

Judicial Security – How to Stay Safe in an Everchanging World

Friday, October 18, 2024

10:15 – 11:30 AM

3:30 – 4:45 PM



This session will highlight practical insights to help judicial officers maintain their physical and online safety. Topics will include best practices how to secure your home, move safely about the public, and protect your online presence. Attendees will hear from Jennifer Armstrong, the Assistant Director of the U.S. Marshals Service Judicial Security Division, who leads more than 200 employees responsible for the security of 94 U.S.M.S. districts, the 12 Court of Appeals Circuits, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Attendees will also hear from the Hon. John C. Allen, IV, the current Chair of the American Bar Association's Judicial Security Committee, and the Hon. Maya Guerra Gamble, who has navigated threats arising from her handling of high-profile cases such as the constitutionality of Texas abortion laws and *Heslin v. Jones*, a defamation jury trial about the documentary "The Truth vs. Alex Jones."

At the end of the session, participants should be able to:

- Identify gaps in their personal, household, and online safety
- Identify resources and tools to improve their personal and household security
- Identify resources and tools to improve their online privacy and safety

SPEAKERS:



Hon. John Allen IV, Administrative Law Judge, Cook County, Illinois

John C. Allen, IV, the current Chair of the American Bar Association's Judicial Security Committee, is on contract as an Administrative Law Judge with Cook County, Illinois. He is also Counsel with Grant Law, LLC.

Previously, he served as the Director of the Cook County Department of Administrative Hearings and Inspector General for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, a central panel agency that hears ordinance violations for the county. He is a Past Chair of the ABA Executive

Committee of the National Conference of Administrative Law Judges and a member of the Administrative Law Section Council of the Illinois State Bar Association. He is a recipient of the William R. McMahon Award from the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association.

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For seven years, Judge Allen served as the Inspector General for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. He led a staff of close to 200 in maintaining the program integrity of Illinois' Medicaid and Child Support Services programs. While serving the State of Illinois, his team found novel and inventive methods that resulted in savings of over \$450 million.

Judge Allen began his legal career in Virginia, first as a prosecutor and later as a private practice attorney. He is a graduate from the Wake Forest University School of Law and Hampton University.



Jennifer Armstrong, Assistant Director, U.S. Marshals Service, Judicial Security Division

Jennifer Armstrong is the Assistant Director of the Judicial Security Division of the U.S. Marshals Service. She leads more than 200 employees in the Judicial Security Division who are responsible for ensuring the safe and secure conduct of judicial proceedings, and protecting federal judges, jurors, and other members of the federal judiciary in partnership with 94 USMS districts, the 12 Circuits of the Court of Appeals and the Supreme

Court of the United States. This includes oversight of more than 6,000 Court Security Officers, physical security at 800 federal facilities, and investigating all threats against federal judicial officials.

Assistant Director Armstrong graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in June 1990 and was assigned to the Southern District of Georgia where she worked in all USMS mission areas. She has served as the Supervisory Deputy U. S. Marshal for court and prisoner operations for the Southern District of Georgia, Chief Inspector in the Investigative Operations Division (IOD), and Branch Chief of the Criminal Intelligence Branch at the IOD. She was the Deputy Assistant Director at the IOD from 2019 to 2021.

Assistant Director Armstrong is a 1988 graduate of the University of Georgia where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science. Her awards include multiple Department of Justice Special Act Awards, several United States Marshals Service Distinguished Group Awards and a 2019 United States Marshals Service Director's Distinguished Service Award which is the highest honor bestowed on agency personnel.



Hon. Maya Guerra Gamble, Judge, 459th District, Texas

Judge Maya Guerra Gamble has served as the 459th District Judge since 2019. Her varied career prior to taking the bench included a solo practice representing children and parents in child protective services cases; representing whistleblowers at O'Connell & Soifer; prosecuting child pornography and child exploitation cases for the Texas Attorney General; suing companies committing fraud against the United States for the Department of Justice; and clerking for Judge Richard Cudahy on the 7th

Circuit.

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Since assuming the bench Judge Guerra Gamble has had a surprising number of high-profile cases including several focused on the constitutionality of abortion laws in the State of Texas and Heslin v. Jones, a defamation jury trial about which a recent documentary was released (The Truth vs. Alex Jones). Her particular legal interests are focused on keeping the judiciary strong and our courts open. She also cares about high standards for lawyers and increasing diversity in all aspects of the judicial system.

In her personal life, Judge Guerra Gamble is a native Texan, graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School, and is married with two kids. She is a devoted Scouter and loves to read.