

Kathy Saltmarsh, J.D.

Kathy came to the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) in 2010. Her previous positions included Legislative Affairs Director for the Office of the Illinois Attorney General; Assistant Defender and Legislative Liaison for the Office of the State Appellate Defender; and co-director of the Criminal Law Edit, Alignment and Reform (CLEAR) Commission. The CLEAR Commission drafted the statute that created SPAC and sponsored multiple bills to simplify and modernize the Illinois Criminal Code and Code of Corrections.

Kathy graduated magna cum laude from the University of Illinois Law School in 1992. She was a founding member of the Public Interest Law Foundation, created to support students in public interest summer internships. She began her legal career in private practice where she had the unique experience of representing a wrongfully convicted death row inmate in state post-conviction proceedings. That experience cemented her commitment to criminal justice work and public service.

Prior to law school, Kathy learned everything she needed to know about the intersection of policy and politics from her work on the Washington staff of Senator Paul Simon