



Robert O. Dawson Juvenile Law Institute  
**30<sup>th</sup> Annual Juvenile Law Conference**

February 27-March 1, 2017

Horseshoe Bay Resort

Horseshoe Bay, Texas

### **Biographical Information on Speakers**

#### **LESLIE BARROWS**

Attorney Leslie Barrows has been interested in the criminal justice system since the start of college. After a few years working through many different legal disciplines, she found that family law, criminal defense and juvenile law were the best fit for her. Attorney Leslie Barrows continues to be a very active member in the Fort Worth and Denton legal communities. She is very involved with juvenile law – so much so, that she has been an integral part of the Juvenile Law Seminar in Fort Worth since 2009, including serving as chair and co-chair in 2013 and 2014. She was voted Metroport Teen Court Judge of the Year in 2013. While Barrows' activity in juvenile law is significant, her passion for criminal defense work is undeniable. Attorney Leslie Barrows is an active member of the Tarrant County Criminal Defense Bar Association, the Denton County Criminal Defense Bar Association and the Texas Criminal Defense Bar Association. Barrows is a member of numerous organizations, including the State Bar of Texas, State Bar of Texas Trial College, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association, Dallas County Young Lawyer's Association, Denton County Bar Association, Denton County Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association, Northeast Tarrant County Bar Association, Tarrant County Bar Association, Tarrant County Young Lawyer's Association, Tarrant County Family Law Bar Association, Tarrant County Probate Bar Association, Tarrant County Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association and Certified Attorney/Guardian Ad Litem.

#### **REBECCA BROWN**

Rebecca Brown has a Master's Degree in Social work and her career has spanned 28 years including medical social work, child welfare and domestic violence. For the majority of her career Rebecca was a Child Protection Team Supervisor at the Children's Aid Society and was a founding member of the Critical Incident Debriefing Team for CAS staff following traumatic work events. She was a provincial trainer for the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies and taught the curriculum on Wellness and Self Care. Rebecca has recently been appointed as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine, Schulich School of Medicine, Western University. Rebecca now has a particular interest in Lifestyle Medicine and incorporates this into her practice of Wellness Coaching. Rebecca has been working with Francoise Mathieu and delivering workshops and seminars on the topics of Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue to helping professionals in a variety of social settings to balance the impact of the "cost of caring" for those in need.

## **DARLENE BYRNE**

Darlene Byrne has served as Judge of the 126th Judicial District Court in Travis County, Texas since January 2001. Prior to her election in 2000, she practiced law for thirteen years in the areas of employment, commercial and governmental entity litigation. In 2012, Judge Byrne was reelected to her fourth term as Judge. Judge Byrne is a graduate of the University of Houston Law Center where she graduated Magna Cum Laude, was a member of the Order of the Coif and where she was on the editorial staff of the Houston Law Review. She currently serves as the Senior Judicial Advisor of the Supreme Court of Texas' Permanent Judicial Commission for Children Youth and Families. She is also immediate past President of the Board of Trustees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and serves on the Editorial Staff for the NCJFCJ Journal. She is the Former Chair of the Oversight Committee for the Office of Parent Representation and Office of Child Representation (two public defender-type law offices for families and children involved in child welfare cases, which Judge Byrne helped establish). She also served as the Chair of the Travis County Juvenile Justice Board from 2009-2012. She founded and is the lead judge for the Travis County Model Court for Children and Families. She is the supervising judge, former presiding judge, and is a founding team member of the Travis County Family Drug Treatment Court. Judge Byrne is proud to have been recognized as the recipient of the 2015 National CASA Judge of the Year Award, the 2011 Judge of the Year by CASA of Travis County, 2008 Texas CASA Lone Star Proud Judge of the Year Award, 2013 recipient of the Travis County Women's Lawyer Association's Pathfinder Award, 2009 recipient of their Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2005 recipient of their Government Service Award. She also received the 2016 Believer Award from the University of Houston Law Center's Center for Children, Law & Policy as well as the Austin Child Guidance Center's 2013 Austin Icon for Children Award. She was honored as one of the 2016 "Austin's Fab 5" by the Seedling Foundation. She was the 2009 recipient of the YWCA of Greater Austin's Woman of the Year Award in the area of racial justice. Judge Byrne is also an Austin Bar Foundation Founding Life Fellow and a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. She served as a co-chair for the Austin Do the Write Thing Challenge from 2008 to 2011. She has served as co-chair of the 2008 and 2009 Law Day celebrations of the Austin Bar Association ("ABA"), as past co-chair of the ABA Vanishing Jury Trial Committee, as past Secretary of the Texas Administrative and Public Law Council for the State Bar of Texas, as the 2005 Judicial Chair of the Austin Bar Foundation Gala, and as chair and member of numerous Committees and Advisory Boards for the NCJFCJ. In her role as a mom and community member, she was a board member of GenAustin (Girls Empowerment Network), a past chair of Ballet Austin Barre, a past Board Member and Treasurer for the Austin Rape Crisis Center (Safe Place), and is a graduate of Leadership Austin. Judge Byrne is the mother of three wonderful young adults (Erin, Conor, and Devin) and is the proud spouse of Dan Byrne of Fritz, Byrne, Head and Fitzpatrick, L.L.P.

