

Patricia Cummings | Supervisor of the Conviction Integrity Unit, Office of the District Attorney, City and County of Philadelphia

Patricia Cummings has practiced criminal and juvenile law for almost 30 years and has been board certified in both specialities for almost 20 years. Before moving to Philadelphia in February 2018, Patricia was the Director of Policy and Litigation for the Innocence Project of Texas and General Counsel for the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association where she led the policy efforts during the 84th and 85th Texas Regular Legislative Sessions. During the 83rd Texas Regular Legislative Session, Patricia also helped secure criminal discovery reform in Texas with the passage of the Michael Morton Act in 2013 after having served as a pro bono member of Michael Morton's legal team.

Patricia began her career as a briefing attorney for the Eighth District Court of Appeals in El Paso, Texas. After leaving the court, she went to work for the Williamson County Attorney's Office in Georgetown, Texas as the County Juvenile Prosecutor. Patricia then transitioned into private practice where she focused her attention on criminal and juvenile defense. From 2002 to 2014, she taught at the Criminal Defense Clinic at the University of Texas, School of Law. She is also one of three former Special Fields Bureau Chiefs to lead the Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) in the Dallas County District Attorney's Office. The Dallas CIU has been responsible for numerous exonerations in Dallas County since its establishment in 2007. The Philadelphia CIU has been responsible for 15 exonerations since February 1, 2018.

Patricia grew up in El Paso, Texas and is a graduate of the University of Texas and the University of Houston Law Center.