

## BIO FOR JOANNE MACRI

Joanne Macri currently serves as the Statewide Chief Implementation Attorney for the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) where she is currently engaged in the statewide implementation of criminal defense reforms as proposed in the *Hurrell-Harring v. New York* settlement agreement. She previously served as the ILS Director of Regional Initiatives where she developed and implemented a network of statewide Regional Immigration Assistance Centers. Ms. Macri also currently serves as a member of the New York Office of Court Administration Advisory Council on Immigration Issues in Family Court and the NYSBA Committee on the Standards of Attorney Conduct. She previously served as the co-chair of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) Committee on Immigration Representation for six years.

Prior to joining ILS, Ms. Macri served as the director of the Criminal Defense Immigration Project (CDIP) and the Immigrant Defense Project of the New York State Defenders Association (NYSDA) where she has provided immigration support to criminal and family law attorneys across New York State and conducted numerous continuing legal education trainings on the immigration consequences of New York criminal convictions and family court dispositions. She was also an adjunct professor at Sage College and at the State of New York University at Buffalo Law School where she has taught courses on prisoners' rights law, U.S. immigration law, immigration law practice and criminal/immigration law for several years.

For her service, Ms. Macri was recognized by the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) Criminal Justice Section for her Outstanding Contribution to Criminal Law Education, the NYSBA Committee to Ensure Mandated Quality Representation and Prisoners' Legal Services of New York for her commitment to providing support to indigent representation. She was also recognized by the Upstate New York Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) as the 2015 recipient of the Mark T. Kenmore Mentor of the Year Award. Most recently, Ms. Macri received the Unsung Hero Award for Government Services as an Albany Law School Alumni and was honored by the New York State Defenders Association as the first female attorney recipient of the Wilfred R. O'Connor award for her commitment to client-centered representation.

Ms. Macri also currently serves as a member on the Committee for Gender Fairness for the Third Judicial Department and has previously served on the NYSBA Immigration Litigation Committee, the New York City Bar Association Criminal Justice Operations Committee and the Upstate New York AILA Chapter Subcommittees for Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection. She is a graduate of Albany Law School.

Hon. Mae A. D'Agostino  
*U.S. District Judge*

Mae Avila D'Agostino is a United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York. At the time of her appointment in 2011, she was a trial attorney with the law firm of D'Agostino, Krackeler, Maguire & Cardona, PC. Judge D'Agostino is a 1977 magna cum laude graduate of Siena College in Loudonville, New York. At Siena College Judge D'Agostino was a member of the women's basketball team. After graduating from College, she attended Syracuse University College of Law, receiving her Juris Doctor degree in May of 1980. At Syracuse University College of Law, she was awarded the International Academy of Trial Lawyers award for distinguished achievement in the art and science of advocacy.

After graduating from Law School, Judge D'Agostino began her career as a trial attorney. She has tried numerous civil cases including medical malpractice, products liability, negligence, and civil assault.

Judge D'Agostino is a past chair of the Trial Lawyers Section of the New York State Bar Association and is a member of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Judge D'Agostino has participated in numerous Continuing Legal Education programs. She is an Adjunct Professor at Albany Law School where she teaches Medical Malpractice. She is a past member of the Siena College Board of Trustees, and Albany Law School Board of Trustees. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and Albany County Bar Association.

Lisa Peebles joined the Northern District of New York Federal Public Defender's Office in August 1999. She was appointed First Assistant Public Defender in 2005 and Interim Federal Public Defender in November 2010. She was officially appointed as the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of New York in 2013. She is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and has practiced law in the Syracuse area for the past 25 years. She received her undergraduate degree from Akron University and her law degree from Syracuse University.

Lisa worked as a clerk in the United States Attorney's Office in Syracuse while attending law school. Upon being admitted to the Bar, she worked as an assistant public defender from 1993-1994 in the Jefferson County Public Defender's Office. Thereafter, she operated a private practice with emphasis on criminal defense matters. She has tried more than 50 cases to verdict, including both civil and criminal. She has handled numerous appeals in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Lisa has dedicated her career to indigent defense work and in 2014 she was awarded the Thurgood Marshall Award for outstanding criminal practitioner by the NYSACDL.