## **STEVEN DRIZIN**

Steven Drizin is a Clinical Professor of Law at Northwestern Law School where he has been on the faculty since 1991. He is also the Assistant Dean of the Bluhm Legal Clinic. He served as the Legal Director of the Clinic's renowned Center on Wrongful Convictions from March 2005 to September 2013. At the Center, Professor Drizin's research interests involve the study of false confessions and his policy work focuses on supporting efforts around the country to require law enforcement agencies to electronically record custodial interrogations. Prior to joining the Center on Wrongful Convictions, Drizin was the Supervising Attorney at the Clinic's Children and Family Justice Center where he built a reputation as a national expert on juvenile justice related issues. He was a leader in the successful effort to outlaw the juvenile death penalty and co-wrote an amicus brief in *Roper v. Simmons*, the United States Supreme Court's decision striking down the juvenile death penalty as unconstitutional. In August 2005, Drizin received the American Bar Association's Livingston Hall Award for outstanding dedication and advocacy in the juvenile justice field. Drizin received his B.A. with Honors from Haverford College in 1983 and his J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law in 1986.

## **MATTHEW FERRARA**

Since 1985, Dr. Ferrara has been offering forensic psychological services in the State of Texas and throughout the United States. Using the scientist-practitioner model, Dr. Ferrara has provided a variety of services to forensic clients including: assessment, treatment, program design, program implementation, interrogation, profiling, teaching, research, publication, and training. While an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Ferrara was a volunteer worker at the Austin State Hospital for two years. After graduating with his Bachelor's Degree and before he began his doctoral program in clinical psychology, Dr. Ferrara worked as a Nurse's Aide at Austin State Hospital for one year. While in graduate school, Dr. Ferrara was awarded the summer internship at El Reno Federal Correctional Facility. Dr. Ferrara was awarded a National Institute of Mental Health Fellowship in child studies. Dr. Ferrara completed his residency at the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, where his rotations included inpatient substance abuse treatment, inpatient psychiatric treatment, and outpatient child and family services. In 1995, Dr. Ferrara served as the Chief of Counseling for TYC. In 1998, Dr. Ferrara began working for Texas Department of Criminal Justice in the Institutional Division. Ferrara worked briefly as a unit psychologist before being promoted to Chief Psychologist for the prison system. Since entering the private practice in 1990, Dr. Ferrara has provided assessment and treatment services with adolescents and adults involved in the court system. Dr. Ferrara has worked in a variety of court settings – administrative, civil, family, CPS, and criminal.

