



WEBINAR AGENDA

In Her Defense, Session Three: Mom Matters: Defending Mothers in Federal Court

- a. **Date:** December 2, 2026
- b. **Duration:** 60 minutes @ 1:00-2:00 PM EST
- c. **CLE:** NO CLE
- d. **Title:** Mom Matters: Representing Mothers in Federal Court

e. **Description:**

Mothers in the federal criminal system face unique challenges that can shape every stage of a case- from pretrial detention and sentencing to incarceration and reentry. This training explores the practical considerations involved in representing mothers and the tools the trial team can use to help ensure motherhood and family circumstances are meaningfully incorporated into legal representation.

This session is part of our In Her Defense webinar series addressing issues that are specific to representing female clients. We will be discussing how to see your case through the lens of a client who is a mother, and to advocate from their perspective when you tell their story.

- f. **Materials:** PowerPoint

**g. Presenter: Professor Aisha McWeay, Professor of Law,
University of Virginia Law School**

Professor Aisha McWeay – Aisha McWeay is a career indigent defense and civil legal aid advocate. She currently serves as the Director of Legal Services at the Harris County Public Defender's Office in Houston. She previously served as executive director at Still She Rises and spent the first decade of her career in progressive roles at the Nashville Defenders.

McWeay graduated summa cum laude from Clark Atlanta University, where she majored in mass communications with a concentration in public relations. She received her J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School. McWeay serves in various training and mentoring capacities within indigent defense and community organizations nationally. In recognition of her contributions to the public defense community, in July 2017 she was awarded the Stephen B. Bright award from Gideon's Promise.