

**Innovations in Justice:
Exploring Restorative Approaches in the
Courtroom & Beyond**



Restorative justice is transforming the way courts approach conflict resolution, shifting the focus from punishment to healing, accountability, and community restoration. This panel will explore the growing role of restorative practices within the judicial system, examining their application in criminal, family, and juvenile courts. Experts will discuss innovative approaches that engage victims, offenders, and communities in dialogue to repair harm and promote long-term resolution. Attendees will gain insights into integrating restorative justice principles into case management, how these methods can reduce recidivism, and the challenges and successes of implementing such approaches in their own courts. Join us for a forward-thinking discussion on how restorative justice can lead to more holistic and transformative outcomes in the pursuit of justice.

Learning Objectives:

1. **Understand Restorative Justice Principles:** Participants will gain a thorough understanding of restorative justice principles, including the importance of accountability, healing, and community involvement, and how these principles differ from traditional punitive approaches.
2. **Explore Practical Applications in the Courtroom:** Judges will learn how restorative justice practices can be effectively integrated into various courtroom settings, such as criminal, family, and juvenile cases, to promote rehabilitation and reduce recidivism.
3. **Evaluate the Impact and Challenges of Restorative Practices:** Attendees will critically assess the benefits, challenges, and potential limitations of restorative justice approaches, gaining insights and strategies for overcoming barriers to implementation.

Speakers:

Hon. Kim Crosbie

Hon. Catherine Ham

Thomas Koonce



Marian Ryan

Since 2013, Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan has had the privilege of leading the Office in which she has spent her entire professional career. Her strategic vision is simple: every day, the Middlesex District Attorney's Office strives to be the most dedicated, the most effective, the most transparent and the most innovative public prosecutor's office in the United States.

During District Attorney Ryan's tenure, the Office has created dozens of best-in-class crime prevention programs. The Office has expanded the use of restorative justice practices and drastically expanded the Office's diversionary offerings. District Attorney Ryan has served as a vocal and persuasive voice calling for smart, common-sense reforms to the criminal legal system. She also created a Cold Case Unit that has delivered justice and answers in decades-old crimes. District Attorney Ryan knows that none of these or the Office's many other successes during her tenure would have been possible without the exceptional effort and talent of its many professionals.

District Attorney Ryan grew up in Somerville and is a summa cum laude graduate of Emmanuel College and a cum laude graduate of Boston College Law School.