



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

*The Forum for America's Ideas*

## Kids Are Different - Juvenile Justice Model Site Visit: Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network

November 1-4, 2011, Orlando, Florida

### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**REY CHEATHAM BANKS** joined the National Juvenile Defender Center as the senior policy and communications associate full-time in February of 2008, after having previously collaborated with NJDC on *Virginia: An Assessment of Access to Counsel and Quality of Representation in Delinquency*. Ms. Banks has a lengthy legislative and policy background, having worked both for a number of state and local government agencies, including the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, where she served as senior policy analyst. Prior to her work for the State of Virginia, Ms. Banks spent 10 years working on death-penalty issues, first as a mitigation specialist preparing clemency petitions on behalf of death-row inmates and then as a key figure in the establishment of Virginia's first death penalty resource center. Most recently she served as the national press secretary for the United Negro College Fund. In addition to shaping the policy agenda for NJDC, her duties include the coordination of the Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (JIDAN) the National Advisory Board, and managing assessments. Ms. Banks serves on the advisory board of the Barry University Juvenile Justice Center and as the policy director for the Phenomenal Women's Alliance, a community service organization focused on the needs of at-risk girls and young women. She holds a B.A. in Political Science and a Master's of Public Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**ARTHUR BOWIE** is currently the Supervising Assistant Public Defender for the Research and Training Division for the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office, Sacramento California. In that capacity he is responsible for the day-to-day research, training and development of the attorney staff of over 90 lawyers. From 2003-2010, Arthur was the Supervising Assistant Public Defender for the Juvenile Division of the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office. He has been a member of the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office for over 20 years and has served in several capacities including misdemeanor and felony trials, juvenile delinquency, and currently research and training. Arthur managed the Juvenile Division of his office for approximately six years and litigated numerous delinquency cases at the jurisdictional (trial court) level, in the California Courts of Appeal, and the California Supreme Court. Because of his work in the area of juvenile adjudicative competency and his focus on working with special needs children in the delinquency system, in 2009 the California Public Defenders Association awarded Arthur's Juvenile Division with a Special Recognition for Excellence in Juvenile Law for distinguishing itself in impact litigation and for working collaboratively, positively and pro-actively to meet the needs of children with special education and mental health needs. Also in 2009, Arthur received the Attorney of the Year Award from the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center for excellence in juvenile delinquency litigation. However, the crowning event occurred last year. As a result of Arthur's litigation in the area of juvenile adjudicative competency, and in cooperation with other juvenile justice partners, the Governor of California signed Assembly Bill 2212, California's first codified law on juvenile competency recognizing developmental immaturity as a basis for finding a child not competent to stand trial.

**LETICIA M. DIAZ** is a native of New Jersey. Dean Diaz is one of the founding faculty at Barry's Andreas School of Law. Before joining the full-time faculty, Dean Diaz pursued a full-time law practice while teaching part-time at the school. She practiced in the areas of personal injury, toxic torts, and workplace chemical exposure. At Rutgers, Dean Diaz was recognized for her academic achievement by the Association of Latin American Law Students and received the Merck Patent Scholarship. Before entering law school, she received her Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Rutgers University. She also spent two years as a post-doctoral research chemist at Hoffman-LaRoche, where she primarily worked on the synthesis of anti-HIV compounds.

Dean Diaz teaches in the areas of torts, environmental law, toxic torts, and products liability. She is faculty advisor to the Hispanic Association of Law Students as well as the St. Thomas More Society. Her publications range from analysis of the FDA's role in consumer protection to areas of environmental law, with a focus on consumer health.

**JOSH DOHAN** became a public defender in 1988 and joined the Youth Advocacy Department at its inception, as its first staff attorney in 1992 and assumed the role of Director in 1999. Josh is a returned Peace Corps volunteer, Ghana (1982-84). He is a graduate of Harvard College (1980) and Northeastern University School of Law (1988). He was also the 1998 recipient of the Access to Justice Award from the Massachusetts Bar Association. Josh is on the Board of Directors of Citizens for Juvenile Justice and is President of the Board for the Youth Advocacy Foundation. He is a founding Member of the Equal Justice Partnership, a member of the LeadBoston class of 2001, a member of the Institutional Review Board of both Children's Hospital and Tufts University, and a member of the Community Advisory Board of the Institute on Race and Justice. In 2001, the Youth Advocacy Department became the first Juvenile Defender organization to win the Clara Shortridge Foltz award for outstanding achievement from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association.

