



MAINE COMMISSION ON
**PUBLIC DEFENSE
SERVICES**

Parent Defense Conference

March 30-April 1, 2026

Hosted by PDS

Agenda for Monday, March 30, 2026

8:30AM-8:50AM

Registration

8:50AM-9:00AM

Welcome

*Frayla Tarpinian, Esq., Executive Director, Maine Commission
on Public Defense Services*

9:00AM-10:00AM

Keynote: What if TPR No Longer Existed?

Matt Anderson

Shrounda Selivanoff

10:00AM-10:30AM

Break

10:45AM-12:00PM

17-B Guardians

Taylor Kilgore, Esq.

12:00PM-12:30PM

Lunch

12:30PM-2:00PM

Designing a Future Without TPR

Matt Anderson

Shrounda Selivanoff

2:00PM-2:15PM

Break

2:15PM-3:30PM

Case Management Services with Maine Pretrial

Elizabeth Simoni

Saree Boutin

Sonya Theriault

Noah Pierini

*Molly Owens, Chief, Parent Counsel Division, Maine
Commission on Public Defense Services*

3:30PM-4:30PM

Putative Fathers

Taylor Kilgore, Esq.



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Agenda for Tuesday, March 31, 2026

8:30AM-9:00AM	Registration
9:00AM-10:30AM	Working with Parents Impacted by the Immigration and Dependency Systems <i>Ashley Cruz, Esq., Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights</i> <i>Shaina Simenas, LMSW, Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights</i>
10:30AM-10:45AM	Break
10:45AM-12:00PM	Westlaw <i>Trevor Friend</i>
12:00PM-12:30PM	Lunch
12:30PM-1:15PM	Establishing Equity: MaineMOM and Maine Public Defense Services Pre-Petition Pilot <i>Dr. Alane O'Connor DNP, Director of Perinatal Addiction Medicine, MaineHealth, Maine Medical Center</i> <i>Chelsea Peters, Esq., Parents Counsel, Maine Commission on Public Defense Services</i>
1:15PM-2:00PM	Toxicology Testing in Child Welfare: Essential Skills for Public Defenders <i>Dr. Alane O'Connor DNP, Director of Perinatal Addiction Medicine, MaineHealth, Maine Medical Center</i>
2:00PM-2:15PM	Break
2:15PM-3:30PM	Working with Detained Parents in Dependency Proceedings <i>Ashley Cruz, Esq., Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights</i> <i>Shaina Simenas, LMSW, Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights</i>
3:30PM-4:45PM	Building a Client-Centered Family Defense Practice <i>Gregg Butler, Esq., Supervising Attorney, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders</i> <i>Allie Goodman, Esq., Associate Training Director, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders</i>



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8:30AM-9:00AM

Registration

9:00AM-10:30AM

Fighting Family Separations: building a robust hearing practice

Gregg Butler, Esq., Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders

Allie Goodman, Esq., Associate Training Director, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders

10:30AM-10:45AM

Break

10:45AM-12:00PM

Trial Skills: Theory of the Case

Gregg Butler, Esq., Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders

Allie Goodman, Esq., Associate Training Director, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders

12:00PM-12:30PM

Lunch

12:30PM-2:00PM

Unveiling Bias (H&D Credit)

Melanie Roberts

2:00PM-2:15PM

Break

2:15PM-3:30PM

Ethics: Storm Before the Calm: Lawyering in Times of Stress and Crisis (Ethics Credit)

Julia Teitel, Executive Director, Maine Assistance Program for Lawyers and Judges