birthday and immediately started early intervention services. During this time, Shelly was on a mission to learn everything she could about autism and at the same time, trying to make sure her youngest son, Sam, was thriving since his brothers' needs were so time consuming. When Connor reached elementary school age, Shelly and her husband, Ray, started a nonprofit through the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania to assist in meeting the educational needs of individuals diagnosed with autism in their community. Through fundraising and hard work, the foundation was able to benefit just about every school district in Lycoming County. In doing so, Shelly and Ray were able to provide trainings, resources, and technology to better serve teachers and support staff in meeting the needs of autistic youth in area schools.

As time progressed, Shelly continued being involved in the autism community. There were many ups and downs along the way, but until this day, she and her husband continue to work as a team, Team Mattie! Currently, Connor has a part-time job taking nature photography for a local doctor/author's Facebook page. Sam, continues to flourish as a high school junior and plans to attend college, majoring in a business-related field. As for Shelly, she remains focused on her 'mom duties' as well as, her persisting mission to bring acceptance and understanding to those individuals living with autism. Her family's motto: ONE DAY AT A TIME!

MICHELLE MIDDLEMISS

Michelle Middlemiss was diagnosed as being on the Autism Spectrum at the age of 30. She has spent the past ten years as a self-advocate for Autism. After entering into the Adult Autism Waiver in Pennsylvania I received my Associates degree as a Special Needs Teacher's Assistant. She volunteers at Spectrum and Sunrise Schools; working with students on the spectrum and found that she could help them in ways that only someone who "lives it every day" is capable. To achieve her goal for increased awareness of the disability rights of my autistic peers, she speaks about daily life challenges dealing with autism at conferences such as the "6th PA Training Conference in Lancaster, PA. As a presenter at the Everyday Lives Conference in Hershey, PA, where she explained how the Autism Waiver in Pa has had a positive impact on making her daily life better. She was the recipient of the 2017 Autistic Advocacy Award which is given to an autistic person who has demonstrated commitment to the mission of the disability rights movement in Western PA.

She continues to serve as a member of the ISAC Provider Oversight Committee and on the Information and Sharing Committee (ISAC) in Harrisburg, which creates a forum to exchange ideas and develop policies on key autism initiatives. Last year she was the recipient of a fellowship grant through SARTAC to develop my project, "My Safety, My Rights." She wanted to ensure that individuals with disabilities are treated with the respect they are entitled to. This involved educating the Police so they better understand how to recognize someone on the spectrum and ways to ensure their safety. Recently Michelle was happy to be asked to join the advocacy group for the Autism Society of PA to learn more about ways to advocate for autism and share her ideas.

KERRI MILLER

Kerri Miller has more than three decades of experience with the County of Lehigh in the capacity of Forensic Case Manager, Corrections Treatment Counselor and MH/ID Case Manager. In her role, she developed the Autism: Recognition and Response training specifically for first responders and has successfully trained various Lehigh County police departments, District Attorney and Public Defender Offices as well as Northampton County fire department as well to Lutheran churches in Northampton County.

In support of the work of first responders, Keri assembles and disperses sensory boxes for first responders with the assistance of funding from Lehigh Valley Autism Society. She is a member of the Northampton County EI/DD/MH Advisory Board and the mother of a 12 year old son diagnosed with ASD, AD/HD as well as anxiety.

LAVAL MILLER-WILSON

Laval Miller-Wilson has been the Executive Director of PHLP since 2009. He is passionate about ensuring vulnerable populations (e.g., children, seniors) get medical and in-home services like assistive technology, home care, home modifications, and respite for caregivers.

Mr. Miller-Wilson travels to Harrisburg frequently to represent consumers on Pennsylvania's Medical Assistance (Medicaid) Advisory Committee to promote policies and practices that get people essential health care. He has delivered consumer-informed perspective about the state's implementation of the Affordable Care Act, the performance of Medicaid managed care plans, and social determinants of health.

Mr. Miller-Wilson attended Harvard College ('89) and the University of Pennsylvania School of Law ('95). Upon graduation from law school, he received a fellowship from the Skadden Arps Foundation to work at Juvenile Law Center to defend the education rights of children involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Mr. Miller-Wilson taught as an adjunct professor at the law schools at Temple and UPenn.

He serves on several government and non-profit associations including: the Pennsylvania Health Insurance Exchange Authority, the entity that manages the state-based health insurance marketplace; and the Pennsylvania Health Access Network (PHAN). He is also on the boards of a federally qualified health center, the Ambulatory Health Services of Philadelphia; the Health Federation of Philadelphia; and Inglis House.

Mr. Miller-Wilson is married to Cathryn Miller-Wilson, the Executive Director of HIAS-PA. They are parents to two boys. He is an avid runner who also enjoys hiking and camping, especially in Pennsylvania state parks.

PRESIDENT JUDGE STEPHEN MINOR

President Judge Stephen Minor received his B.A. from Mansfield University in 1982 and his J.D. from ORU Law School, Tulsa Oklahoma, in 1986.

In 2009, Judge Minor was elected president judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Potter County. He previously served in McKean County as a Juvenile Master and Custody Mediator. Prior to his judicial service, he practiced law for 23 years, first as an associate attorney with Binotto and Johnson from 1986 – 1991 and then with his own legal practice from 1991 – 2009.

