



Susan Bryant, Esq.

New York State Defenders Association
194 Washington Avenue, Suite 500
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 465-3524
sbryant@nysda.org

Susan C. Bryant is the Acting Director of the New York State Defenders Association (NYSDA). Susan has been with NYSDA since 2007. Previously, she was in private practice, was an Honors Program attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, and clerked for the then-Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut. In 2012, she received the Kevin M. Andersen Award from the Genesee County Public Defender's Office. Susan received her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law (2001) and her Masters in Library and Information Science from the University at Albany (2007).



Robert Dean, Esq.

The Center for Appellate Litigation
120 Wall Street, 28th Floor
New York, NY 10005
(212) 577-2523 ext. 502
rdean@cfal.org

Robert S. Dean is the Attorney-in-Charge of the Center for Appellate Litigation, a 40-lawyer not-for-profit group representing indigent criminal defendants on appeal and in post-conviction proceedings. He has also taught appellate advocacy and post-conviction remedies at the NYU School of Law and Brooklyn Law School. A graduate of NYU Law School, with over 40 years of experience as an appellate public defender, he has personally briefed and argued over 350 cases in New York's intermediate appellate courts, more than 35 cases in the New York Court of Appeals, and one winning case in the United States Supreme Court (*Cruz v. New York*). He is a principal author of the West Book *New York Pretrial Criminal Procedure*, first and second editions. He has chaired the Committee on Criminal Justice Operations and the Committee on Criminal Courts at the New York City Bar Association and the Appellate Courts committee at the New York County Lawyers' Association. He is Chair of the Appellate Practice Section of the State Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee, and Vice Chair of the State Bar's Committee on Mandated Representation. He is on the board of the Chief Defenders Association of New York. In January 2013 he received the State Bar Criminal Justice Section's Award for Outstanding Appellate Practitioner.



Norman Effman, Esq.

Wyoming County Attica Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.
18 Linwood Avenue
Warsaw, NY 14569
(585) 786-8450
attlegal@yahoo.com

Effman has been the executive director of the Wyoming County-Attica Legal Aid Bureau since 1981. That agency conducts prisoners' rights litigation. Since 1990, Effman has also served as the Wyoming County public defender.

He has practiced criminal law in both the private and public sector for more than 46 years. From 1992–1998, Effman served on the Attorney Grievance Committee of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, Eighth Judicial District.

A member of the Criminal Justice Section's executive committee since 1982, he is currently the chair of its Awards Committee and co-chair of its Correctional System Committee. He is the immediate past chair of the Committee on Mandated Representation.

He serves as a member of the NYS Permanent Commission on Sentencing and as a member of the Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission for the 8th Judicial District. He is also vice-president of the Board of Directors of the New York State Defenders Association.

Effman is a graduate of SUNY Buffalo and SUNY Buffalo School of Law.



Sean Hill, Esq.

Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice
147 Prince Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
shill@katalcenter.org

Sean Hill joined Katal as a Senior Legal Fellow in the Summer of 2017, to address and advance speedy trial and bail reform across New York. Prior to joining Katal, Sean was a Senior Staff Attorney with the legal non-profit, Youth Represent, where he represented formerly-incarcerated youth in both the criminal and civil matters interfering with their successful re-entry. Through a 2013 Equal Justice Works Fellowship, Sean also started Youth Represent's Family Stability Project, which expanded the law office's legal practice to various Family Court matters. Sean has been a member of the Law4BlackLives Steering Committee since 2015, and the co-chair of the National Conference of Black Lawyers - New York Chapter since 2016. He is a 2012 graduate of Harvard Law School, where he was an active member of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and student government.



Andrew Kossover, Esq.
Kossover Law Offices, LLP
40 Main Street
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 255-4655
ak@kossoverlaw.com

Andrew Kossover, a partner in Kossover Law Offices (New Paltz), is Chair of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Mandated Representation and a member of the Executive Committee of the Criminal Justice Section. He is Past-President and current Legislative Co-Chair of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He is also Ulster County's part-time Chief Public Defender. Andy attended SUNY Buffalo and Vermont Law School. He began the practice of law under the auspices of the Criminal Defense Division of the Legal Aid Society of New York (Kings County).