## Isabelle A. Kirshner

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### PRACTICE AREAS AND FOCUS

Criminal Defense

### EDUCATION

State University of New York College

at Oswego

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

### ADMISSIONS

New York State

Southern District of New York

Eastern District of New York

United States Supreme Court

### BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

Isabelle A. Kirshner is one of New York's premier criminal defense trial attorneys. She has won acquittals for her clients in both state and federal court. Isabelle has more than twenty-five years of experience defending individuals on a wide range of criminal matters including investigations and prosecutions relating to securities fraud, money laundering, bank fraud, tax fraud, as well as distribution of crystal methamphetamine, drug trafficking and violent crimes. She has represented individuals at every stage of criminal proceedings, from the inception of a criminal investigation through indictment and trial.

Isabelle served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office from 1982 to 1986. She then entered the private sector as a criminal defense attorney, and joined Clayman & Rosenberg LLP in 2005. Isabelle has lectured on federal and state criminal practice for the New York State Bar Association and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. She is also a long time faculty member of the Intensive Trial Advocacy Program at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

Isabelle has been appointed to the Criminal Justice Act Committee and the Criminal Justice Advocacy Board for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She served as a member of District Attorney Cyrus Vance's transition committee and is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, the New York Council of Defense Attorneys, the New York State Criminal Bar Association and the New York City Criminal Bar Association.

Recent representative matters include:

- Successfully defended a pharmacist indicted for distribution of prescription controlled substances in federal court in New York
- Served as trial counsel in one of the largest criminal tax shelter cases ever brought by the IRS
- Won an acquittal for a client charged with RICO and murder in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
- Represented a number of individuals in both state and federal court who were charged with the possession and distribution of crystal methamphetamine
- Lead counsel for a pharmacist charged with unlawful distribution of prescription drugs
- Successfully defended the CEO of a major military contractor in an anti-trust investigation
- Persuaded prosecutors to not indict a business entity in connection with a criminal investigation into the development of low income housing
- Obtained the dismissal of all charges filed against an individual alleged to have engaged in immigration fraud
- Negotiated a favorable disposition for an individual in connection with an investigation by the Manhattan District Attorney's Office into compliance with construction standards
- Convinced federal prosecutors to drop most serious charges against an individual charged with internet solicitation of a minor
- Won acquittal for a client charged with a Hobbs Act robbery conspiracy
- Successfully avoided charges for client under investigation for violation of federal securities laws relating to the municipal bond market
- Represented an individual charged in connection with an investigation into stolen antiquities
- Lead counsel for an individual charged with tax fraud
- Negotiated a favorable disposition for an individual charged with a large-scale bank fraud
- Represented an individual under investigation by the City of New York's Department of Buildings for conduct relating to a fatal elevator accident

### HIGHLIGHTS

Isabelle has tried cases involving a wide range of criminal charges, including one of the largest criminal tax shelter cases ever brought by the U.S. Department of Justice. Among her successes are an acquittal of murder and racketeering charges in a multi-defendant case in federal court, acquittal of all charges in a conspiracy case in which she successfully asserted an entrapment defense on behalf of her client and an acquittal of all charges in a federal Hobbs Act and conspiracy case.

Isabelle is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (an organization comprised of the nation's elite trial lawyers) and is currently serving as the Chair of its Downstate New York Committee. In 2008 and every year thereafter, she has been selected as a "Super Lawyer" in the New York City Metro area.

### EDUCATION

Isabelle is a graduate of the State University of New York College at Oswego and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

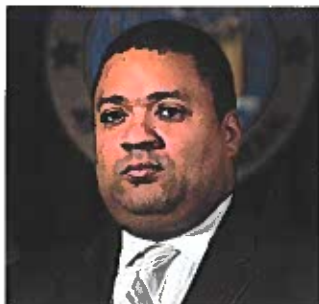
### ADMISSIONS

Isabelle is admitted to practice in New York, the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

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## Alvin Bragg

Visiting Professor of Law  
Co-Director, Racial Justice Project

## Alvin Bragg

Alvin Bragg joined NYLS in January 2019 as a Visiting Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Racial Justice Project. Professor Bragg's research and coursework focus on the intersection of criminal law and civil rights, prosecutorial discretion and accountability, and the functions of state Attorneys General.