## **ELIZABETH HENNEKE**

Elizabeth A. Henneke is the third generation in her family to demonstrate a commitment to Texas criminal justice issues; she follows in the footsteps of her grandfather and father, both of whom retired from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and her grandmother who was a Walker County Sheriff's Deputy. Elizabeth graduated from Yale University where she earned a B.A. in History with a concentration on race relations in the South. After completing a Fulbright Fellowship in South Korea and a year as a paralegal for Mayer Brown, where she helped prepare several death penalty appeals, she returned to the University of Texas School of Law. During law school, Elizabeth worked with Texas Defender Services, investigating and preparing federal habeas petitions for individuals on Texas' death row. Elizabeth graduated from UT Law with honors and received the University Co-op Public Interest Award honoring her commitment to public service. She then represented Guantanamo detainees as a clinical instructor for the University of Texas' National Security and Human Rights Clinic. She received the 2007 Frederick Douglass Human Rights Award for her work there. Elizabeth also worked as a law clerk for the South Africa Constitutional Court and for Judge Edward C. Prado on the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, and she was a litigation associate at Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. Most recently, Elizabeth was the inaugural Audrey Irmis Clinical Teaching Fellow at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. There, Elizabeth supervised students in the Post-Conviction Justice Project, the Immigration Clinic, and the International Human Rights Clinic, successfully receiving legal status for over 35 individuals and obtaining new sentencing hearings for three (and counting) individuals facing life without parole sentences for crimes they committed while juveniles. She also taught first-year criminal law and a seminar on the death penalty. Elizabeth currently serves as a Policy Attorney with TCJC's Solutions for Youth Justice project, where she bolsters the organization's efforts to create a more humane, safe, and transparent juvenile justice system in Texas.

## **PAT GARZA**

Pat Garza is an Associate Judge in the 386th District Court of Bexar County. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law in 1980, and was hired by Bexar County District Attorney's Office that same year. In January 1983, he was appointed Chief of the Juvenile Law Section of the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. He left the District Attorney's Office in 1985 to enter private practice. In 1989, he was appointed Referee and Master for the 289th Juvenile District Court of Bexar County. In 1998, he was appointed Associated Judge for the newly created 386th District Court of Bexar County. He is a former Adjunct Professor of Law from St. Mary's Law School in San Antonio and is Board Certified in the area of Juvenile Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Judge Garza is the Editor of the Juvenile Law Reporter for the State Bar of Texas which is published quarterly and can be found at [juvenilelaw.org](http://juvenilelaw.org). He also provides the latest case law updates for the Texas Juvenile Law Section website. He is a Juvenile Law Exam Commissioner, and as a Commissioner has the responsibility to prepare and grade exams for Juvenile Law Board Certification. Judge Garza has been presiding over juvenile law cases in San Antonio for over 20 years and is an award winning author and frequent speaker in the area of juvenile law. He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law in 1980. In January 1983, after only three years in the District Attorney's Office, he was appointed Chief of the Juvenile Law Section. He left the District Attorney's Office in 1985 to enter private practice. Four years after entering private practice, Judge Garza was appointed Referee and Master for the 289th Juvenile District Court of Bexar County. In 1998, he was appointed Associated Judge for the newly created 386<sup>th</sup> Juvenile District Court of Bexar County. Judge Garza has authored many articles of juvenile law and serves as Newsletter Editor for the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Judge Garza is a former adjunct professor of juvenile law from St. Mary's Law School and is also a proud member of the 2001 inaugural class of Juvenile Board Certified Practitioners, becoming board certified in the area of juvenile law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in that year.

## **TRACI GEPPERT**

Traci graduated in 1992 from Southwest Texas State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. She began her career with Bexar County as a Probation Officer in 1993. In 1999, Traci was promoted to Senior Probation Officer. In 2003, Traci was promoted to Assistant Supervisor of the Court and has been there ever since.

## **SALLY GREEN**

Prof. Sally Terry Green is a Professor of Law who graduated from Stanford University with her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and completed her Juris Doctorate at Tulane University. After practicing tax law for five years, she joined the faculty at Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University in 1995. Prof Green currently teaches in the areas of commercial law and juvenile law. She has served as a member of the Children at Risk Law Advisory Board and the Annie E. Casey Foundation JDAI-Disproportionate Minority Task Force. Prof Green has published in journals such as Pennsylvania State Law Review, U.C. Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy, the North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology, the U.C. Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law, the American Journal of Criminal Law at University of Texas, and Arkansas Law Review. Her publications are frequently cited to in law review journals, briefs submitted to the court and in a few court opinions addressing juvenile law issues.

## **MONICA GUERRERO**

Monica graduated in 1990 from the University of Texas at San Antonio with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. She began her career with Bexar County District Attorney's in 1993 as an Assistant Criminal District Attorney. In 2003, she was appointed Judge to the Bexar County Court at Law #7. Today, Monica is a private practitioner who focuses on family, juvenile, and criminal law matters.

