

About the Authors

Katie York has been the Deputy State Public Defender for the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) since 2023. Katie started with the SPD as an assistant state public defender in the Green Bay trial office, where she handled nearly all SPD case types. In 2010, she transferred to the SPD's Madison appellate office where she was later promoted to local attorney manager. In 2018, she became the SPD's deputy trial division director, and in 2019, she returned to the appellate division as the SPD's appellate division director.

Alaina Fahley has been with Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) since August 2013 and works in the Appleton trial office, serving youth and parents in counties throughout northeastern Wisconsin, especially in children in need of protection and services (CHIPS) and termination-of-parental-rights (TPR) litigation, and serves as the agency's Family Defense Practice Coordinator. She received her B.A. in social welfare and justice from Marquette University in 2010 and her J.D. from Marquette University in 2013. During her time at the SPD, she has presented at annual trainings to certify staff and private bar attorneys to take youth defense and family defense cases. She has served two separate terms as the chair of the Children and the Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin. She has given numerous training sessions on issues related to youth and family defense issues: she has presented at the State Bar's Annual Meeting & Conference and the Conference on Child Welfare and the Courts, and she has also trained attorneys in other states. She has authored several articles related to child welfare and juvenile justice issues and is a 2024 Ambassador for Racial Justice through the Gault Center and the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Initiative.

Jessica Fehrenbach is a local attorney manager for the Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender in Merrill. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and her law degree at Drake Law School. Jessica is a certified Youth Defender Advocacy Program trainer. Her experience of more than 13 years as a public defender has allowed her to represent hundreds of youth in rural northern Wisconsin counties. Jessica also serves on the MAC Homes Board, volunteers with Backpacks for Kids, and is vice president of a parent teacher organization.

Eileen Fredericks has been a staff attorney in the Madison trial office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) in the youth defense unit since 2009. In addition, she is the youth defense practice coordinator for the SPD. In this position, she helps with trainings related to juvenile law and is available as a resource to all attorneys taking juvenile cases around the state. Eileen has previously worked in the SPD's Milwaukee youth and mental health office and the SPD's Kenosha office. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame and attended 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 to better understand the needs and struggles of many of the people she represents and to learn how better to assist people in coping with life's troubles. She is the 2023 recipient of the SPD's Chiarkas Award for her contributions to creating a more just legal system for youth in Wisconsin.

Matthew W. Giesfeldt was an assistant state public defender with the Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) from 2015 to 2024, when he became an assistant federal defender for Federal Defender Services of Wisconsin. He worked in the juvenile unit of the SPD's Madison trial office for seven years, and thereafter, he worked in the SPD's Madison appellate office. He was also the SPD's family defense practice coordinator, assisting private bar and SPD attorneys statewide with cases regarding children in need of protection or services (CHIPS) and termination of parental rights (TPR). He is a founder and board member of the Student Expulsion Prevention Project. He has given more than 115 legal trainings to lawyers, judges, social workers, law enforcement officers, law students, and other individuals. He taught graduate-level classes at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Education (legal rights and

responsibilities for teachers). In 2009, he formed a 501(c)(3) organization, the Mama Goose Memorial Run/Walk, which has raised funds for cancer research.

Imani Hollie is a staff attorney with the Illinois Prison Project. She was formerly an assistant state public defender in Green Bay, Wisconsin, specializing in youth delinquency, child protection, and emerging adult criminal cases. Originally from Los Angeles, California, Imani is an alumna of Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Imani was a law clerk at the office of the Cook County Public Defender in the juvenile justice division. She also interned for Lawndale Christian Legal Center, a nonprofit organization located on the west side of Chicago, where she represented youth in juvenile delinquency proceedings. Additionally, Imani represented students in suspension, expulsion, and individualized education program (IEP) meetings as a student-advocate for Loyola's SUFEO (Stand Up For Each Other!), a student-run organization that provides free information and services for kindergarten through 12th-grade students facing suspension, bullying, or exclusion from school. Imani is the associate director of professional identity formation at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, teaching a diversity, inclusion, and equity course to first-year law students.

Faun Moses joined the Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) in 2010 as an assistant state public defender in the SPD's Madison appellate office. In 2015, Faun started working in the SPD's Janesville trial office as a local attorney manager and was promoted to regional attorney manager of the Janesville region in 2017. In 2023, Faun became the appellate division director.

Elisabeth Stockbridge is an assistant state public defender in the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Shawano trial office, where she represents juveniles in delinquency cases and children and parents in children in need of protection or services and termination-of-parental-rights cases. Attorney Stockbridge is certified as a youth defense advocacy trainer by the Gault Center and has trained youth defense attorneys across the state. Before joining the State Public Defender, Attorney Stockbridge clerked for the eight judges in the Brown County Circuit Court for two years. She is a 2009 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School.

Jacob Van Kerkvoorde is the local attorney manager in the Dodge County office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender. He earned his undergraduate degree in legal studies and sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his law degree from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where he was a ChildLaw Fellow at the Civitas ChildLaw Center. Jacob previously worked as a staff attorney in the Sheboygan office of the State Public Defender.

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