



Christina Kleiser joined the Knox County Public Defender's Community Law Office in March 2006 and is the supervisor of their youth defense unit. She has been representing the Public Defender's clients in Juvenile Court since June 2006 and also assists lawyers in counseling their noncitizen clients regarding immigration consequences. Since graduating from DePaul University College of Law in 1997, Christina has worked for different public interest organizations in Florida and Ohio, specializing in child advocacy, criminal and immigrant defense. She is a long-time member of the National Lawyers Guild's National Immigration Project and serves on the advisory council of the Defending Immigrant's Partnership and the Gault Center Southern Region's Advisory Board. Christina presents nationally on issues related to youth defense and immigration consequences for noncitizens caught up in the criminal justice system and is a certified faculty member of Gault Center's Youth Defense Advocacy Program. She is also a co-host of the In Defense of Children Podcast which she started with two other defenders in 2021.