

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Matthew Byrne

Matthew Byrne received a BA from UCLA and a JD from UC Davis, King Hall, School of Law. He has been a Deputy District Attorney with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for more than 26 years, where he has worked a wide variety of assignments in twelve courthouses covering the length and breadth of Los Angeles County. For the past eight years, he has been assigned to the Psychiatric Section, a specialized unit located at the Los Angeles County Superior Court's Mental Health Courthouse, a unique courthouse devoted to handling certain civil and criminal matters involving mentally ill and developmentally disabled individuals, including 6500 commitments and 1370.1 incompetent to stand trial cases.

Because of the high number of these cases being sent from all over Los Angeles County to the Mental Health Courthouse, Matt and the other attorneys assigned to this courthouse develop an expertise in this specialized and complex area of the law. For the past eight years, he has worked with representatives from all of the Los Angeles County Regional Centers and occasionally from some beyond Los Angeles County as well.

In addition, Matt has attended and participated in forensic mental health seminars in Monterey, Riverside, Sacramento, Anaheim and San Diego. He is a much-sought-after lecturer on Competency to Stand Trial issues and has trained hundreds of deputy district attorneys throughout the state. He sits on various committees related to forensic mental health within Los Angeles County, including the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Criminal Justice Mental Health Project and the Los Angeles DMH's Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Oversight and Accountability Committee.

Brian Capra

Brian Capra is a Senior Staff Attorney at Public Counsel. Since March 2007, Brian has directed a unique program at Public Counsel providing targeted advocacy to children and youth with disabilities under court jurisdiction in the foster care, juvenile justice, and probate court systems. Brian advances social justice for this population via legislation, state and local policy development, impact litigation and direct services. Prior to joining Public Counsel, Brian was employed for over six years with Disability Rights California as a Client Rights Advocate, serving primarily the Westside Regional Center catchment area. Brian earned his bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University and his J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

Kenneth Carabello, M.S.W.

Kenneth Carabello, M.S.W. currently serves as Vice President of Operations for Liberty Healthcare Corporation where he develops and oversees treatment programs for criminally involved individuals needing treatment in multiple states. He has worked in the field forensic mental health since 1992. His experience includes developing jail based programming, including the successful jail based CA Restoration of Competency (ROC) program, and setting up the statewide CA Sexually Violent Predator Conditional Release Program. Mr. Carabello worked for many years at Gateways Hospital in Los Angeles, where he directed a 67-bed Federal Community Corrections Center, served as an assistant director of a large outpatient forensic mental health program, and was a primary clinician in the conditional release program for many years. He served two terms as the president of the Forensic Mental Health Association of California (FMHAC), as well as on the board of the Sex Offender Civil Commitment Programs Network (SOCCPN) and the SafeNOWProject. Mr. Carabello holds a Master's degree in social work from the University of Southern California, a bachelor's degree in psychology from Brigham Young University.

Shauna Connor

Shauna Conner is a California native and earned her Bachelor of Science from California State University, Sacramento and Masters of Science from California State University, Los Angeles. She began her career with the County of Los Angeles Probation Department in 2006, as a Detention Services Officer assigned to the Detention Services Bureau at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall. In 2008, Ms. Conner promoted to Deputy Probation Officer I within the Field Services Bureau. Her assignments at the Van Nuys Area Offices included Regular Juvenile Supervision for the City of Sylmar and Interstate Compact/Inter-county transfers. In 2011, Ms. Conner was promoted to Deputy Probation Officer II and assigned to Probation Headquarters as a Staff Assistant within Field Services Administration and has assisted in departmental training, policy development and various administrative functions. She has also served in the capacity of Developmentally Disabled Field Coordinator (DDFSC) for the Probation Department from 2011-2015, acting as the liaison between the Department and Regional Centers for forensically involved youth in the Field. In 2013, Ms. Conner was tasked with developing and managing the Juvenile Competency program in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Juvenile Courts and the Department of Mental Health. In 2016, she was promoted to Special Assistant for Field Services Administration. Currently she serves as the Department Liaison for the Memorandum of Understanding between Probation, Department of Children and Family Services and the Los Angeles County Regional Centers.

Adriane Hughes, L.C.S.W.

Adriane Hughes is a licensed clinical social worker in the state of California and works for Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Her current assignment is with Mental Health Court Linkage Program, LAX Superior Court.

Adriane has over 20 years of experience in a variety of settings and with diverse clients, including both long-term and brief interventions. Areas of expertise include:

- Trauma and Crisis Intervention with children/adolescents and adults
- Children and adolescents with behavioral and sexual issues
- Trained and certified in Court Mandated Domestic Violence and Anger Management

Adriane graduated from the University of California Polytechnic Pomona in Behavioral Science and her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Loma Linda, Riverside California.

Adriane believes that change happens when people are given the guidance they need to draw on their own strengths and realize their potential to live fulfilling, happy lives.

Ken Katz, L.C.S.W.