## **KAMERON JOHNSON**

Kameron D. Johnson is the Juvenile Public Defender for Travis County in Austin, Texas. Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in both juvenile law and criminal law, Kameron continues to practice on both the trial and appellate levels. A graduate of the University Of Texas School Of Law he is licensed to practice by the United States Supreme Court, Texas Supreme Court, Fifth Circuit, and the Western and Southern District Courts of Texas. As a former adjunct professor at The University of Texas School of Law he has taught juvenile law and trial and appellate advocacy. A frequent lecturer, speaker and writer he also serves on various boards in the areas of juvenile law, criminal justice and indigent defense.

## **JILL MATA**

Jill Mata is General Counsel for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department since her appointment in November 2014. Prior to that position she was the Juvenile Division Chief of the Bexar County District Attorney's Office in San Antonio, Texas, having held that position since January 1999 and having worked as a prosecutor in that office for over 25 years. Ms. Mata received her board certification in Juvenile Law in 2001 and served on the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Juvenile Law Advisory Commission from 2009 to 2015. She was selected in 2013 to be a member of the Juvenile Prosecutor Leadership Network (JPLN), which is a part of the National Resource Center for Juvenile Prosecutors (NRCJP) housed at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute in Washington, DC. Ms. Mata is a past chair and current council member of the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas and is a frequent speaker on Juvenile Law Topics. Ms. Mata began her career at the District Attorney's office in 1989 as a misdemeanor prosecutor and subsequently worked in various sections, including the Career Criminal Unit, Family Violence Unit, Juvenile Unit and General Felony. She has extensive jury trial experience including property crimes, drug offenses, crimes of violence against woman and children, juvenile crimes, murder, and capital murder. She received her J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law and B.A. from Trinity University in San Antonio.

## **KATHERINE McANALLY**

Mrs. McAnally is the First Assistant in the Burnet County Attorney's Office where she is currently responsible for representing The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in parental termination cases. During her ten years in the office, she has prosecuted everything from DWI to Juvenile Capital Murder. Much of her career and community activities have been committed to improving the lives of children and families. She received a Bachelor's of Science in Education from Baylor University in 2000. Following that, she taught first grade. However, she couldn't resist the draw of government and policy and joined the Office of Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff, where she remained until she began law school. Mrs. McAnally went on to receive her law degree in 2004 from The University of Texas School of Law and was admitted to the Bar that spring. Throughout her time in Burnet, Katherine has remained committed to children's issues and currently serves as the President of the Board of Directors of the Hill Country Children's Advocacy Center. Katherine and her husband, Travis welcomed their first child her last semester of law school and another her first year at the County Attorney's Office.

## **SHARON PRUITT**

Sharon Pruitt is an assistant attorney general with Juvenile Crime Intervention (JCI) of the Office of the Texas Attorney General. AAG Pruitt assists law enforcement and criminal justice agencies with gang database management, criminal street gang, and prison gang legal issues. She presents in tandem with Texas DPS staff regarding the benefits of TxGANG, and assists local officers and prosecutors with legal research related to gang database management, injunctions and prosecutions. AAG Pruitt presents legal training to judges, lawyers and law enforcement at statewide and regional conferences on the admissibility of social networking and other electronically stored evidence against gang members in court. Additionally, AAG Pruitt provides prosecutor assistance both in and outside of court in juvenile-related matters, addresses juvenile-related questions for law enforcement, probation and school administrators, updates juvenile-related agency publications, and provides the legislative update for agency law enforcement officers across the state. Before joining the Office of the Attorney General, Mrs. Pruitt was a juvenile prosecutor for the Gregg County District Attorney's Office. She has also prosecuted in Smith County and in Harris County. In 2001, Mrs. Pruitt became Board Certified in Juvenile Law. She previously served as Chair of the State Bar of Texas Juvenile Law Section Council and the maximum two terms for the juvenile section of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