Judge Minor is the chairman of the Potter County Criminal Justice Advisory Board and has served as chairman of the Juvenile Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of Trial Judges. In 2017, he was also appointed to the Continuing Judicial Education Board and the Juvenile Court Judge's Commission.

SANDY MOORE

Sandy Moore assumed the position of Director for the Office of Children & Families in the Courts (OCFC), Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts in January 2008. In this role, Sandy works closely with the Honorable Kevin Dougherty, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Justice overseeing the state's Dependency Court Improvement Program. This oversight includes providing leadership for Pennsylvania's Children's Roundtable Initiative, the overarching structure of the state's court improvement initiative. Additionally, the office coordinates specific court improvement activities including the creation of a Dependency Bench Book, the Dependency Mission/Guiding Principles, the Family Engagement Initiative, a graduated educational curriculum for Dependency Judges, and educational sessions for Hearing Officers, Guardians ad Litem, Parent Attorneys, and Solicitors.

Prior to her current position, Sandy held the dual position of Dauphin County Children & Youth Administrator/Human Services Director where she supervised a \$200 million budget and a workforce of 400. Beginning her career in the mid-1980s as a social worker in the California Child Welfare system, Sandy has over 30 years of direct casework and administrative experience. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Welfare and a Master's of Social Work. She has presented at local, national and international conferences. Sandy has taught at various colleges and universities, including California State University at Fresno and Temple University.

ROBERT MORAN

Robert Moran concentrates his practice in civil litigation, with a focus on personal injury and civil rights law. He has helped The Moran Law Group recover millions of dollars for seriously injured victims and their families.

Mr. Moran maintains a strong professional interest in protecting the Civil Rights of both adults and children who have been seriously mistreated by school districts and other local, state, and federal governmental entities and their employees or private industry.

He is a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum, one of the most prestigious groups of trial lawyers in the United States. Membership is limited to attorneys who have million-dollar and multi-million-dollar verdicts and settlements. There are over 5000 members throughout the country. Fewer than 1% of U.S. lawyers are members.

In addition to private practice, Mr. Moran serves as Law Clerk to the Honorable Thomas J. Munley, Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Moran spent nearly a decade holding key executive positions for successful private business organizations, which ranged across a spectrum of disciplines, including energy and environmental services; technology and software; international import/export; human services; and real estate.

Mr. Moran is a graduate of Widener University Commonwealth Law School. He received a B.S. in Liberal Studies and an A.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Scranton.

He is a member of the Pennsylvania State Bar, Bar of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Pennsylvania Bar Association, and Lackawanna County Bar Association.

Bob and his wife, Stacey, are the loving parents of two children, Ruby and Maxwell.

LEONARD A. NAMIOTKA

Leonard A. Namiotka has been a police officer for the City of Scranton since being appointed in 1993. He was promoted to Chief September 12, 2020. Prior to this appointment, he has held the ranks of patrolman, Corporal, Sergeant and Lieutenant. As Lieutenant, he was the supervisor of the Records Unit and Training Division for fifteen years. Chief Namiotka graduated from the University of Scranton with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Chief Namiotka has two children Jarek and Sarah and lives home with his wife Joan.

STACY L. NONNEMACHER

Stacy L. Nonnemacher received her Ph.D. from Lehigh University. She is currently the Clinical Director for the Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations in the Office of Developmental Programs in Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services. Stacy is the Editor in Chief of the Positive Approaches Journal and has been involved in the field of disabilities for over twenty five years supporting children, adolescents and adults in home, community, and school settings. Dr. Nonnemacher has conducted applied research and trainings on Positive Behavioral Support, fostering self-determination, Functional Behavioral Assessment, and the needs of and support for individuals with autism. She believes that supporting individuals with disabilities begins with a multiple theoretical perspective in understanding the person applying this belief to her work supporting, training and working with people living with disabilities, families, providers, and state systems.

JANET M. PAWLOWSKI

Janet M. Pawlowski, RN MA LMFT is a PA Licensed Psychologist and Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist. Janet is the sole proprietor of her private Psychology practice, the Child & Family Guidance Center of Erie, which she was founded in 2000. From this agency, KaleidAScope was born-a non-profit agency providing specialized services to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders in Erie, Crawford, and Warren Counties.

Janet was an employee of St. Vincent Health Center 31 years, initially as a Registered Nurse, and then as a therapist. She was a consultant with HeadStart for more than 25 years as the Child & Family Mental Health Consultant. She helped create the roots of what today are the specialized Autism programs at Mercyhurst University.

Janet obtained her BSN from Villa Maria College/Gannon University, a MA in Clinical Psychology from Edinboro University, and Post-Master's Certification in Marriage & Family Therapy from Gannon University/SVHC.

In her free time, Janet teaches Spinning, Aquaerobics, and Silver Sneakers classes at Pennbriar Athletic Club.

MIKE PIECUCH

(PRONOUNCED "PEA-YET-SUE")

Mike Piecuch is the District Attorney for Snyder County. He was appointed to that office in January 2010 and began his third elected term in January 2020. He is the vice president of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and chairs its Education & Training Committee.

