

## Rebecca L. Town, Esq.

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Rebecca Town is a staff attorney in the Criminal Defense Unit at the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, working at the intersection of indigent defense and criminal justice reform. She has nearly a decade of experience as a trial attorney litigating thousands of criminal cases from arraignment to disposition. She has worked on campaigns ranging from pretrial justice to prison reform in coalition with advocates across the state.

Along with her work in the courtroom, Ms. Town is very involved with the community. Appointed by the County Executive in 2014, she serves as a member of the Erie County Board of Ethics. She co-chairs the Women's Bar Association of Western New York's Criminal Law Committee leading an effort to re-institute an Alternative Dispute Resolution program in Buffalo City Court. Ms. Town is also currently collaborating with the Erie County District Attorney's office to host a joint training on implicit racial bias. As a frequent mentor to aspiring law students, Ms. Town partners with the University at Buffalo's Discover Law program, the Black Law Student Association and various local high schools.

Ms. Town is considered a growing thought leader on criminal justice reform issues such as bail, speedy trial, discovery and marijuana legalization. She has been frequently invited to give testimony before the NY State Assembly and Erie County Legislature and has been quoted by local and national news networks such as CNN and FiveThirtyEight.com.

Ms. Town earned her Bachelors of Arts at the State University of N.Y. at Buffalo where she graduated magna cum laude in 2003, and her Juris Doctorate from the University at Buffalo School of Law in 2009.