## **RILEY SHAW**

Riley Shaw is Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division of the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office, and is the former Chief Juvenile Prosecutor for Tarrant County. Mr. Shaw has prosecuted juvenile delinquency and adult criminal cases for over 17 years. He has been Board Certified in Juvenile Law since 2005 and is a frequent speaker on Criminal and Juvenile Law topics for the State Bar of Texas and for local Bar Associations throughout the State. Mr. Shaw served as a Guest Editor of the 7th Edition of Texas Juvenile Law by Robert Dawson, is a past recipient of the Oscar A. Sherrell Memorial Award from the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, and was named a Top Criminal Attorney by Fort Worth, Texas Magazine. Mr. Shaw is Chair of the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, is an Advisory Board Member of, and Legal Liaison to, the Texas Violent Gang Task Force, and is a member of the Texas Juvenile Justice Board, which is the governing board of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. Mr. Shaw is widely-recognized as an expert in Juvenile Justice in the State of Texas.

## **PAUL SINGER**

Paul Singer is a Deputy Chief in the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Texas Attorney General. In this role, Mr. Singer oversees all aspects of consumer protection enforcement in the division. Prior to serving as Deputy Chief, Mr. Singer was Managing Attorney of the Internet and Privacy Team in the division, where he specialized in the civil enforcement of state and federal laws relating to the Internet, technology, and privacy. Mr. Singer received his J.D. with honors from the University of Texas School of Law, and his B.A. in English and Government with high honors from the University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Singer is a frequent speaker at national seminars and trainings on a variety of technology, privacy, and general consumer protection topics.

## **PATRICIA STEIN**

Pat Stein is the Senior Attorney Assistant Attorney General for Health Fraud in the Texas Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. She has been with the Office of the Attorney General since 2006. Her current practice includes litigation involving misleading, deceptive, and/or false advertising as well as the misbranding and adulteration of foods (including dietary supplements), drugs, and devices. She also participates in the multi-state Health Fraud Working Group and handles multi-state investigations regarding pharmaceutical and device manufacturers' violations of state Unfair and Deceptive Acts and Practices statutes. Prior to joining the Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Stein was the solo attorney for Justice Molly Francis, Court of Appeals for the Fifth District of Texas, and was a junior partner at Morgan & Weisbrod, LLP where she represented plaintiffs in medical malpractice litigation. Ms. Stein is a graduate of Southern Methodist University School of Law, Texas Woman's University (M.S. and Ph.D.), and Texas Christian University (BSN). She worked as a registered nurse, pediatric nurse practitioner, and as an assistant professor of nursing before joining the legal profession.

## **STEPHANIE STEVENS**

Stephanie Stevens is a clinical professor of law at St. Mary's University. She teaches Juvenile law, Texas Criminal Procedure, and the Criminal Justice Clinic, where she works with students representing indigent people with criminal charges in adult and juvenile court. Professor Stevens prepares the updates and annotations for Title 3: The Juvenile Code for Sampson and Tindall's Texas Family Code Annotated. Additionally, she served as a member of the Advisory Committee for the Juvenile Law Section of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Prior to serving as an advisory member, she assisted in writing and grading of the Board Certification Examination for the Juvenile Law Specialty.

## **NYDIA THOMAS**

Nydia D. Thomas has an extensive background in juvenile law and juvenile justice system administration at the state and local levels. She joined the staff of the former Texas Juvenile Probation Commission in 1998. In the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, she is Special Counsel for Legal Education and Technical Assistance (LETA) in the Office of the General Counsel. Ms. Thomas provides professional training and technical assistance to a range of juvenile justice stakeholders to ensure compliance with statutory laws and administrative rules. She has served as principal facilitator and agency subject-matter liaison for juvenile justice practitioner workgroups charged with developing legislative recommendations. Ms. Thomas has published topical articles on juvenile law and is a contributing editor/author of the state's foremost juvenile justice treatise, *Texas Juvenile Law*, 9th Edition. She is also a recurring faculty member for the Correctional Management Institute of Texas and the Texas Association of Counties. Ms. Thomas is a graduate of Howard University School of Law and gained valuable experience on Capitol Hill while working for a Member of Congress and a Washington-based congressional research foundation. Nydia is a former councilmember and Mayor-Pro Tem of Cleveland, Texas and has received both gubernatorial and attorney general appointments. Nydia is a Past Chair of the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. She has served on the Texas Violent Gang Task Force Advisory Board, the Interstate Compact for Juveniles State Council, and the Statewide Disproportionality Task Force as well as the Presidential Advisory Board for Wiley College Debate Program.

