

Public defender to speak at Alfred University Constitution Day observance

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Barbara J. Kelley of Almond, Allegany County's public defender, will be the speaker at this year's Constitution Day observance on the Alfred University campus. Her talk, "Interrogation: A Defense Perspective," is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, in Susan Howell Hall on the Alfred University campus. Her presentation is open to the public, free of charge. Attendees will have an opportunity to enter a drawing for an original framed, signed and dated letter written by Earl Warren, who was 14th Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, serving from October 1953 until June 23, 1969. As Allegany County public defender, Kelley administers and supervises services to indigent defendants in criminal court cases in the 38 justice courts and county court. She also represents Family Court litigants in custody, visitation and family offense proceedings, and respondents in abuse or neglect matters. Prior to assuming the full-time public defender's position in November 2006, Kelley had been an assistant in the public defender's office. She has also served as an attorney for the county's support collection unit, representing Department of Social Services and custodial parents in establishing paternity and establishing and enforcing support orders in Allegany County Family Court. A graduate of the State University of New York at Binghamton, where she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, a national honor society for the liberal arts, Kelley earned her JD degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1985. She was maintained a private practice from May 1986 until November 2006. She is admitted to the New York State bar, and is a member of the New York State Defenders' Association and the Allegany County Bar Association.