

Tonya Rogillio is a Master level Social Worker who earned her Bachelor of Social Work Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in May of 1993, and her Masters in May of 2012. The focus of Tonya's long career in Social Work has been Child Welfare. In 1998, she was the co-founder and first Forensic Interviewer at the Southwest Mississippi Children's Advocacy Center after being trained in the Finding Words interview protocol in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She received the Robert M. Segel Multidisciplinary Team Award in 2002. Tonya also spent over 20 years working for the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services where she held many positions including frontline Social Worker, Director of Special Investigations, and Deputy Commissioner of Child Welfare, among others. Tonya has been a member of the Mississippi Task Force for Children's Justice, a member of Mississippi's Administrative Office of Court's Court Improvement Workgroup, the MDHS/MDCPS Representative on the statewide multi-disciplinary Child Death Review Panel, Governor Phil Bryant's appointee to Children's Justice Act Task Force in 2017, and the Governor's appointee to the State Interagency Coordinating Council in 2018. Tonya has also traveled to Central America on numerous occasions to assist a medical mission group and provide Social Work services to impoverished children and families in Belize. Tonya is currently the Interdisciplinary Team Coordinator for the Office of the State Public Defender.