In 1984, Andy relocated from New York City to the Hudson River Valley. He was appointed by the late Governor Mario Cuomo to the Board of Visitors of the Hudson River Psychiatric Center. Mr. Kossover is the former law clerk for then Ulster County Family Court Judge Karen K. Peters (recently retired as Presiding Judge of the Appellate Division, Third Department). Mr. Kossover is a former President of the Ulster County Bar Association and former member of the Board of Directors of the New York State Defenders Association.

Mr. Kossover is also a member of the adjunct faculty at the State University of New York at New Paltz where he has taught such courses as Criminal Law and Introduction to Law. He has lectured at Bard College and the United States Military Academy at West Point. From 2003 to 2013, he served as a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for the Third Judicial District.

Immediate Past-Chief Judge of New York's Court of Appeals, Jonathan Lippman, appointed Mr. Kossover to the New York State Justice Task Force on Wrongful Convictions. Chief Judge Lippman, in appointing Mr. Kossover, referred to "Mr. Kossover's experience, insight, and expertise as valuable attributes that will assist the Task Force in achieving its important goals."

In 2015, Andy was awarded the Michele S. Maxian Award for Outstanding Public Defense Practitioner by the New York State Bar Association. The Award is named for the late Michele Maxian, a Legal Aid Society lawyer who spurred criminal justice reform in New York City.

In addition to criminal defense, Mr. Kossover's practice includes personal injury litigation and education law.



Lorraine McEvilley, Esq.
The Legal Aid Society
199 Water Street
New York, NY 10038
(212) 577-3411
lcmcevilley@legal-aid.org

Lorraine McEvilley has been the Director of our Parole Revocation Defense Unit (PRDU) at The Legal Aid Society since 2014. PRDU is the primary provider of legal representation to all accused parole violators detained in NYC on a NYS parole warrant. A graduate of SUNY Buffalo and SUNY Buffalo School of Law, Lorraine first joined the Society as a staff attorney in our Queens criminal defense office in 1989. After distinguishing herself in Queens, Lorraine relocated to Arizona where she represented community members in civil claims and criminal tribal court proceedings with Four Rivers Indian Legal Services, and then represented clients facing felony charges with the Office of the Public Defender in Maricopa County. Lorraine returned to the Society in 1999 as a staff attorney in our Manhattan criminal defense office and subsequently transferred to the Parole Revocation Defense Unit in 2005. In 2008, she became a supervising attorney in PRDU and has been a critical member of the team which further raised the level of parole revocation advocacy at The Legal Aid Society. In 2011, Lorraine was awarded the Orison S. Marden Award for excellence and dedication to the work and clients of The Legal Aid Society. PRDU continues to serve as a model for legal representation of clients charged with violations of the terms of their release to community supervision.



Leah Rene Nowotarski, Esq.

Wyoming County Attica Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.
18 Linwood Avenue
Warsaw, NY 14569
(585) 786-8450
lnowotarski.attlegal@yahoo.com

Bright, hardworking attorney with strong client advocacy skills and a passion for client-centered representation. Seven years of criminal litigation experience as Assistant Public Defender with the Wyoming County Public Defender's Office, Staff Attorney with Attica Legal Aid, Assigned Counsel with Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society, and Sole Practitioner.

Negotiate dispositions in violations, misdemeanors, and felonies in justice and county courts; write and argue pre-trial motions; conduct pre-trial suppression hearings; represent inmates on 606 cases; represent respondents in child support violations and paternity proceedings; argue for offenders' lower registration levels in SORA hearings.

Write "Pre-Sentence Memoranda" on behalf of criminal defendants who face open sentencing or lengthy imprisonment, to provide in-depth information on clients and their personal attributes and struggles. One client's memorandum opposed the prosecutor's argument which would have resulted in a higher SORA level; another reduced a client's sentence from a maximum of 7 years to a minimum of 1-3 years.