Ken Katz is a licensed clinical social worker and certified trauma specialist. He started his career in the Los Angeles area working in recreational programs for developmentally disabled children, teens and adults. He also worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District at a high school for the developmentally disabled and later worked as a house parent in a non-profit organization operating group homes for developmentally disabled adults. Ken was also a contracted provider for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center working as an Independent Living Training Specialist. He has worked in hospitals as a social worker in emergency departments and acute inpatient psychiatric units. Ken spent 13 years with the Fresno Police Department as a reserve police officer and another 8 years as a parole agent for the State of California.

Over the last 20 years he has focused his career on teaching and providing interventions following crises and critical incidents. He is an approved instructor for the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation and currently teaches in the Fresno County Paramedic Program, at the State Center Regional Peace Officer Academy and the local Fire Academy. He also works for American Ambulance in Fresno County developing and overseeing EMS-based behavioral health and social service programs and is the administrator of a community-wide initiative providing crisis intervention training to paramedics, law enforcement officers and health professionals.

Natasha Khamashta

Natasha Khamashta has been an attorney with the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office since 2000. She is currently the Deputy in Charge of the Collaborative Justice Unit in the Juvenile Division and supervises Resource Attorneys that advocate in the community and in the courts for youth with developmental disabilities. The Resource Attorneys work in conjunction with our Department's psychiatric social workers in referring youth suspected of having a developmental disability to one of the seven Regional Centers in Los Angeles County. Ms.

Khamashta is her Department's representative at the Multi-Agency Advisory Board meetings and enjoys collaborating with all of its members.

Myron Lilley

California native Myron Lilley comes highly recommended in the field of Mental Health and Forensics. Growing up in South-Central Los Angeles inspired Myron at a young age to find a career that allowed him to help others. Mentors for Myron came in the form of coaches and teachers who made sure he stayed on the right path and out of trouble. His passion for helping others is rivaled, only by his love of sports, particularly basketball.

Myron graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in education with a minor in recreational therapy from The University of Louisiana, Monroe where he played basketball on scholarship for three years. He received his Masters of Social Work from Cal State University, San Bernardino in June 2000. Myron went on to complete post graduate hours in order to obtain his license in the state of California. Myron has since been able to combine these loves by coaching AAU basketball, even winning the 2004 West Coast Nationals and the 2007 AAU National Championship in Memphis, Tennessee. Many of his players have gone on to play college sports themselves, serve in the military, and more.

Myron has worked as a clinical social worker for Galveston County, Texas Probation Department, San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health and Patton State Hospital. Currently, Myron works as the program manager for the **Forensic/Adaptive Living Skills program at Passport To Learning, Inc.** As the program manager, Myron oversees a team of coordinators, and instructors who provide training for individuals who have developmental disabilities and are linked negatively with the judicial system. Additionally, Myron Lilley has worked with many community organizations and has received special recognition at the Black Rose Awards for his involvement with youth in the city of San Bernardino in 2006 and 2009.

Myron currently resides in San Bernardino with his wife and youngest daughter, Danielle. His oldest daughter, Noelle is a junior at Arizona State University, and his only son, Quinton lives and works as a broadcast journalist in Texas. He enjoys watching sports, working out, working in the community, going to the movies and spending time with family and friends.

Dave Monderine

Dave Monderine has been a Get Safe team member since 2008. As a Training and Advocacy Specialist, Dave has had the pleasure of helping to empower hundreds, if not thousands, of people, representing all walks of life. As a State Certified Sexual Assault Counselor, Dave has worked with many survivors of sexual assault, as well as survivors of domestic violence, and human trafficking. In addition, Dave has been Get Safe's point person on Bullying Prevention and Response trainings offered in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary environments. He brings to the table many years of martial arts study and instruction. Currently, Dave is a 2nd Dan in Moo Yea Do, a Korean hybrid system where he's trained since 2003, and a Blue Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, an art in which he's trained since 2011. Dave earned a Bachelor's Degree from Vanguard University in 1998.

Kali Morgan, MFT, Program Director

Kali has been with Project Connect since the inception of the program in 2011. She has been instrumental in the development of this innovative program for San Diego Regional Center clients. She is passionate about serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who have co-occurring mental health and substance use issues. She believes in ensuring that these individuals are able to live full and complete lives in their communities of origin. She has been in the mental health field since 2002, and has served a wide variety of people from many different backgrounds. She has an MA in Applied Behavioral Science with a concentration in Systems Counseling. She is also a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the state of California, and an AAMFT Approved Supervisor. Before coming to Project Connect, she worked with transition age youth suffering from severe mental illness, co-occurring substance abuse issues, and intellectual and developmental disabilities using an ACT model at Providence Community Services Catalyst Program. She previously worked extensively with members of the military community. She is dedicated to providing strength-based, person centered care to enable the individuals she serves to live law-abiding, happy and successful lives at their highest possible level of independence in the community.

Monica Nguyen

I have worked as a Deputy Public Defender in Riverside County since March of 2007. In my time at the Public Defender's Office, I have worked in misdemeanor and felony court divisions as a trial attorney. I have handled thousands of cases for my office. For the last six years, I have focused solely on mental health cases, including competency, insanity, mental health court probation, veterans' treatment court probation, and regional center cases. I was on the committee that created the Veterans Treatment Court program in Riverside County. I have authored articles related to mental health issues, which have been published in the Riverside Lawyer magazine. I have testified three times as an expert in criminal cases regarding competency and insanity issues.

