

**NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER (OPD)
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Overview of the NJOPD AI Tools

1.2 NJ CLE credits; 1 PA CLE credit
(via Zoom webinar)

**Thursday, July 23, 2026
12:30-1:30 pm**

AGENDA

Introduction

Welcome - Jennifer N. Sellitti, NJ Public Defender

Topic: The OPD Resource Hub

- Introduction of OPD Resource Hub, Uzma Rashidi, IT Asst. Div. Director
- Example of the OPD Resource Hub- Nadya Kronis, Asst. Deputy Public Defender-Appellate

Topic: Westlaw Co-Counsel

- Review of Westlaw Co-Counsel Uzma Rashidi, IT Asst. Div. Director
- Example of Westlaw Co-Counsel Use, Ethan Kisch, Asst. Deputy Public Defender-Appellate

Topic: NJ AI Assistant for Attorneys

- Review of NJ AI Assistant for Attorney Use, Uzma Rashidi, IT Asst. Div. Dir.
- Example of NJ AI Assistant for Attorney Use, Alex Settle, First Asst. Deputy Public Defender, Atlantic Trial

Recap When to use each tool- Uzma Rashidi, IT Asst. Div. Director

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PRESENTERS

Ethan Kisch, Esq.

Ethan Kisch joined OPD's Appellate Section in 2023. He was previously a Gibbons Fellow in Public Interest & Constitutional Law and an associate at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP. He clerked for the Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and for the Honorable John Michael Vazquez, U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey. He is a graduate of TCNJ and Harvard Law School.

Nadya Kronis, Esq.

Nadya Kronis joined OPD's Appellate Section in 2022. She is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and Georgetown University Law Center.

Uzma Rashidi

Uzma Rashidi, who joined NJOPD in June of 2025, manages projects related to OPD Case Management, Evidence.com, and Westlaw Co-counsel. She utilizes her experience in leveraging data, emerging technologies, and agile methodologies to build and enhance systems that directly impact our attorneys, investigators, staff, and managers.

A graduate of New Jersey City University, Uzma has more than 10 years' experience in project management, having led complex initiatives from concept to delivery, driving innovation and measurable impact in highly regulated and fast-paced environments. At NJOPD, Uzma continues to learn all practice areas, and seeks to collaborate with colleagues to foster a culture of growth and continuous IT improvement.

Jennifer N. Sellitti, Esq.

Jennifer N. Sellitti was sworn in as the Public Defender for the State of New Jersey in 2024. She leads the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender (NJOPD), one of the nation's largest public defense systems, overseeing approximately 1,300 attorneys, investigators, social workers, and professional staff across 66 offices serving all 21 counties. Since taking office, Public Defender Sellitti has prioritized modernizing NJOPD and strengthening client-centered representation. Her administration is advancing one of the nation's first statewide holistic representation models. This approach integrates attorneys, social workers,

investigators, and mitigation specialists to address both legal and social factors that contribute to justice system involvement and to improve stability and case outcomes for the people NJOPD serves.

Public Defender Sellitti has also overseen technology and operational modernization, including the development of centralized legal research and knowledge-sharing tools as well as the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies to improve attorney efficiency and enhance service to New Jersey residents.

Prior to becoming Public Defender, Sellitti served as Director of Training & Communications for NJOPD. She previously served as deputy of the agency's Middlesex Trial Region and as an assistant deputy public defender in the Essex County Adult Region. Jennifer worked as a staff attorney for the Committee for Public Counsel Services in Massachusetts and as a Massachusetts Superior Court law clerk before joining NJOPD. She began her legal career at Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services. Sellitti has received the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey's State Practitioner Award in 2026, a statewide recognition from New Jersey's criminal defense bar for her leadership and service. She has trained lawyers in more than 35 states and speaks nationally about topics ranging from trial advocacy to transforming public defense systems. She is a trustee of the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey, a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the New Jersey State Bar and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School and obtained a B.S. degree in public relations from Boston University.

Alex Settle, Esq.

Alex Settle, Esq. currently serves as the First Assistant Deputy Public Defender in Atlantic County. He is certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a Criminal Trial Attorney. Prior to his work at the New Jersey Public Defender's Office, he was an Assistant Prosecutor at the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, where he supervised the Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force. He has tried numerous cases as both a prosecutor and a defense attorney. Alex is also an adjunct professor at Rowan University, where he teaches courses such as Law & Human Rights, Law & Society, and Criminal Law.