

2014 Champion of State Criminal Justice Award Recipient



Maureen Cain has been working on behalf of the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar on criminal and juvenile justice reform at the Colorado State Capitol for the past 15 years. She is currently serves as Policy Director for Colorado Criminal Defense Institute, the policy arm of the criminal defense bar.

Maureen graduated from University of Denver Law School in 1978 and started her practice with the Colorado State Public Defenders in the Denver Office in 1979. She has tried dozens of felony cases including the first degree murder death penalty case of Vernon Wayne Templeman. From 1989 to 1995, she worked as an associate at Haddon Morgan and Foreman PC, representing persons accused of crimes including the representation of large corporations in economic and environmental crimes. In private practice, she has represented witnesses in the Timothy McVeigh/Terry Nichols cases, the Jon Benet Ramsey case, and the Nacchio/Qwest federal and SEC litigation.

While working with the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Maureen has served as a leader for the defense bar, work which resulted in bond reform legislation, drug sentencing reform, decreased penalties for property crimes, more public defenders in the courtrooms and many other bills designed to implement evidence-based practices and benefit defendants subjected to the Colorado criminal justice system. She was instrumental in obtaining funding for assessments of the Colorado Sex Offender Treatment and Management Program which has resulted in a major overhaul of the sex offender treatment program throughout Colorado. She has spoken throughout the country on issues relating to state legislative reform.

She currently serves as an appointee by the Colorado Supreme Court on the Colorado Attorney Disciplinary Board. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Denver Academy, a school for children with learning disabilities and as President of Adoption Alliance, an adoption agency specializing in international adoption. She received the 2004 Gideon Award from the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar for upholding the principles of *Gideon v. Wainwright*.