Mike previously served as a prosecutor at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. His legislative and policy experience includes service as the executive director of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, as chief of staff to Speaker Dennis M. O'Brien of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, as majority chief counsel to the Pennsylvania House Judiciary Committee, and as legal counsel to the Minority Leader's Office of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Mike lives near Selinsgrove with his wife and three children. Among other community involvements, he co-founded the Snyder County Coalition for Kids, is the president of the Summer Seals Day Camp in Selinsgrove, serves as an elder at his church, and coaches various youth sports.

He received his undergraduate degree in Government and American Studies from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. He earned his law degree with honors from Albany Law School in Albany, NY.

LU RANDALL

Lu Randall has her master's degree in rehabilitation counseling in addiction, and early in her career worked with people who had substance abuse problems. She moved on to support those with physical disabilities and traumatic brain injuries directing an adult day center, and landed solidly in the autism world in 1994. Working in family homes and community settings informed her practice and helped develop a practical knowledge base related to autism spectrum disorders and family living.

Currently, she is the executive director of the Autism Connection of PA and speaks extensively on all areas of autism life, from school to work, healthcare, victims services, and law enforcement officer continuing education. She is a member of the Office of Developmental Programs Information Sharing and Advisory Committee and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Victim Services Committee.

LIEUTENANT ADAM M. REED

Lieutenant Adam M. Reed has served as a Pennsylvania State Trooper since June 19, 2006. Lieutenant Reed is currently the Commander of the Community Affairs Section, Office of Community Engagement. Lieutenant Reed oversees the Community Affairs Officers, whose primary role is to build and maintain a positive relationship between the Pennsylvania State Police and communities throughout the Commonwealth.

Prior to his current assignment, Lieutenant Reed served as the Enforcement Programs Supervisor, Patrol Services Division, Bureau of Patrol. He also served as the Director, Communications Office, which was previously designated as the Public Information Office. In addition, Lieutenant Reed was assigned to various positions within Troop H, Harrisburg, and Troop J, Lancaster.

Lieutenant Reed earned a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from the University of Pittsburgh.

CAPTAIN JOANNE R. REED

Captain Joanne R. Reed has served as a Pennsylvania State Trooper since January 12, 2003. Captain Reed is currently the Director of the Operational Training Division, Bureau of Training and Education. She oversees training for Pennsylvania State Police members, as well as training for municipal police officers, other state agencies, and federal agencies. In addition to the State Police Academy, she manages four State Police Training Centers throughout the Commonwealth.

Prior to being the Director of the Operational Training Division, Captain Reed was the Executive Officer to the Deputy Commissioner of Staff. She also worked in the Bureau of Gaming Enforcement and Patrol Units in eastern and western Pennsylvania as a patrol member and supervisor. Captain Reed has served on several committees that directly impacted the State Police.

Captain Reed earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Rowan University and her Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Villanova University.



JUDGE JENNIFER L. ROGERS

Jennifer L. Rogers has served as Judge, Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas since January 3, 2012.

She is Administrative Judge of Family Court and Dependency Court. Judge Rogers addresses cases involving child custody, divorce, dependency, Act 53, child/spousal support, termination of parental rights and adoption. On a state level, she is involved with various programs sponsored by the Office of Children, Families and the Courts. She serves as Co-Chair of State Leadership Roundtable Three; was a member of the state workgroup addressing Caseworker Recruitment and Retention; is an appointed member to the Pennsylvania Dependency Bench book Committee and Chairperson of the Dependency Hearing Officer Training Committee.

Prior to assuming the bench, Judge Rogers was a sole practitioner and operated her law practice, The Law Offices of Jennifer L. Rogers, LLC from 2006- 2012. Her practice addressed family law, general civil litigation, estate planning, personal injury and real estate transactions. She also served as a part-time solicitor for Luzerne County Children & Youth Services from August, 2007 through September, 2010.

In her role as a family and child welfare court judge, she has developed a Truancy Court, implemented a therapy dog program and created a children's playroom within the family court building.

She previously served for 9 ½ years as an associate at the law firm of Hourigan, Kluger & Quinn, P.C. where her practice focused on commercial litigation.

Judge Rogers received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English/Journalism from the University of Delaware. She received her J.D. from the Widener University School of Law where she was Notes/Comments Editor for the Widener Law Symposium Journal, a member of the Moot Court Honor Society and the Student Bar Association. She is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association, the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts.

She is a member of Circle 200, in addition to serving on the advisory board to the McGlynn Learning Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Boy Scouts of America. She is a former member of the advisory boards of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Junior Achievement and the Music Box Dinner Playhouse. She is the immediate past president of the Junior League of Wilkes-Barre.

BRANDON SANDS, LPC

Brandon Sands, LPC received his Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Immaculata University in 2002. A Licensed Professional Counselor, Mr. Sands works with clients ranging from age 5 to 65 years old, utilizing individual, family and couple/ marital therapy modalities. His areas of expertise include treating anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anger management, depression, autism spectrum disorders, mood disorders, life transitions, obsessive compulsive disorder, personality disorders, oppositional defiance disorder, schizophrenia and stress management.

SAM SANGUEDOLCE

Sam Sanguedolce was born and raised in the Greater Pittston Area of Northeast Pennsylvania. He was appointed Luzerne County's District Attorney after serving as a prosecutor in the DA's Office for nineteen years – nine of which were as the First Assistant District Attorney under District Attorney Stefanie Salavantis who is now running for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

Sam is a graduate of the University of Scranton where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He went on to graduate from Penn State's Dickinson School of Law where he obtained his Juris Doctorate.

