Kelli Brizendine

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EXPERIENCE

TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION, AUSTIN
Attorney, November 2023- Present

- Provides legal representation for persons diagnosed with severe mental health issues and/or intellectual disabilities.
- Establishes and develops relationships with community partners to provide resources, housing, and medical care for clients.
- Interviews and identifies possible competency issues pertaining to clients.
- Reviews discovery to identify possible legal issues and files motions accordingly.
- Negotiates with the State for a favorable resolution of client's legal matters

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS
Adjunct Professor, August 2019- Present

- Instructs classes focused on identifying and analyzing Constitutional issues.
- Mentors undergraduate-level students through their Criminal Justice degree program and continued mentorship through their post-graduate programs.
- Fosters an environment of learning by prioritizing accessibility and encouraging open communication.

TRAVIS COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, AUSTIN
Assistant County Attorney, May 2022- November 2023

- Trial Court: Manages caseload from intake to disposition; crafts plea offers that are tailored to ensure the needs of the public as well as the defendant are met; works effectively with court staff and opposing counsel; performs legal research; drafts briefs and motions; litigates evidentiary hearings.
- Mental Health Court: Work with Integral Care, jail staff, and other mental health professionals to ensure defendant's mental health needs are being addressed before disposing of criminal matters.
- Veteran's Court

BASTROP COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, BASTROP
Assistant District Attorney, January 2019- May 2022

- From intake to disposition, managed a high-volume felony level offense caseload.
- Responded to and worked closely with law enforcement agencies to ensure investigations meet legal and ethical standards.
- Crafted plea offers that were tailored to ensure the needs of the public as well as the defendant were met.

SMITH BRIZENDINE DEFENSE, AUSTIN
Defense Attorney, March 2017 - January 2020

- Worked a broad range of criminal legal matters across Central Texas.
- Successfully represented clients throughout the legal process by: researching case law and statutes, drafting motions, litigating evidentiary issues.
- Solely responsible for interviewing jailed clients and obtaining personal bonds as well as all emergency and after hour legal matters.

LAW OFFICE OF JAMIE BALAGIA, AUSTIN
Defense Attorney, November 2014- March 2017

- Developed experience in the legal field.
- Developed strategies for working a high volume and demanding caseload.
- Interacted professionally with colleagues, law enforcement, clients and witnesses.

TECHNOLOGY/ PROGRAMS

- Texas E-File
- Odyssey
- Techshare
- Westlaw

EDUCATION

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF LAW, SAN ANTONIO
Juris Doctorate, May 2014

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, December 2008