

BLAKE RENNER

EDUCATION

BA – International Affairs, University of Colorado, 1989

Juris Doctor – University of San Diego, 1994

WORK EXPERIENCE

2022-Present – Office Head, Denver Office of the Colorado State Public Defender

2007-2022 – Supervising Public Defender – Denver Office of the Colorado State Public Defender.

2001-2007 – Private Legal Practice – Criminal defense practice in multiple jurisdictions.

1995 -2001 – Deputy State Public Defender - Pueblo and Arapahoe Offices of the Colorado State Public Defender.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Office Head – Denver Office of the Colorado State Public Defender.

Manages an office consisting of over 170 attorneys, paralegals, social workers, investigators, administrative assistants and IT professionals. Responsible for ensuring the office provides excellent legal representation to the City's indigent accused.

Supervising Public Defender District Court 2007-2022

Supervised attorneys in both felony trial division and Denver treatment and specialty Courts. Responsibilities include training, caseload management, courtroom supervision, performance evaluations and disciplinary actions.

Supervising Public Defender Denver Treatment Courts 2007- 2018

Supervised attorneys in treatment courts and acted as public defender representative on the treatment court steering committee. Worked closely with other shareholders to develop and enhance Denver's various treatment courts. I was integral in creation of Denver's RESTART felony DUI Court, and its DIVERT prison diversion drug court. Responsible with other shareholders for making decisions regarding budgets, awarding treatment provider contracts, strategic planning, and seeking grant funding opportunities.

Supreme Court Plain Language Jury Instruction Committee – 2012-2016

Public Defender representative on committee tasked with reviewing Colorado model jury instructions and recommending language changes that removed language that was unnecessarily "legal" and replacing with language more accessible to the general public.