**GERRY GLYNN** has represented children for nineteen years while teaching law students about child advocacy in law school clinical programs. Mr. Glynn is an associate Professor and Director of Clinical Programs at Barry University School of Law, formerly Director of Clinical Programs at University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Clinical Instructor at Florida State University School of Law Children's Advocacy Center. Mr. Glynn took an eighteen month leave of absence from his position as Professor at Barry in 2003-2004 to be the founding Executive Director of Florida's Children First, a statewide child advocacy organization. He serves on numerous bar committees including the Board of National Association of Council for Children, ABA Juvenile Justice Committee, Florida Bar Standing Committee on the Legal Needs of Children, Florida Bar Juvenile Rules Committee and the Executive Council of the Florida Bar Public Interest Law Section. Professor Glynn also oversees the Barry University Juvenile Justice Center which is a statewide training and resource center for juvenile public defenders in the state. This Center has been the recipient of funds from Eckerd Family Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation amongst others for its creative reform work. Professor Glynn received his undergraduate degree in 1985 from St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO and his law degree in 1989 from American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. where he graduated *cum laude*. In 1991, Mr. Glynn received his *Masters in Justice* also from American University, and in 1993 he received his *LLM, Masters in Legal Advocacy*, from Georgetown University Law Center. Mr. Glynn is admitted to practice law in Florida, District of Columbia, Maryland and Arkansas. He loves representing children as a lawyer. Like his three children at home, his clients teach him something new every day.

**SARAH HAMMOND** is a Program Director in the Criminal Justice Program at NCSL. Her work involves research and assistance to state legislatures on criminal justice issues. Her two main issues of focus are victims of crime and juvenile justice. She tracks and analyzes state legislation, recruits legislator participants for project events, identifies opportunities for state technical assistance, and works with members and staff of legislatures in providing assistance on juvenile justice & victims' rights issues. Hammond has authored NCSL state legislative reports, Victims' Rights legislation (1999-2002) and Juvenile Justice State legislation in 2002 - 2005. She is a contributor to NCSL's *State Legislatures* magazine, which includes articles on clemency and the death penalty, prostitution in California, the end of the juvenile death penalty and DNA technology and missing persons. She has also authored Legislative Briefs on truancy, the juvenile justice system in Missouri, human trafficking and the evaluation and enforcement of victims' laws. She wrote a script for a project audio program entitled, "Victims' Rights and Services: An Overview for New Legislators" and authored a 300-page Victims' Rights and Services Legislators' Guide Book. Before joining NCSL, she worked as a Legislative Assistant on Capitol Hill in Washington DC for five years. She received her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Colorado in 1993 and her juris doctorate from the University of Denver College of Law in 2002. She has been admitted to practice law in Colorado.

**KIMBERLY LARSON, J.D., Ph.D.** received her law degree from Villanova University School of Law in 2006, where she was a member of the Law Review and the Order of the Coif. She was admitted to the bar in New Jersey and Pennsylvania in 2006 and completed her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Drexel University in 2007. Dr. Larson completed her Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology at UMass Medical School's Law and Psychiatry Program. Dr. Larson joined the UMass faculty in 2008 and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Psychiatry Department where she is part of the Law and Psychiatry Program and the Center for Mental Health Services Research. Dr. Larson's research interests focus upon juveniles' psychological developmental capacities in legal contexts. She is particularly interested in the application of psychological literature in the creation of policy and legislation. At UMass Med, along with her colleague Thomas Grisso, Ph.D., she is currently developing a manual that provides guidance to drafters of juvenile competence to stand trial legislation. She also provides technical assistance to states that are in the process of developing juvenile competence to stand trial legislation and / or services. Dr. Larson also teaches Professional Issues and Ethics, Consultation and Testimony, Psychology and the Law, and Substance Abuse Assessment and Treatment at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, as well as assisting in teaching the Postdoctoral Fellows in Forensic Psychology and Psychiatry and the UMass Medical School.