Cynthia Parham, Ph.D.

Cindy Parham was a tenured teacher for 3 years in the state of Hawaii and is now a licensed psychologist in the state of California. Her psychology internships specialized in working with substance abusers and sexual offenders. She has been with the Department of Mental Health, County of Los Angeles for 30 years this August 2017. She has worked in the Women's Jail then called Sybil Brand, in Forensic Case Management which was a part of the Men's Jail then called Central Jail. Cindy has been with the Mental Health Court Program for 26 years serving in many roles as a court worker, trainer and supervisor. She is currently supervising staff in the Compton and San Fernando Court and is continuing to work in the Airport Court because she loves working with patients and with the staff of multiple agencies such as the Regional Center, the Offices of the Public Defender and Alternate Public Defender, the Sheriff's Department, the Offices of the District Attorney and City Attorney and the multiple other agencies they interface with on a daily basis.

Patricia Rambo

Patricia has been working at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (SGPRC) for the past 26 years, first as a State Developmental Center Liaison, and currently in her position as Forensic Services Specialist. She assists Service Coordinators to assist their clients to navigate the criminal justice system when a client is charged or cited with a crime. She is the chairperson for the Forensic Consultation Committee at SGPRC that reviews all client criminal cases and makes recommendations for appropriate court recommendations and services. She provides training sessions for legal, law enforcement, and probation agencies regarding best practices for working with the developmentally disabled population involved in the legal justice system.

Kendall L. Saddler, LCSW #29053, MPA

Kendall Saddler, LCSW, MPA is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, licensed by the State of California and the Board of Behavioral Sciences. She also holds a Master's in Public Administration which assists in her daily interfacing with the legal system. Ms. Saddler's specific mental health evaluations to forensic populations can lead to alternative sentencing recommendations to Public Defenders, Judges, and District Attorneys as well as private counsel within the Superior Courts of Southern California.

The assessments, evaluations, and research compiled present a compelling case, which can be used to mitigate sentences. Alternative sentencing practice allows many individuals to receive alternative treatment instead of prison or jail, or a reduced sentence that is tailored to recovery oriented services. These services can be intensive mental health services such as a placement into a locked facility, or lesser restrictive environments, such as substance abuse facilities, along with adjunct mental health services. This practice can actually decrease prison rolls, but much more importantly, provide a much needed intervention, promoting health and well-being for the individual, and thereby offering hope for a safer community.

Her career spans the breadth and depth of social work practice with adults, children, youth and families, having practiced in the field of social work at multiple agencies for the last 20+ years. Always searching for latest and most innovative practices to reach the most vulnerable and restore hope, wellness, dignity is her career goal and life aim.

Tamara Stark, MS, VP San Diego Programs

Tamara is currently serving as the Vice President for Exodus Recovery, Inc., San Diego programs. She began her career 30 years ago as a social worker serving low income families and providing homeless outreach services before becoming a service coordinator with the San Diego Regional Center. She moved into the field of mental health services, working for a variety of inpatient and outpatient hospital programs. She served on the County of San Diego Mental Health Board and was selected as the San Diego Mental Health Person of the Year in 2005 for her service to the community and for innovations that promoted recovery for individuals

receiving behavioral health services. Tamara is dedicated to providing advocacy and programs to serve individuals with intellectual disabilities, behavioral health needs and criminal justice involvement. Tamara is passionate about bringing multiple systems to the table to serve these individuals in a coordinated and effective manner that promotes recovery and the opportunity to live in the community as productive, law-abiding citizens.

Bruce W. Williams, Ph.D., FAAIDD

Dr. Williams is a behavioral psychologist who has worked with people with developmental disabilities since 1979. He is the Behavioral Specialist for the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) and provides direct therapy services for people with disabilities throughout the Los Angeles area, consulting to Level 4 residential facilities and other sites. He has provided training on behavior therapy, intellectual disabilities, autism, and related topics in a wide variety of forums in the United States and overseas. From 1979 to 1990 he worked in Washington, D.C., serving as chief psychologist for the Mental Retardation Administration and the District's developmental center, as well as consulting for day programs, group homes, and St. Elizabeth's Hospital, a large mental hospital. His presentations at conferences have addressed treatment of severe self-injurious behavior, outcomes of behavior interventions, staff management, and forensic issues. He has been an expert witness, chaired human rights committees for several agencies, and for the past 19 years has chaired a forensic assessment team at SCLARC. He traveled to England to research offenders with intellectual disabilities under a grant from the Rosemary F. Dybwad International Trust Foundation. He is the chairperson of the Los Angeles County Multi-Agency Advisory Committee (MAAB), which is comprised of representatives of the seven LA County regional centers and various law enforcement, court, and advocacy groups. Dr. Williams received his bachelor's degree in psychology at Stanford University and his doctorate at the University of California at Santa Barbara. He has held office in the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities for over 18 years and served for several years as chairperson of AAIDD Region II (California/Nevada). He has a brother who has a developmental disability.