District Attorney Sanguedolce led the team in the prosecution of Luzerne County's most famous serial killer, Hugo Selenski, where the team obtained a double murder conviction and two life sentences plus over two hundred years' sentence.

As District Attorney, Sam continues actively prosecuting cases while supervising the District Attorney's Office.

MARALEEN SHIELDS

After amassing nearly a decade of medical malpractice defense and risk management litigation experience, Maraleen D. Shields joined the Firm in 2014. She works to understand her client's case, expectations, and needs. She recognizes the importance of exploring all options to achieve a favorable result whether it be through mediation, arbitration, or trial. Her clients have come to know her for her responsiveness and candor.

She is a shareholder of the Firm's Litigation & Trial Practice and Healthcare Groups. As a member of the Firm's Litigation & Trial Practice Group, she has handled a wide array of matters including healthcare business disputes, municipal liability, class action litigation, personal injury matters, contract disputes and general complex litigation. She handles all phases of litigation and appellate practice. As a member of the Firm's Healthcare Group, her practice focuses on peer review and credentialing matters, licensing and professional board disputes, Health Care Quality Improvement Act (HCQIA), Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and Health Information Technology and Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) compliance, the OIG exclusion program, and risk mitigation and event management. She prepares medical staff bylaws, rules and regulations, and policies for hospitals and other healthcare facilities in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and accreditation standards. She represents healthcare professionals engaged in the fair hearing and appellate review process, contract disputes and before state licensing boards. She is a frequent speaker regarding diversity, equity and inclusion, litigation, and healthcare matters.

Active in the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA), Ms. Shields serves as Chair of the Minority Bar Committee's Rising Star Program Subcommittee, Co-Chair of the Women in the Profession Commission's Diversity Committee, and Co-Chair of the Health Care Committee. In 2016, she was invited to serve on the PBA's Blue Ribbon Panel on Membership Engagement which focused on engagement of mothers, millennials, and minorities. For this work, she was honored with the PBA President's Award in 2018. Ms. Shields was invited to join the PBA's Joint Task Force on Continuity of Delivery of Legal Services, which is currently focused on creating recommendations to ensure continuity and consistency of legal services from one jurisdiction to another in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, she was honored to receive the prestigious Lynette Norton Award. This award recognizes a female attorney who excels in litigation and is devoted to the mentorship of women in the profession.

Ms. Shields is originally from the suburbs of Pittsburgh, PA. Over the last nearly fifteen years, she has developed deep connections to the Lehigh Valley. She was the President of the Parents' Association of Cetronia Elementary School, where her son is in the fifth grade. She was a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Hillside School; a member of the Board of Directors of Lehigh Valley Children's Centers; and a Member of the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council of Lehigh Valley Inter-regional Networking & Connecting (LINC). She was recently invited to participate in Parkland School District's Equity and Inclusion Committee, which will guide the district in developing a sustainable pathway towards equity, inclusion, cultural relevance/responsiveness, and social emotional learning.

She currently resides in South Whitehall Township with her husband and their two children.

TAMARA SIEGERT

Tamara Siegert began working with Individuals with ID/A in 1999 as a Direct Support Professional, then as a Supports Coordinator, and eventually as a resource coordinator for the Allegheny County Office of Developmental Supports. After leaving to attend law school, Tamara had the opportunity to represent clients in Veterans Court, where she developed a passion for truly rehabilitative and restorative justice. While practicing privately for a few years in a human services related field, Tamara also completed an LL.M. in Health Law and Policy.

In 2019, Tamara returned to ODS as the Legal Liaison, a position she and ODS leadership developed in direct response to the growing needs of individuals with ID/A who encounter the legal system, requiring specialized supports in navigating that system and in re-entering the community after incarceration.

KYLIE STAUFFER

Kylie Stauffer lives in Mechanicsburg with her husband, Jamie, of 13 years and two children Tye (12) and Lilie (9). She is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's degree in Crime, Law, and Justice and a minor in Business. Before becoming a stay-at-home mother for 10 years, I worked at Children and Youth Services in the adoption unit and as a Human Resource Manager for a Fortune 50 company. Prior to Covid-19 I was an Assistant Preschool Teacher at Aldersgate Preschool in Mechanicsburg where I will be returning next year. Kylie's son Tye is enrolled at Vista Autism Services in Hershey, PA where they offer state-of-the-art services for individuals with autism. During his eight years at Vista, Kylie has served as PTO Secretary and President, and currently serves on the Walk for Education Committee, Golf Tournament Committee, and is a member of the Advisory Board. Kylie also co-facilitated an Autism Support group. Her daughter, Lilie, is in 3rd grade at Winding Creek Elementary in Mechanicsburg where she was just awarded the role of "Principal for the Day".

DELAWARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JACK STOLLSTEIMER

District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer is the proud son of a union family who's lived his American Dream in Delaware County.

Jack's mother Henrietta, was born in Soviet Ukraine. As a young girl, she was imprisoned in a Nazi slave labor camp, and, upon being liberated, survived homelessness with her family on the streets of a war-ravaged Europe. In 1951 Henrietta and her family immigrated to America, arriving in the City of Chester to begin their new lives as free people.

Jack's father Fred dropped out of Upper Darby High School at 17 to join the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After proudly serving his country, he raised his family into the middle class through his hard work as a SEPTA driver.