**CARRIE LEE** joined the Juvenile Justice Center as the Staff Attorney in January of 2008. Carrie's interest in criminal law began when she became field investigator for the Polk County Public Defender's office at the age of eighteen. She continued to love helping those in need during her law school career by assisting in the defense of one of the men charged in the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church bombing of the four little girls in Birmingham, Alabama. Upon graduation, Carrie started her career at the Ninth Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office working in Osceola and Orange Counties. While at the Public Defender's office, Carrie performed in all aspects of criminal defense including felony, misdemeanor and appeals. She also helped to create a project to provide immediate assistance for those arrested and incarcerated. Prior to her joining the Juvenile Justice Center, her great love had come from working for 5 years with children in delinquency court as a lead attorney with the Juvenile Division of the Orange and Osceola County Public Defender's office. She also spent a year as an attorney for the Department of Children and Families. Carrie is an Advisory Board member of the Southern Juvenile Defender Center. She is also a member of the Florida Bar Juvenile Rules Committee, the American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Committee, the Central Florida Criminal Defender Lawyer's Association, the Central Florida Women's Lawyer Association and the Florida Bar Public Interest Section. As the Director for the JJC, Carrie loves being able to assist the juvenile defenders in the trenches to improve their advocacy and justice for the children.

**ROB MASON** graduated in 1989 from the University of Florida College of Law and served as Associate Research Editor for the Law Review. He has been an Assistant Public Defender in Jacksonville, Florida since 1990 and has practiced in both the Special Defense Unit and Repeat Offender Court. He currently is the Director of Juvenile Court, and also serves as the Chair of the Florida Public Defender Association Juvenile Justice Committee. He is a member of the Florida Bar, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, American Civil Liberties Union, Southern Poverty Law Center, National Association of Counsel for Children, and the Florida Bar Public Interest Law Section. Rob Mason has also been an adjunct professor at Florida State College at Jacksonville and Jones College, teaching Evidence and Criminal Law. Rob Mason is a member of the Advisory Board for the Southern Juvenile Defender Center and the Florida Bar Committee for the Legal Needs of Children. He has testified on juvenile issues before committees of the Florida Senate and Florida House and has lectured nationally on Juvenile Dispositional Advocacy, Child Hearsay, Strategies for Sex Offenses, Effective Juvenile Representation, Contempt, and Right to Counsel. He has participated as an American Bar Association Panelist on Child Victims and also served as faculty at the National Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit. He is an active member of the Advisory Committee for the Juvenile Justice Center at Barry University and is also one of the eight attorneys in Florida selected to participate in the Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network, an initiative sponsored by the MacArthur Foundation dedicated to improve the juvenile indigent defense system nationwide. Rob Mason is one of only two defense attorneys from Florida invited by Attorney General Eric Holder to attend the National Symposium on Indigent Defense which convened in Washington D.C. in February, 2010.

**RHONDA McKITTEN, ESQ.** is the Director of Training and senior trial attorney in the Juvenile Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia. Ms. McKitten is a member of the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Subcommittee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and serves as the DMC Coordinator for Philadelphia County. As the Project Director for grants from the MacArthur Foundation Model's for Change initiative to the Defender Association, Ms. McKitten supervises work in the areas of training, aftercare and DMC reduction. Ms. McKitten is a member of the MacArthur Foundation Pennsylvania Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network and of the Juvenile Defender Association of Pennsylvania and has been actively involved in crafting recommendations for reform of indigent juvenile defense in Pennsylvania. Ms. McKitten worked with the National Juvenile Defender Center to draft the Ten Core Principles for Providing Quality Delinquency Representation Through Public Defense Delivery Systems, 2nd Edition, and has been a trainer at national conferences for defense counsel and other stakeholders in the justice system. Ms. McKitten was instrumental in developing a Juvenile Drug Treatment Court and a Graduated Sanctions Court in Philadelphia Family Court and has collaborated with law enforcement and the District Attorney's office to create a curriculum for police, which teaches officers more effective ways to interact with youth on the street. From 2005 - 2007, Ms. McKitten served as the Director of the Special Education Program for the Defender Association of Philadelphia and continues to supervise attorneys in their representation of special education clients. A 1999 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, Ms. McKitten clerked for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and has taught Juvenile Justice as an adjunct professor at the Temple University Beasley School of Law.

