

Kelly O'Connell, J.D.

Ms. O'Connell is the Deputy Director and a co-founder of the Sexual Violence Law Center (SVLC). Ms. O'Connell provides legal consultation, training and resources on sexual assault issues to civil litigators, prosecutors, judges, legal advocates and service organizations in Washington. She also provides sexual assault survivors with brief legal services, consultation, resources and referrals on a broad range of issues including protection orders, housing, employment, Title IX, domestic relations, privacy and civil liability of assailants. She co-taught *Sexual Violence and the Law* at the University of Washington School of Law in 2007 and is an invited guest speaker to several symposiums and conferences on domestic and sexual violence, including those sponsored by McGeorge School of Law (CA), the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, King County Family Law Task Force, the University of Washington School of Law and the Office of Crime Victim's Advocacy. She is appointed by the Governor as a member of the Supreme Court Dissolution Task Force and in 2006, had the privilege of serving on Washington's Pattern Forms Subcommittee to develop the statewide protection order court forms, court staff handbook and related materials on the recently enacted sexual assault protection order.

From 2005-2007, Ms. O'Connell was a staff attorney for the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. Prior to this, Ms. O'Connell has advocated for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in numerous capacities, including direct representation as a pro bono attorney with the Eastside Legal Assistance Program and legal advocacy with the Eastside Domestic Violence Project. She has been actively involved in public interest law for over 10 years, including volunteering for the Public Defender Association, the Immigrant Families Advocacy Project and the Free Legal Advice Centre in Dublin, Ireland. Ms. O'Connell was formerly the Director of Legal Affairs for Expo Management, LLC and practiced privately at the law firm of Montgomery, Purdue, Blankinship & Austin, PLLC. Ms. O'Connell graduated with honors from the University of Washington School of Law in Seattle, and also received her Bachelor of Arts *magna cum laude* in Society & Justice and Sociology from the University of Washington. Ms. O'Connell was admitted to the Washington State Bar in 2000.