

Presenter Biographies

Hon. Jane Carroll - Milwaukee County

Jane Carroll is a Circuit Court Judge for Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. She received a BS from University of Wisconsin -Madison in 1984, and a JD from UW Law School in 1987.

For 19 years, Judge Carroll served as an Assistant District Attorney for Milwaukee County; for 13 of those years she was assigned to the Sensitive Crimes Unit, which handles all cases of sexual assault and child abuse.

Since being elected to the bench in 2006, Judge Carroll is in her third four-year rotation in the Children's Division, having been appointed as Presiding Judge in August, 2022. She also presided over cases in the Small Claims, Civil, Probate and Family divisions. In her current assignment, Judge Carroll presides over two treatment courts, Healthy Infant Court and Family Drug Treatment Court. Judge Carroll was appointed a Deputy Chief Judge by Chief Judge Carl Ashley in May, 2023.

Eileen Fredericks - Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office

Eileen Fredericks serves as the Youth Defense Practice Coordinator for the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office. She previously worked in the SPD's Milwaukee Youth & Mental Health and Kenosha offices. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame in May 2001, earning a B.A. in Government with a concentration in Public Policy. She went to the University of Wisconsin Law School hoping to become a lawyer for children and teens. While attending law school, Eileen also earned her Master's Degree in Social Work in order to better understand the needs and struggles of many of the people we represent, and to learn how to better assist people in solving and coping with life's problems.

Prof. Kristin Henning - Georgetown Law

Kristin Henning is the Blume Professor of Law and Director of the Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative at Georgetown Law. She has been representing children accused of crime for more than 26 years and was previously the Lead Attorney for the Juvenile Unit of the D.C. Public Defender Service. Kris trains state actors across the country on the impact of racial bias in the courts and the traumatic effects of policing in communities of color. She is the co-founder of several initiatives to combat racial inequities in the juvenile legal system, including the Ambassadors for Racial Justice program and a Racial Justice Toolkit for defenders. Professor Henning writes extensively about race, adolescence, and policing, and her book *The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth* was featured on the front page of the New York Times Book Review.

Kris serves on the Board of Directors for the Public Welfare Foundation and is the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Gault Center. She previously served on the Board of Directors for the Center for Children's Law and Policy and was an Advisor to ALI's Restatement on Children and the Law. She has received many awards including the Livingston Hall Award from the American Bar Association, an Embracing the Legacy Award from the RFK Community Alliance, a Women of Distinction Award from the American Association of University Women, and the Leadership Prize from the Juvenile Law Center. Kris earned her B.A. from Duke University, her J.D. from Yale Law School, and her LLM in Advocacy from Georgetown Law.



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Bridget Mauerman - Children's Court Improvement Program

Bridget Mauerman is responsible for administering the Children's Court Improvement Program (CCIP), a program designed to improve the handling of child welfare, termination of parental rights, and adoption proceedings in the court system. As director, she works closely with members of Wisconsin's judicial system on training, legislation, policies, strategic planning, development of best practices, and other quality improvement projects. She has worked for CCIP since 2004. Prior to her current position, Ms. Mauerman worked as an Assistant Public Defender for four years, where she represented children and juveniles in child in need of protection or services (CHIPS), juvenile in need of protection or services (JIPS), and delinquency proceedings. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Political Science, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin.

Alana Peck - Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Alana Peck is a Program and Policy Analyst for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families who has been supporting the state's community-based youth justice system for over 6 years. Her current work centers around organizing and sharing youth justice data and best practice research; creating resources like the Juvenile Secure Detention Registry dashboard, the annual YJ Referral and Intake report, and DCF's Truancy Issue Brief. Previously, she worked in public education, supporting students who were disengaged from school. Prior to her role at DCF, Alana worked earned a Master of Social Work and Master of Education from the University of Pennsylvania.

Michelle Swardenski - Outagamie County District Attorney's Office

Michelle Swardenski earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and her Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado School of Law in 2006. She is currently an Assistant District Attorney for the Outagamie County District Attorney's Office, specializing in CHIPS and TPR matters. Prior to joining the Outagamie County District Attorney's Office, Michelle worked as a private attorney representing clients in all aspects of family law, guardian ad litem, criminal, wills and trusts, estate planning, and general civil litigation. She also worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Green Lake, Marquette, and Waushara counties as a special federal grant-funded prosecutor specializing in diverting non-violent misdemeanor defendants out of the criminal justice system through completion of a diversion program rather than conviction and incarceration.

Josh Weber - Council of State Governments

Josh Weber directs the CSG Justice Center's juvenile justice program, which focuses on helping states use effective methods to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for youth in contact with the juvenile justice system. Previously, Josh spent 15 years working on building the capacity of programs and systems that serve vulnerable youth in the juvenile justice, youth development, workforce development, and child welfare systems. Josh managed research programs for the Youth Development and Research Fund in Maryland and the Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. In addition, Josh led the development and implementation of NYC Administration for Children's Services' alternative to placement and reentry program for juveniles using evidence-based practices. He also directed the District of Columbia's Justice Grants Administration, which managed all federal juvenile and criminal justice grants for the District. Josh received his BA in psychology from Duke University and his MPA from Princeton University.