**MARIE OSBORNE** is a seasoned indigent defense attorney with vast court room and administrative experience. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate from Florida State University and an honors graduate of the University of Florida School of Law. Following her law school graduation she accepted a position as an assistant public defender in the Miami-Dade Office where she worked for Public Defender, Bennett H. Brummer for 26 years. She started in the misdemeanor division, spent a year in the juvenile division and then eight years in the adult felony division trying all types of felony cases including a capital case. Ms. Osborne now works for Public Defender Carlos J. Martinez as one of four Chief Assistants with whom she shares responsibility for making policy, pursuing legislation, hiring, firing and all other administrative decisions towards the operation of a major urban office. The office has a national reputation



for excellence receiving, in 2008, the National Legal Aid and Defender Association's "Clara Shortridge Award" for outstanding achievement on behalf of indigent defense. This year, as part of a MacArthur Foundation Initiative, the Juvenile Division will train all its advocates according to the newly developed "best practices" standards for child representation. Since 1995 to the present, Ms. Osborne has had specific oversight of the Juvenile Division. Ms. Osborne directly supervises about 30 attorneys and 20 support staff, social workers, investigators and interns. The Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office, Juvenile Division, together with Barry University of Law, was selected by the MacArthur Foundation to participate in its *Models for Change Initiative* to promote to help accelerate a national juvenile justice reform movement.

**RANDY OTTO** is a licensed psychologist and is board certified in forensic psychology and clinical psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mental Health Law & Policy at the University of South Florida and also is adjunct faculty at Stetson University College of Law, where he co-teaches courses on mental health law, and aging and the law. In addition, he has a Tampa-based practice that is limited to forensic psychological evaluation. Dr. Otto obtained master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from Florida State University, he completed a clinical psychology internship at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and he was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Psychology and College of Law at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he obtained a masters degree in legal studies. Dr. Otto's research, writing, and practice focuses on forensic psychological assessment. He has served as President of the American Board of Forensic Psychology and the American Psychology-Law Society, and he is completing a term as Treasurer of the American Board of Professional Psychology. He chairs the committee revising the *Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists*, and he serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals including *Assessment*, *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Administration*, *Journal of Child Custody*, and *Criminal Justice and Behavior*. Dr. Otto has conducted training for attorneys and judges in Alaska, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

**KATHERINE PUZONE** is an Assistant Professor of Law at Barry University School of Law where she teaches the Children and Families Clinic and a seminar on the death penalty. Having represented death row inmates for over a decade in private practice and as a federal public defender in Alabama, Kathy saw every day the consequences when at-risk children do not receive the help they need. Kathy's clinic students represent children primarily in the delinquency system. The clinic focuses on children who have mental health issues. Kathy's goal is to incorporate the model of mitigation used in capital cases into representing children. Her students investigate and prepare factual defenses to the delinquent acts alleged and they also prepare a mitigation case designed to get the child and the child's family the services needed while allowing the child to remain in school and in their home environment. Before coming to Barry, Kathy practiced at two large New York City law firms and in the Federal Public Defender's Office in Montgomery, Alabama. While in New York, Kathy was an instructor in the Legal Practice Workshop at Columbia Law School. She holds a J.D., *cum laude*, from New York University School of Law where she was an associate editor of the Law Review. She also holds an M. Phil. from the University of Cambridge and a B.A. from Trinity College.

