

Monnica serves as the Division Chief of Strategic Communications, overseeing the communications, appellate and employee relations units within the LA County Public Defender's Office. Her extensive 27-year tenure as a Los Angeles County Public Defender speaks volumes about her dedication and expertise.

Throughout her career, Monnica has exemplified exceptional service, starting as a trial attorney in Pasadena, Van Nuys, and San Fernando. She has also made significant contributions in appellate law, handling complex cases and providing invaluable training on a variety of issues.

Notably, Monnica's leadership in high-profile cases underscores her commitment to our mission, including the retrial last year of a 40-year-old case involving the murder of a peace officer.

Beyond her courtroom achievements, Monnica is a respected lecturer at the CACJ/CPDA Capital Case Defense Seminar, where she shares insights on best practices in capital cases, litigating prison killings and peace officer killings, as well as fundamentals of Mental Health Assessments. Her leadership as Deputy in Charge at the San Fernando Branch Office and Head Deputy of Employee Relations further highlights her leadership and management skills.

Monnica is a proud Southern Californian, having earned her B.A. from California State University Northridge and her J.D. from the University of La Verne College of Law. Outside of work, she enjoys exploring the world with her fiancé, Michael.