

REFLECTIONS ON THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FAIR DEFENSE ACT

FDA
AT
20

Agenda

January 28, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (Central)

[Zoom Webinar](#)

Time	Topic	Speaker/Panelists	Speaker Biography
9:00 - 9:20	Opening Remarks	Commissioner Rodney Ellis	Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 1; Senate Author, Fair Defense Act
		Judge Sharon Keller	Presiding Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals; Chair, Texas Indigent Defense Commission
9:20 - 9:30	Interactive Activity: Getting to Know Our Audience	Kathleen Casey-Gamez	Senior Policy Analyst, Texas Indigent Defense Commission
9:30 - 10:00	Panel Discussion: The Past	Andrea Marsh	Director, Mithoff Pro Bono Program; Founding Executive Director, Texas Fair Defense Project
		James Bethke	Director, Bexar County Managed Assigned Counsel Office; Former Director, Texas Indigent Defense Commission
		Commissioner Ellis	Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 1; Senate Author, Fair Defense Act
		Jani Maselli Wood	Harris County Public Defender Office; Chair, State Bar of Texas Committee on Legal Services to the Poor in Criminal Matters

10:00-10:10 **Break**

10:10 - 10:20 **Interactive Activity:**
How Well Do You Know
Public Defense in Texas? Kathleen Casey-Gamez

10:20-11:45 **Roundtable Presentations:**
The Present

Geoff Burkhart
Overview of Present
Systems and Funding Executive Director
Texas Indigent Defense Commission

Kelli Childress
Urban Public Defender
Programs Chief Public Defender
El Paso County Public Defender Office

Nicole Maesse
Rural Public Defender
Programs Director, Public Defender Division
Texas RioGrande Legal Aid

Shannon Evans
Managed Assigned Counsel
Programs Director
Lubbock Private Defenders Office

Judge Chris Schuchart
Public Defense Funding Medina County Judge

Nathan Fennell
Public Defense Oversight Staff Attorney, Texas Fair Defense Project

Alex Bunin
Caseloads and
Performance Standards Chief Public Defender
Harris County Public Defender's Office

Carrie Ellis
Public Defense Attorney
Mentoring Training Director, Harris County Office of
Managed Assigned Counsel

Renee Danser
Counsel at First
Appearance Associate Director, the Access to Justice
Lab at Harvard Law School

Krista Harvey
Padilla/Immigration
Consequences MyPadilla Immigration Attorney

Red Gilbert
Peer Specialists Peer specialist
Texas RioGrande Legal Aid

Annette Price
Community Engagement Co-Executive Director
Grassroots Leadership

11:45-12:00 **Break**

12:00 - 1:10	Panel Discussion: The Future	Adeola Ogunkeyede	Chief Public Defender Travis County Public Defender's Office
		Joe Stephens	Chief Public Defender Concho Valley Public Defender Office
		Amanda Woog	Executive Director Texas Fair Defense Project
		Maggie Luna	Hogg Foundation Peer Policy Fellow Texas Center for Justice and Equity
		Tiara Cooper	Live Free Texas Organizer Faith in Texas
		Andrew Davies, Moderator	Director of Research Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center
1:10-1:20	Interactive Portion: Reflections and Where We'll Go Next	Nathan Fennell	
1:20-1:30	Closing Remarks	Andrea Marsh Geoff Burkhart Nathan Fennell	



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