Inspired by his parents' pursuit of the American Dream, Jack worked his way through college, graduating at age thirty-four by completing his course work at night and on weekends. In law school, Jack joined the Delaware County District Attorney's Office as an intern representing the Commonwealth in pre-trial hearings. In 2000, Jack graduated from Temple University's Beasley School of Law, passed the bar, and was appointed as an Assistant District Attorney prosecuting cases in juvenile and adult criminal courts in Delaware County.

Just one year later, in 2001, Jack was recruited to join the U.S. Department of Justice as the policy analyst and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) gun violence reduction initiative in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In 2004 Jack became an Assistant United States Attorney and led a gun violence task force targeting the "Badlands" of North Central Philadelphia. Jack had the distinction of earning a 100% conviction rate during his years as a federal prosecutor.

In 2006, Governor Ed Rendell appointed Jack as Pennsylvania's Safe Schools Advocate for the Philadelphia School District. In this unique watchdog role, Jack established a reputation for independence and integrity by publicly reporting the School District's systemic failure to report violent crimes properly. Because of his work, District officials made policy changes to protect school children and teachers better. In 2012, the Philadelphia Inquirer won a Pulitzer Prize for a series on school violence that was based in part on Jack's advocacy and investigation.

More recently, in his capacity as Deputy State Treasurer for Consumer Programs, Jack worked with State Treasurer Joe Torsella to establish the PA ABLE savings program for people with disabilities and the Keystone Scholars grant program, to give every child born or adopted in Pennsylvania a brighter future by seeding higher education savings accounts to encourage all children to achieve their dreams through higher education and career training.

A long-time Delco resident, Jack graduated from St. Denis School in Havertown and attended Archbishop Carroll before graduating from Ridley Senior High School. Jack and his wife are raising their two children in Havertown, and have been active in community causes for years.

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

SUSAN D. STROHMEYER

Magisterial District Judge Susan D. Strohmeier was elected in 2000 and is currently serving her fourth term at Magisterial District 06-3-03 in Erie County.

Judge Strohmeier is a graduate of Gannon University's Leadership Erie Program and attended Penn State Behrend for criminal justice.

She currently serves on the Advisory Board for PFACS, is a member of the Erie County Truancy Task Force, and the Erie County PFA Task Force. Judge Strohmeier is Vice President of the Erie County MDJ Association, having served as past President, and served on the Education Committee for the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania. She is active in her community and volunteers her time to various groups involving youth.

POLICE OFFICER ROSLYN (ROZ) TALLEY

Police Officer Roz Talley is a 13-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police department. She began her career as a police officer in the 35th police district. She loves being a police officer. However, her passion is for those having special needs. Her passion was born out of her own fight for her child, Khmaia (Pronounced Kamaya), who was born with multiple disabilities; cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and autism. She began her plight to assure that people with special needs are loved, treated fairly, and that families will find the assistance that is necessary to care for their loved ones.

Since 2017, Roz began working as an instructor at the Philadelphia Police Training center, where she teaches recruit officers on a daily basis. She has also written a curriculum on, "Recognizing Special needs," that is also recognized and taught by all other instructors. She works with Drexel's ASERT program in which she speaks at various events providing insight and awareness on policing and autism. Fellow co-worker and supervisor, Corporal John Burke, recently started a parent network to support other co-workers whose loved one may have special needs.

Since the time she has stepped foot into the police department, she has wasted no time in connecting with the community. She is committed to working with local charities such as the Ronald McDonald Houses. She is most proud of her program, Widener Heroes where police officers adopt children with special needs for Christmas. She has also started an annual prom event for special needs which is held every year in May at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5.

Roz received her B.S. in Criminal Justice from Chestnut Hill College and a recent graduate from West Chester University, where she received her M.A. in Communication Studies. She is a member of the PA Association for Black Journalists (PABJ) and the National Association for Black Journalists (NABJ). She is a co-host on PQRadio1.com, an internet based station and is also a published author.

JESSE TORISKY

Attorney Jesse Torisky is currently the President and CEO of the Autism Society of Pittsburgh, which provides information and referral to parents and professionals about Autism diagnosis, care, treatment, educational, medical and habilitative services.

Jesse is a Continuing Legal Education and Certification instructor for the Minor Judiciary Education Board, where he presents courses on a variety of legal subjects to Magisterial District Judges, including Civil Law, Torts and Ethics. He also created and presented two courses on Autism in the Criminal Justice System, which focused on Traits of Autism and effective methods of communication in courtroom settings.

Attorney Torisky has had extensive trial experience, both as a prosecutor for ten years [1985-95], as well as a civil litigator [1995 to present]. While a prosecutor with Allegheny County, he tried virtually every type of crime, including rape, child abuse, narcotics, and homicide. As a civil attorney, his focus has been on Insurance Fraud investigations for various insurance companies. Jesse conducted over 250 examinations under oath of insureds, in order to assist in the investigations of questionable claims.

Since 1987, Jesse has been an Adjunct Faculty Member in the Paralegal Program at CCAC's Boyce Campus, where I taught multiple courses, including Beginning Legal Research & Writing, Advanced Legal Research and Writing, Domestic Relations, Consumer Protection, Employee Benefits, Litigation 1 and Litigation 2. Since 2019, he has been teaching in the Criminal Justice & Criminology Department at CCAC's South Campus in the subjects of Criminal Law, Evidence & Procedure, Forensics, Criminal Investigation and Intro to the Criminal Justice System. He also taught as an adjunct at Point Park University in their Criminal Justice department in the subjects of History of Organized Crime, The Constitution and Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Trans-National Crime.

