

Speaker biographies – October 17, 2014 NHACDL CLE

Kelli M. Childress – Chief Public Defender, Kane County, Illinois - has focused her career on criminal litigation. Her office, located in St. Charles, Illinois, consists of 35 attorneys. Kelli was formerly the Deputy Chief of the Lake County Public Defender's Office, First Assistant of the DeKalb County Public Defender's Office, a private practitioner and an Assistant State's Attorney in Kane County.

Childress is on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Public Defenders Association, Secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association's Human Rights Section Council and past Chair of the Criminal Justice Section Council. She is a member of the State of Illinois Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependency, and a member of the Kane County Bar Association's Diversity Committee. Childress is also active in other bar associations and community organizations, and is a frequent speaker at various CLE programs throughout the United States.

Childress received her J.D. from Loyola University School of Law in January, 1996 and a B.A. from Loyola University in 1993, where she majored in political science and communication. She was also a member of the Loyola Division I women's volleyball team.

Born and raised on the north side of Chicago, she and her family now reside in South Elgin, Illinois.

George Ostler – Attorney Ostler has 30 years of experience defending people accused of crimes. He practices state and federal law in New Hampshire and Vermont. Mr. Ostler graduated from Dartmouth College in 1977 and Vermont Law School in 1983 (Magna Cum Laude). He was employed by the NH Public Defender Program from 1983 to 1994 and has been a partner in DesMeules, Olnstead and Ostler since 1994. Mr. Ostler is a member of the Vermont Bar Association, New Hampshire Bar Association, Vermont Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, New Hampshire Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the NORML Legal Committee.