About the Author

Kathleen Pakes is the Assigned Counsel Division Director and a Forensic Practice Coordinator focusing on Child Abuse and Family Defense for the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD). She previously served as legal counsel for the SPD, the Rusk County (Wisconsin) district attorney, and a staff public defender in Louisville, Kentucky. She has an undergraduate degree in Soviet and Eastern European Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a law degree from Brandeis (University of Louisville) School of Law. Ms. Pakes worked as a public defender in Louisville and was elected to five terms as the Rusk County District Attorney (Wisconsin).