From 1988 to 1995 he was an instructor at the Allegheny County Police Academy, where he taught Search and Seizure to the police cadets. From 2003 to 2007 he also instructed the cadets in the subjects of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Jurisdiction and Procedure, Constitutional Law, Civil Procedure and Civil Law. In 2007, Jesse was on the Advisory Board of the Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission for Pennsylvania, where he drafted and presented course material and legal updates to instructors whose responsibility it was to train fellow Police Officers.

Jesse is a member of the state Bars in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, as well as the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the Third Circuit. He has argued cases before the Pennsylvania Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts.

In 2016, Mr. Torisky was appointed to Allegheny County Accountability, Conduct and Ethics [ACE] Commission.

JAMIE UPSHAW

Jamie Upshaw is the Founder and Executive Director of a 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Organization called Autism Urban Connections Inc. Ms. Upshaw formed Autism Urban Connection Inc. as a support group that began in 2015 after her son received a fairly late diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the lack of support and services in our African American communities. The growing organization has now evolved as the number of families that received services continued to grow, thus Autism Urban Connections Inc. was born with a mission to provide education, support, advocacy, and empowerment with an emphasis on self-care to parents/ caregivers of those diagnosed with Autism, with priority placed on the African American, minority, and economically disadvantaged member of the community.

As an advocate for the Autism community and more, Jamie just completed as a full-time graduate student at Arizona State University for a master's degree in special education with an emphasis on Applied Behavior Analysis with a GPA of 3.73. A former PEAL Center Board Member, Jamie, is a Certified Parent Ambassador under the Office of Child Development at the University of Pittsburgh and served as Chair of Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center (COTRAIC) Policy Council for 2 years and Vice-Chair for one year.

Ms. Upshaw is a Pittsburgh Native, 44-year-old, proud mother of 3 who possesses an extensive background in human and community service, including a master's degree in criminal justice administration and a bachelor's degree in legal studies from Point Park University

DAVID VAIDA

David Vaida was born in Flemington, New Jersey, and raised in Puerto Rico. Fluent in both English and Spanish he has served the Latino community of the Lehigh Valley since 1996. A graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans and Fordham School of Law in New York City, he has practiced law for almost 39 years doing both civil and criminal litigation. Currently the solicitor for the Allentown zoning board, David has also been the president of Casa Guadalupe, a non-profit located in downtown Allentown, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of the Lehigh Valley.

JUDGE KELLY C. WALL

Judge Kelly C. Wall assumed her judicial duties on the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County on January 4, 2010 and served as Administrative Judge of the Family Bench from 2013 through 2017. Judge Wall has presided over domestic matters, civil arguments, criminal and pre-immigration matters, as well as protection from abuse, sexual violence and intimidation cases.

Prior to becoming a judge, Ms. Wall was a partner in the law firm of Miller, Turetsky, Rule and McLennan for 15 years serving as a litigator in both state and federal courts in areas of civil, employment and family law to name a few. She also represented individuals and not-for-profit corporations before the Board of Assessment and Appeals.

Throughout her career, Judge Wall has been an advocate for children and families and has lectured on several subjects including, but not limited to, women and children's legal rights, domestic law, domestic violence, and civil and employment law. She was a solicitor for the Office of Children and Youth and volunteered for the Montgomery County Child Advocacy Project representing children who were victims of physical, mental and sexual abuse. Judge Wall also volunteered her time as a Parent Advocate for the Office of Children and Youth, sat on the Governance Board of the Norristown Family Center, and provided free services to clients of both the Montgomery County Women's Center and Legal Aid of Southeastern PA.

Judge Wall worked with domestic violence agencies to educate and improve services for domestic and sexual violence in the educational, faith based and legal communities. Judge Wall collaborated with the Victim Services Center and Women's Center to develop a program to train Montgomery County Court personnel, social service agencies, and school districts on the Protection Against Sexual Violence and Intimidation Act. Judge Wall also serves on the Domestic Violence Task Force and the Domestic Violence Legal Network and partnered with domestic violence agencies to produce a PFA Tutorial Video for victims of domestic violence.

Judge Wall created the Friend of the Court Program which utilized volunteer lawyers to facilitate settlements in custody, support and special relief in Protection from Abuse matters. Judge Wall initiated miscellaneous family orders and increased the use of civil-stay away orders to further encourage resolution of PFA matters.

In her role as Administrative Judge of the Family Bench, Judge Wall implemented several new programs to improve services in the Family Court system including, but not limited to, Motions' Court, discovery certification in Equitable Distribution matters and record

hearings in support exceptions. Judge Wall's programs significantly shortened the time delay in scheduling litigants for court hearings.

Judge Wall is a member of the Montgomery Bar Association where she served on various committees from 1996 through her ascendancy to the bench. She is active with the Pennsylvania Bar Association where she has served as a Delegate since 2006, and is currently a member of the PBA Judicial Administrative Committee and the Commission on Women in the Profession. Judge Wall has been a frequent lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute as well as various bar and community organizations on topics including, but not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act, family law, civility and domestic violence. Judge Wall has been involved in the MBA Civics Education Program teaching 6th grade students about civics and the law since 2012.

