

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER
NJ CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
Jennifer N. Sellitti, NJ Public Defender
Lauren Petty, OPD Acting Director of Training

OPD YOUTH DEFENSE UNIT
**Protecting the Rights of Emerging Adults and
Youth Post-Waiver**

(Hybrid in OPD Essex Training Room and via Zoom)
1.5 NJ CLE credits; 1 PA CLE credit

**Tuesday, July 28, 2026
12:30-1:45 pm**

AGENDA

Presenter: Alexandra Briggs, Asst. Deputy Public Defender, Essex

Topics:

- ✓ What every criminal trial attorney needs to know when representing waived youth including pretrial detention of waived youth, post disposition placement of waived youth, and what happens when youth plead or are found guilty of non-waivable offenses.
- ✓ Important considerations when representing emerging adults including placement in county jail facilities, their right to education if they are entitled to special education, specific areas of law including waiver of Miranda, reasonable black child standard, and sentencing arguments based on brain development.
- ✓ Conversation with former NJOPD client Uriel and the attorney client relationship when representing youth.
- ✓ The importance of collaboration with youth defenders and how we they help assist criminal trial attorneys.

PRESENTER

Alexandra Briggs is an Assistant Deputy Public Defender in the youth defense trial region in Essex County. Alexandra earned her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from SUNY Albany, and her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School. Alexandra has been with OPD since 2017 first representing adults in Essex trial region before joining the Essex youth defense team in 2021.