**MARIA SCHNEIDER** is the Assistant State Attorney in Charge of the Juvenile Division for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Florida. Since joining the office in 1993 Ms. Schneider had served as a lead attorney in the felony trial division, the Sexual Battery Unit, the Organized Crime and Gang Activity Unit and the Career Criminal Unit. Upon receiving her JD degree from Nova Southeastern University's Center for the Study of Law in 1986 until 1993 Ms. Schneider had been employed as an Assistant Public Defender in Broward County, FL. Ms. Schneider is actively involved in numerous community and professional organizations that advocate for the rights and wellbeing of children such as the Florida Bar Juvenile Rules Committee, the Juvenile Justice Board for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, and the Broward County chapter of Communities in Schools, a non-profit organization that focuses on dropout prevention. She also teaches as an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University, Nova Southeastern University, and Nova Southeastern University Center for the Study of Law and lectures often for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, the Florida Prosecuting Attorney's Association and the National District Attorney's Association.

**DR. ADELE SOLAZZO** is a Staff Psychologist with Sixth Circuit Court, Juvenile Division in Clearwater, Florida. She provides evaluations on children and adolescents to assist the court with disposition sanctions for youth who are facing delinquency charges. Prior to her employment with the Sixth Circuit, Dr. Solazzo was a Senior Psychologist for the Department of Juvenile Justice in Tampa, Florida. She was responsible for the oversight of ongoing mental health services, crisis intervention, psychological evaluation and general wellness practices for youth detained in the eight regional juvenile detention centers. Dr. Solazzo received her Ph.D. from the University of Miami. She is published and has lectured in a variety of settings throughout the state of Florida on children with mental health and substance issues and the specialization of treatment for girls.



**DAVID UTTER** has spent his legal career representing indigent individuals in civil rights cases throughout the South. He is the former director and co-founder of the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana. He has worked as an attorney with the Southern Center for Human Rights in Atlanta, where he represented indigent prisoners in Alabama and Louisiana who challenged illegal treatment and conditions. He also co-founded the Louisiana Crisis Assistance Center to address inequities in the defense of indigent persons facing the death penalty. In 2003, the Louisiana Bar Foundation named Utter its Distinguished Attorney of the Year for his work on juvenile justice reform. He is also the recipient of the Ford Foundation and Advocacy Institute's Leadership for a Changing World Award for 2005. He is a graduate of Emory University and the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

**ANGELA VIGIL** is the Director of Pro Bono and Community Service for North America for Baker & McKinzie, LLP. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Vigil worked for the Children and Family Justice Center, Bluhm Legal Clinic of the Northwestern University School of Law as the Director of Children's Law and Pro Bono Projects, where she led strategic litigation and advocacy on behalf of children. Ms. Vigil also worked as an attorney, director and clinical teacher at Northwestern University's Children and Family Justice Center Community Law Clinic, where she founded, directed and managed legal intake and practice in the neighborhood branch office. Ms. Vigil focuses her practice on children's law, civil rights and criminal law. She also has experience in litigation and dispute resolution. She frequently lectures at various national and international conferences on issues related to professional responsibility in children's law, juvenile justice practice, the representation of juvenile sex offenders, the transfer of children to adult criminal court, and interviewing and counseling child clients. She also presents on pro bono management in law firms and in legal service organizations, as well as on teaming with corporate clients through pro bono service. Ms. Vigil received her bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1992 and her juris doctorate from Northwestern University School of Law in 1995.

**GEORGE YEANNAKIS** holds the position of Special Counsel with TeamChild in Seattle as part of the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative. As Special Counsel at TeamChild he works to enhance juvenile defense in Washington through training, leadership development and technical assistance. Prior to joining TeamChild he consulted with counties and municipalities in Washington to improve the delivery of public defense services. He was a public defender for over 20 years in Seattle with The Defender Association and Society of Counsel where he supervised the juvenile offender unit. He was lured from juvenile defense to establish the Youth Advocacy Clinic at Seattle University where he was a Visiting Clinical Law Professor for five years. George has served on many statewide panels and commissions reviewing juvenile justice policies. He currently chairs the juvenile offender subcommittee of the Washington State Bar Association Council on Public Defense.