Judge Wall currently sits on the Board of Merakey which provides services in the areas of Autism, Therapeutic Foster Care and Intellectual & Development Disabilities. In 2013, Judge Wall collaborated with law enforcement and autism spectrum disorder experts to develop the Montgomery County Autism Awareness Seminar to educate first responders and court personnel on the issues facing autistic children. In 2016 and 2017, Judge Wall presented seminars on Autism and Family Court to both Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties and presented a Town Hall forum for psychotherapists and the legal and judicial communities.

Judge Wall also serves on the Rachel and Troy Foundation which provides funding to agencies that educate, support and care for children and families who are victims of domestic abuse.

Judge Wall was active in her community and served as an elected Supervisor in Whitemarsh Township for 4 years where she presided over public safety issues and zoning and land use matters, and was actively involved with preserving nearly 200 acres of open space in one of the largest land conservation projects in Montgomery County. Judge Wall graduated from the Whitemarsh Township Citizens' Police Academy in 2010 and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Citizens' Academy in 2014.

In 2015, Judge Wall was inducted into the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School Class of 1975 Distinguished Graduates Organization for Public Service. In 2016, Judge Wall was presented the Montgomery County Victim Services Center Leadership Award, the Montgomery County Domestic Relations Child Support Award and was honored by the Montgomery County Women's Center for her contribution to the Protection from Abuse Courtroom Orientation Tutorial. On October 16, 2017, Judge Wall was also honored by the Domestic Violence Legal Network in recognition for her fight against domestic violence. In December of 2018, Judge Wall was selected to receive the Woman of Distinction Award 2018 from the Montgomery County Foundation.

NINA WALL MSS, LSW

Nina Wall MSS, LSW, serves as the Director of the Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations (BSASP) in the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS). She was a founding member and past president of the Pennsylvania Action Coalition for Autism Services (PACAS), a statewide board of autism advocacy chairs and directors whose mission was to advocate for services for Pennsylvanians diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. In addition, she served as a board member of Pennsylvania Protection and Advocacy (PP&A), as Information and Referral Director for the Autism Society of Greater Philadelphia, and as one of three Managing Co-Chairs of the Pennsylvania Autism Task Force. She completed her graduate studies at the Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research and her clinical pursuits have focused on assisting families, individuals with ASD, and youth with learning and behavioral health challenges.

Ms. Wall is the parent of an adult living with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

HONORABLE

WILLIAM F. WARD

Honorable William F. Ward joined Rothman Gordon, P.C., after serving three years as a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. In addition to his assignment in the Family Division, Judge Ward volunteered to preside as a Supervising Judge of the Veterans Treatment Court in the Criminal Division. He previously served as: Chief of Staff to the Governor of Pennsylvania; First Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania; Chairman of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole; and Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Bill currently serves as Chairman of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Commission of Allegheny County; Commissioner of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and as Chairman of PCCD's Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee. He is Chairman of the Board of the Autism Connection of Pennsylvania and is a Member of the Board of Trustees of ACHIEVA. Bill also teaches Mental Health Law at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Jennifer Williams, Deputy Mental Health Administrator, Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with a concentration in Criminal Justice, from East Stroudsburg University. She started employment at CMP MH/DS in 1996 as an Intensive Case Manager and has held several supervisory and director positions before becoming the Mental Health Deputy Administrator. Over the last 25 years she has made a positive impact in the mental health system and the way in which it serves individuals. One of the most significant is the creation and development of the CMP MH/DS Forensic Department and related projects. She took the lead in figuring out how to serve individuals with mental illness who were involved in the criminal justice system by having our Administrative Case Managers go into our county correctional facilities. Over the years she developed this into a Forensic Department consisting of 8 Forensic Case Managers, a Forensic Supervisor, and a Forensic Coordinator. Jennifer was instrumental in bringing Cross Systems Mapping, CIT, MHFA, QPR, and Forensic Residential and Treatment Services to our three counties.

JUDGE SHEILA WOODS-SKIPPER

Appointed in December, 1998 by Governor Tom Ridge, unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate, the Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper was initially elected to the bench in November, 1999. She was subsequently elected to two (2) additional ten year terms in November, 2009 and November 2019. The Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper currently serves as the Administrative Judge of the Orphans' Court Division of on the Court of Common Pleas, First Judicial District where she brings honesty, commitment and fairness to the bench.

The Honorable Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper successfully served as President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas Philadelphia County, a position she was unanimously elected by her colleagues in November 2013, to serve a five (5) year term as. As President Judge, Judge Woods-Skipper focused on promoting access to justice, inclusiveness and efficiency. She has an open door policy that allows open communication and problem solving. On January 27, 2016, Judge Woods-Skipper was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as Chair of the Administrative Governing Board of the First Judicial District, and served until her term as President Judge ended in November 2018. From November 2008, until her election as President Judge, Judge Woods-Skipper served as Supervising Judge of the Criminal Trial Division where she was instrumental in creating and implementing innovative programs in the Criminal Division that have fostered public safety, reduced prison population and increased efficiency in the processing of criminal cases. One of her many significant accomplishments is the creation of the First Judicial District Mental Health Court over which she presided until her reassignment to Orphans' Court. Mental Health Court began as a small pilot program in 2009, and now serves hundreds of offenders, providing substantial assistance and oversight to facilitate their re-integration into society as productive citizens. Judge Woods-Skipper was previously assigned to the Homicide Program and served as the coordinating judge for the Waiver Program. She served as a member of the Judicial Education Committee, providing guidance and support to the newly elected judges and those transferred from other assignments.

