

I am extremely pleased to inform you that Cynthia Feathers will begin her employment with ILS as our Director of Quality Enhancement for Appellate and Post-Conviction Representation on September 5, 2017. Cynthia is the perfect choice for this position, given her impressive and successful appellate experience in both criminal defense and parental representation litigation, in both institutional and private practice settings; and her extensive experience with the New York State Bar Association, including co-chairing NYSBA's Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction, chairing its pro bono Appeals Program, serving on the Executive Committee of its Family Law Section, and serving for five years as its Director of Pro Bono Affairs.

Cynthia has already contributed very significantly to the work of this Office; as a key member of Risa Gerson's ILS Task Force on Appellate Representation Standards that produced our *Appellate Standards and Best Practices* in January, 2015, and of Angela Burton's ILS Parent Representation Working Group that produced our *Standards for Parental Representation in State Intervention Matters* in November, 2015. ILS has also worked together with Cynthia in her capacity as Legal Director for the Rural Law Center, where she has for several years led that nonprofit's Appeals Program for legally mandated criminal and Family Court appeals in four rural counties within the Third Department. Previously, Cynthia was an appellate attorney at the Center for Appellate Litigation in New York City, handling criminal appeals in the First Department. She is a *magna cum laude* graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and graduated with high honors from Boston College Law School. We are honored and proud to include her as the newest member of our dedicated and high-performing staff.

Our best wishes to all,

Bill