

# ACCD AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thursday, October 30, 2025

## AGENDA

Thursday, October 30, 2025

10:00am – 11:00am

### Session 1 - "Beyond Borders: Defending Immigration Issues in an Era of Shifting Policies"

- **Facilitated by Jenny Hernandez**, Lead Senior Attorney at Immigration Defense Unit, City of Atlanta Office of the Public Defender
- A deep dive into best practices for advising clients in compliance with *Padilla v. Kentucky*, changes in federal enforcement and prosecutorial discretion, alternatives to incarceration, and more.

11:15am – 12:15pm

### Session 2 - "Balancing the Scales: Guiding Your Team through Budget Cuts, Funding Challenges, and Retention Crises"

- **Facilitated by Omotayo Alli**, Executive Director of the Georgia Public Defender Council **and Deepak Budwani**, Assistant Department Leader/Chief Financial and Administrative Officer of the Santa Barbara County Public Defender Office, CA.
- A robust conversation around navigating budgets, cuts and layoffs, creative ideas for funding, and retention efforts during this time where Chiefs are called to lead in a space of uncertainty and instability.

12:15pm – 1:45pm

### Lunch

- An open discussion to share updates from across the country, successes, and challenges.



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## AGENDA Continued

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1:45pm – 2:45pm

### Session 3 - "The Chief Defender's Brand: Leading with Authenticity, Power, and Purpose"

- **Facilitated by Keisha Hudson**, Chief Public Defender for the Defender Association of Philadelphia
- An interactive and lively discussion about the intersection of branding and leadership, using communications to connect, and leading in unstable times.

3:00pm – 4:00pm

### Session 4 - "AI & AI Ethics: Harnessing Technology while Safeguarding Justice"

- **Facilitated by Adriene Holder**, Chief Attorney of the Civil Practice of the Legal Aid Society in NY **and Jumana Musa**, Director of the Fourth Amendment Center at the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- A candid discussion about using AI to streamline legal support and ethical considerations associated with its use.