

I wanted to inform everyone that, in the process of reactivating the ILS “Chief Defender Advisory Group” that assisted us in our work from 2012-2015, we decided to create two advisory bodies, one for criminal defense and one for parental representation. Two weeks ago, after consultation with ILS staff, NYSDA and CDANY, I invited 32 leaders from public defense programs all over the state to participate in the first meeting of the new Criminal Defense Advisory Group (CDAG) on June 28 in Albany. Please see the meeting agenda which is attached. Should you have any comments or questions on any of these topics, please feel free to contact me directly, or speak with any member of the ILS staff.

The initial 32 CDAG members are as follow:

Tom Angell, Dutchess
Mike Baker, Broome
Steve Ballan, St. Lawrence
Scott Banks, Nassau
Darryl Bloom, Cattaraugus
Susan Bryant, NYSDA
Tom Cioffi, Washington
Bob Convissar, Erie
Andy Correia, Wayne
Sara Davis, Oswego
Barbara Difiore, NYC ACP
Tim Donaher, Monroe
Kathleen Dougherty, Onondaga
Norm Effman, Wyoming
Alice Fontier, Bronx Defenders
Mark Funk, Monroe
Stan German, NYCDS
Stephen Herrick, Albany
Matt Knecht, NDS
Claire Knittel, Franklin
Kathleen Kugler, Niagara
Skip Laisure, NYC Appellate Advocates
Tina Luongo, NYC LAS
Laurette Mulry, Suffolk
Tim Murphy, Erie
Karen Needleman, Westchester
Lindsay Quintilone, Livingston
Lance Salisbury, Tompkins-Schuyler
David Schopp, Erie
Lisa Schreibersdorf, Brooklyn Defenders
Christina Swarns, NYC Office of the Appellate Defender
John Turi, Rensselaer

A copy of my June 12 invitation to these members will be posted on our website in the next day or so. Meanwhile, Angela Burton in consultation with her colleagues will be putting together the invitation list for our parental representation advisory council. Look for that announcement in the coming weeks.

We are excited about forming these two groups of expert advisors, as we forge ahead with statewide public criminal defense reform, and continue working to improve parental defense even as we build toward the goal of fundamental and enduring structural and funding reform.

Our best to everyone,

Bill