## **DR. STEPHEN THORNE**

Dr. Thorne is a licensed psychologist in Austin, Texas, where he performs psychological, child custody, and forensic evaluations in a private practice setting. Dr. Thorne has testified in both state and federal courts, and have testified about a variety of issues, including those relating to civil commitment of sex offenders, risk assessment, sexual recidivism, competency to stand trial, sanity, sentencing, mental retardation, trauma, psychiatric diagnoses and impairment, interview techniques in child sexual abuse investigations, the relationship between child pornography consumption and sexual offending, transfer to adult court, and child custody. Dr. Thorne has performed evaluations at the request of attorneys (in juvenile, civil, and criminal cases), probation officers, judges, law enforcement agencies, guardian ad items, academic institutions, various state licensing boards, and various county, state, and federal agencies. Dr. Thorne has also co-authored journal articles and book chapters, served as a reviewer/consultant for multiple state agencies, taught graduate-level courses in both group therapy and psychological assessment, and have supervised doctoral students.

## **ERIC TIJERINA**

Eric J. Tijerina is a Policy Analyst at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Office of Policy and Strategy, serving as a subject matter expert on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), U-visa, T-visa, and Special Immigrant Juvenile portfolio at USCIS headquarters in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining USCIS, Mr. Tijerina served stints as Associate Director, Legal Services Program and Central American Initiatives at the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants in Arlington, VA, Director of Legal Programs at the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES) in San Antonio, TX, lead attorney for the USDOJ-funded Legal Orientation Program for detained immigrants in removal proceedings at the Political Asylum Project of Austin (now American Gateways), and as Supervising Attorney and Clinical Teaching Fellow at the St. Mary's University School of Law Immigration Clinic. He served from 2011 to 2016 on the State Bar of Texas Crime Victims subcommittee and was a Task Force member of the Alamo-area Coalition Against Human Trafficking from 2008 to 2014. Mr. Tijerina holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin, a Master of Business Administration from Texas Christian University, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from St. Mary's University School of Law.

## **JASON WANG**

Early in life, Jason faced great adversity and hardship. His parents were immigrants to this country and Jason grew up extremely poor. Jason's father would physically abuse Jason on a daily basis and by the age of 10, he had attempted to commit suicide 3 times. To escape, he turned to a life of hustling, gambling, and eventually joined a gang. At the age of 15, Jason was incarcerated and earned a 12 year sentence, 3 of which he spent within a juvenile prison. It was here that Jason finally committed to turning his life around. Since being released from prison, Jason has graduated from UT Dallas with a double masters (MBA, International Business), serves on the board of directors for TCJC, is featured in the hit documentary, Chasing Bonnie and Clyde, and has founded two companies. Jason is passionate about entrepreneurship and creating positive change in the lives of formerly incarcerated individuals.

## **ROSE ZABELL**

Rose Zebell is the Chief of the Juvenile Division of the Bexar County District Attorney's Office in San Antonio, Texas. She has held that position since January 2015. Prior to becoming Chief, she was the First Chair prosecutor assigned to the 386th District Court. While assigned to the 386th District Court, in addition to the normal duties of the Court's docket, she was the District Attorney's representative to three specialty court dockets: Crossroads -Girl's Mental Health Court, Restore Court -For Victims of Human Trafficking, and Post-Adjudication Drug Court. Ms. Zebell began her career at the District Attorney's office in 1996 as a legal intern in the misdemeanor trial unit. After receiving her law degree, she subsequently worked in the Juvenile Division and Criminal Trial Division of the District Attorney's Office. She has extensive jury trial experience including property crimes, drug offenses, crimes of violence against woman and children, juvenile crimes, murder, and capital murder. She received her J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law and B.A. from The University of Texas at Austin. Ms. Zebell is a current member of the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Texas and has previously spoken on Juvenile Law Topics. She received her board certification in Juvenile Law in 2010 and in Criminal Law in 2015.