



**Denver County Court**

September 26, 2014

Alice Norman appointed as the City's first Chief Municipal Public Defender.

**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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City and County of Denver

County Court

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DENVER – On September 15th, 2014 the five members of Public Defender's Commission, as appointed by Presiding Judge John Marcucci of the Denver County Court, announced the appointment of Alice Norman as the City's first Chief Municipal Public Defender. Ms. Norman will begin her duties with this new City agency on October 6th, 2014. The newly created Municipal Public Defender's office will open on January 1st, 2015 on the fifth-floor of the City and County Building.

"Although there are state and county public defender offices in every State in the union, only a few municipalities have chosen to provide in-house Municipal Public Defender Offices", stated Commissioner Cyrus Callum.

"The creation of the Denver Municipal Public Defender Office puts Denver in the fore front of indigent defense services with such cities as Aurora, Colorado, Atlanta, Georgia and Seattle, Washington that have taken steps to improve representation of their indigent citizens. We are pleased to have appointed someone with Ms. Norman's qualifications to head the office."

Ms. Norman has worked for the Law Office of Frank Moya since 1998; during which time she was the supervising attorney for the Denver municipal public defender contract. She provided supervision and staffing of indigent representation for 3 trial courtrooms and 3 problem-solving courts in Denver County Court.

Ms. Norman has a tireless career attending to the needs of the indigent. In 2007 Alice was awarded the "Team of the Year" award by the Colorado Lawyers Committee for her work on Project Homeless Connect, an annual event that provides free legal services to hundreds of individuals. She is a member of the Crime Prevention and Control Commission Mental Health Sub-Committee and a founding member and Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of "The Spirituals Project" a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and revitalize the music and teachings of the sacred songs called spirituals created and first sung by enslaved Africans in America in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Ms. Norman said, "My heart and the majority of my career have been focused on representing the indigent. I am thrilled to become Denver's new Chief Municipal Public Defender to continue that work".

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