

Patricia Norris-Smith is no stranger to the criminal justice system, having spent 12 years as a corrections officer and the past 8 years with the Muskingum County Sheriff's Office as liaison between officers, the courts, and the general public. Patricia is passionate about the law and its possibilities, specifically in the pursuit of justice and equality within the justice system. Patricia has earned degrees in Liberal Arts from Kentucky State University, Criminology/Diversity from Ohio University; and is a candidate for her Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School in May 2016. She has also earned certification in Corrections as well as Mediation. Patricia lives in Zanesville, Ohio where you will find her doting on her family, three children, and four grandchildren. Patricia currently serves on the board of Transitions-a local domestic violence shelter. Upon obtaining her law degree and passage of the Ohio State Bar exam, Patricia will serve her community by helping her clients seek and obtain justice in a justice system sorely lacking in diversity. Her desire is not merely to make money but to make a difference in her community and in the lives of those who are unable to speak for themselves.

"⁸. Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. ⁹. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Proverbs 31: 8-9 NKJV