Secured two separate dismissals through motions and hearings, each of more than \$30,000 in arrears of birth and confinement costs ordered against respondents as a result of default judgments.

Teach "Stop & Frisk," "Burdens of Proof," and "Search and Seizure" for police recruits at the Rural Police Training Academy at Genesee Community College.

Represent more than 200 parolees in administrative parole appeals, as well as revocation and rescission hearings and appeals; argue substantial evidence and constitutional due process violations in transfer and appellate briefs to the Appellate Division Fourth Department regarding inmate disciplinary hearings.

Fluent in Spanish.



Hon. Adam D. Perlmutter
Brooklyn Criminal Court
120 Schermerhorn Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
adp11222@gmail.com

The Honorable Adam D. Perlmutter is a recently appointed judge who sits in Brooklyn Criminal Court. His previous experience includes working as an Assistant District Attorney in Queens County. Judge Perlmutter was subsequently in private practice for seventeen years where he focused on criminal defense and civil rights. He was a member of the Criminal Justice Act Panel for United States District Courts in both the Southern and Eastern District. His notable cases include serving as lead counsel obtaining acquittals on six murders for reputed acting Colombo Family Crime Boss Thomas Gioeli, including the first charged Mafia killing of a New York City Police Officer in over a century. Judge Perlmutter was also lead counsel in the federal death penalty trial of Folk Nation leader James McTier, resulting in a life sentence for the murder of three innocent bystanders in three separate gang-related incidents. Just prior to taking the bench, he represented Akhror Saidakhmetov, a young man who provided material support to the Islamic State, Sharrif Wilson who was exonerated after twenty-two years for a triple homicide that he did not commit, and successfully sued New York State in several actions to stop sexual abuse by prison guards

In addition to his criminal defense and civil rights work, Judge Perlmutter also had an active public interest law practice, including successfully suing ExxonMobil for a 17-million gallon spill in North Brooklyn, stopping two power plants from being constructed on the North Brooklyn waterfront, and bringing about the acquisition of 28-acres of industrial land on the same waterfront to create the Bushwick Inlet Park. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Perlmutter also served since 2011 as counsel to the New York State Justice Task Force for the chair of the Assembly Committee on Codes (Joseph Lentol, 53rd AD), where he worked on issues including expanding post-conviction access to DNA testing, the standing order on professional conduct and bail reform. Judge Perlmutter has been designated by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore to continue working with the New York Justice Task Force as part of his new judicial position. He received his bachelors with honors from Columbia University in 1987, and his J.D. with honors from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1992.



Jennifer P. Stergion, Esq.

460 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 536-5971
jpstergion@hotmail.com

Jennifer is an attorney with extensive trial experience, an Administrative Law Judge, and a community activist, who has received numerous prestigious awards. She has frequently been invited to speak on various legal and policy topics throughout the United States and Europe. She has testified before the United States Congressional Committee on Veterans Affairs; educated and provided career guidance at the University at Buffalo School of Law; and lectured for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs in multiple counties.

Jennifer has served as an adjunct professor at both Trocaire College and Daemen College, and she frequently judges moot court and oral argument programs at the University at Buffalo School of Law. Due to her high level of involvement and knowledge of the court system combined with her experience running a busy practice, Jennifer was asked to join a committee headed by Justice Janice M. Rosa, J.S.C. to develop a veteran's civil docket for matrimonial and family court matters. Jennifer served as a Small Claims Hearing Officer for Buffalo City Court, where she presided over small claims matters brought by attorneys and pro se litigants.

Jennifer is a leader in the Erie County Bar Association, having held three committee chairmanships and authored several Bar Association articles. She currently serves as a board member of both Aid to Indigent Prisoners, Inc. and the Judges and Police Conference of Western New York, and is a past President of Women Lawyers of Western New York. In 2013 she ran for the Erie County Legislature.