In 2014, Judge Woods-Skipper was appointed by the Supreme Court to the Advisory Council on Elder Justice where she chairs the Elder Abuse and Neglect Committee. In response to a recommendation of the Elder Task Force of the Supreme Court, Judge Woods-Skipper opened an Elder Justice Resource Center in October, 2016, to provide direct services to seniors, and education to the public regarding issues impacting seniors in the justice system. She is also a member of the Philadelphia VIP Board of Directors, where she serves on the Board Development Committee and previously served on the Executive Director Search Committee. She is a member of the Executive Board of Temple Law Alumni Association, where she serves as Chair of the Service Committee and on the Women's Initiative Committee. She is an adjunct professor at Temple University School of Law and served on the Philadelphia Bar Association Commission on Judicial Election & Retention and formerly as a Board of Director of the Lawyer's Club. Appointed by Governor Rendell in 2008,

she served as a member of the State Interstate Compact for Adult Offenders until 2012. In 2006, she was appointed by the late Justice Cappy to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, where she served as Chair (2016-2019) and Vice Chair (2012-2016) having been re-appointed by Justice Castille and Justice Saylor for several additional terms. She was also selected to serve on the Mental Health Advisory Commission (MHAC) of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency (PCCD) where she served until 2019. Judge Woods-Skipper was selected and appointed to serve on the Supreme Court Jury Trial Working Group tasked with developing a plan and recommendations to the Supreme Court for ensuring confidence and safety for jurors as they return Post Covid-19.

Judge Woods-Skipper has participated in numerous professional activities including the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, where she serves as Zone Representative and Co-Chair of Problem Solving Court Committee, Pennsylvania Bar Association House of Delegates, American Judges Association (Former Board of Governors), National Association of Women Judges, (Former District 3 Director) Past Chair, Clifford Scott Green Chapter, National Bar Association Judicial Council, Philadelphia Bar Association, National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division, Barristers Association, the Criminal Inn of Courts, and Temple University American Inn of Court, serving as President (2020-2021). She serves on the Board of Directors of the Forum of Executive Women, Elected as Secretary 2019-2021 (also Co-Chair Forum Ally partnership with Girls Inc., member Diversity and Inclusion Committee). She has participated as a panelist for professional organizations such as the American Bar Association, Philadelphia Bar Association, Meet the Judges Forums, PA Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. She has organized and participated in forums about the court and criminal justice process, and served as a mentor to high school, college and law school students. She has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Women of Distinction and Leon Higginbotham Awards (Barristers Association), the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Distinguished Jurist Award and Honorable Louis H. Pollak Award Philadelphia Bar Association), The Legal Intelligencer Woman of the Year (2014), Robert Drinan Award (Boston College Law Alumni Association), Women's Champion Award (Temple Law Alumni Association) and the Champion for Justice Award (Senior Law Center).

Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper is a native Philadelphian who attended Philadelphia High School for Girls, the University of Pennsylvania, and Temple University School of Law. Judge Woods-Skipper was a Judicial Law Clerk to the late Honorable Charles Wright, Court of Common Pleas for three(3) and served as an Assistant District Attorney for Philadelphia County for 11 years.

She is married and the proud mother of three sons, and grandmother of three. Judge Woods-Skipper supports her community and church by active membership in the Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, THE LINKS, Penn Towne Chapter (Secretary), and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Omega Mu Omega Chapter. She participates as a mentor in Girl's Inc., Rising Stars Leadership Mentoring Program through Temple Law Alumni Association and the Girls Inc. Ambassador Leadership Mentor Program through The Forum of Executive Women. Judge Woods-Skipper served as the Former President, and on the Board of Directors of The Ivy Legacy Foundation, former Third Vice-President and Parliamentarian of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Pennsylvania Chapter, former participant in Advancing Civics Education [ACE] Program, Girls, Inc. Discovery Leadership Mentoring Program, and the Ivy AKAdemy Teen Mentoring Program

DOCTOR ASHLEY YINGER

Dr. Ashley Yinger is the Criminal Justice Programming Administrator at the Dauphin County District Attorney's office. Within that role, she serves as the Stepping Up coordinator, which is a national initiative to reduce Serious Mental Illness (SMI) in prisons/jails. Dauphin County worked with the Council of State Government to receive technical assistance in 2016, which resulted in recommendations to address individuals with SMI in the local prison. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement and a Coresponder program model, working side by side with law enforcement, are two of the recommendations that Dr. Yinger implemented and is overseeing, among a few others.

Dr. Yinger graduated in 2019 with her PhD in Criminal Justice with a focus on Justice Administration. Her dissertation entailed the experiences of Police Officers who are CIT trained. Much of her research interests has included individuals with special needs and their involvement with the criminal justice system. She has over 14 years' experience in human services. Prior to Dauphin County, she was the Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention Administrator in Franklin and Fulton counties.

Outside of her work in the County, she also serves as an adjunct professor for Penn State Mont Alto and Shippensburg University, in their Criminal Justice department.