Professor Bragg joined NYLS after more than 15 years in government service. Most recently, he served as Chief Deputy Attorney General in the New York State Office of the Attorney General. In that role, he reported directly to the Attorney General, helped set the office's investigation and litigation priorities, and oversaw the work of the Criminal Justice and Social Justice Divisions. During his tenure as Chief Deputy, the Social Justice Division brought lawsuits against the Donald J. Trump Foundation and its directors alleging breaches of fiduciary duties; The Weinstein Company, Harvey Weinstein, and Robert Weinstein alleging the existence of a hostile work environment at The Weinstein Company; and the U.S. Department of Commerce challenging its intention to include a citizenship question on the decennial census. The Criminal Justice Division brought significant criminal charges, including in bribery, securities fraud, and Medicaid fraud matters.

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### Education:

Harvard, A.B.  
Harvard, J.D.

### Courses:

- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication  
([https://www.nyls.edu/academics/j\\_d\\_course\\_of\\_study/curriculum/course-detail/?course=4195](https://www.nyls.edu/academics/j_d_course_of_study/curriculum/course-detail/?course=4195))
- Law Office Externship Placement and Seminar  
([https://www.nyls.edu/academics/j\\_d\\_course\\_of\\_study/curriculum/course-detail/?course=4297](https://www.nyls.edu/academics/j_d_course_of_study/curriculum/course-detail/?course=4297))

Professor Bragg also previously served at the Attorney General's Office as the Chief of the Special Investigations and Prosecutions Unit (SIPU) and the Executive Deputy Attorney General (EDAG) for Social Justice. As the Chief of SIPU, he oversaw investigations of law enforcement conduct resulting in the death of civilians and an investigation of a District Attorney's handling of a shooting of a civilian by a police officer. For investigations that did not result in charges being filed, SIPU released public reports providing factual and legal analysis and recommendations for systemic reforms. As EDAG, Professor Bragg oversaw significant settlement agreements in matters concerning discriminatory redlining, tenant harassment, wage and hour violations, unlawful discrimination by employers based on applicants' criminal history records, and unlawful business practices by health insurance companies. Professor Bragg also oversaw the issuance of a report concluding that only three percent of the approximately 2.4 million stops by the NYPD between 2009 and 2012 resulted in convictions and only .1 percent of the stops resulted in convictions for a violent crime.

Prior to the Attorney General's Office, Professor Bragg was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, where he tried 10 cases to verdict. Among others, he obtained trial verdicts convicting the owner of a multimillion dollar business for laundering millions of dollars for an international drug cartel; a lawyer for mortgage fraud involving millions of dollars of losses to financial institutions; an FBI agent for making false statements; and individuals blocking a reproductive health facility in violation of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. Professor Bragg also brought charges that led to bribery convictions of the former Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, a City Council Member, and a Mayor.

Earlier in his career, Professor Bragg worked as Chief of Litigation and Investigations for the New York City Council, where he argued before the New York Court of Appeals in a groundbreaking case concerning separation of powers. Professor Bragg also was an Assistant Attorney General at the New York State Attorney General's Office, an associate at Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason &

Anello PC, and a law clerk to the Honorable Robert P. Patterson Jr., U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York. Professor Bragg earned his A.B. in Government (*cum laude*, general studies) and a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he was on the first-place team in the Ames Moot Court Competition and was an editor for the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*.

Professor Bragg is a member of the Board of Directors of The Legal Aid Society, a former member of the Board of Directors of the New York Urban League, and a Sunday School teacher at the Abyssinian Baptist Church.



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**Howard S. Master**

Howard S. Master serves as Special Counsel to Suffolk County District Attorney Timothy D. Sini. Mr. Master supervises the Office's bureaus responsible for prosecution of public corruption offenses and complex financial crimes. He also is assisting District Attorney Sini create and oversee a Conviction Integrity Bureau that evaluates wrongful conviction claims.

Previously, Mr. Master served as Senior Enforcement Counsel to the New York State Attorney General and as Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Over the course of his career, Mr. Master has prosecuted numerous public corruption offenses, including crimes by elected officials and government contractors, as well as complex schemes involving fraud, money laundering, and corporate misconduct.

Mr. Master has received several awards for his work as a prosecutor, including the Department of Justice's Director's Award for Superior Performance and the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation's Prosecutor of the Year award.

Before becoming a prosecutor, Mr. Master clerked for the Honorable Victor Marrero of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and the Honorable José A. Cabranes of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He is currently an adjunct professor at University of Pennsylvania Law School. Mr. Master is a 2003 magna cum laude graduate of the New York University School of Law.