

Judge Shequitta Kelly

Judge Shequitta Kelly was elected Judge of Dallas County Criminal Court #11, a court designated to handle cases involving family violence, in 2015. She earned her dual bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology and her law degree from Indiana University. She has fourteen years of experience helping/working with victims of violent crimes and over twelve years of litigation experience. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Kelly worked in the Indiana Allen County Prosecutors office where she served as the Felony Domestic Violence Intake Prosecutor for over six years and prosecuted hundreds of cases. She then joined the Dallas County District Attorneys' office, where she spent six years prosecuting severe child abuse. Since becoming the presiding judge of Court #11, Judge Kelly has made significant changes to both the criminal justice system and the community. Judge Kelly created the country's first multi-facet DV offender program; Intercepted. Intercepted is designed for first-time young offenders who have been charged with an assault case. This nine-month rehabilitative program provides mental health and substance abuse treatment along with batterer's intervention. When she is not on the bench, Judge Kelly stays actively involved in various professional organizations including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated-MDA chapter and JL Turner Legal Association. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory Board for The Lullaby House. She has mentored numerous disadvantaged teens and previously spoke as a national motivational speaker. She is an active member of Friendship West Baptist Church and first-generation college graduate.