

## Valerie Newman

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### *Director, Conviction Integrity Unit*

In 2017, Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy selected Valerie Newman as director of the office's new Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU). As an attorney with the State Appellate Defender's Office for more than 20 years, Ms. Newman argued hundreds of cases before the Michigan and Federal courts, securing the release of a number of wrongfully convicted clients. She appeared twice before the U.S. Supreme Court, winning a landmark victory in *Lafler v Cooper*.

Ms. Newman has been active with the State Bar of Michigan for over 20 years. She co-chaired two task forces that focused on systemic improvement of the criminal justice system, and has chaired or co-chaired several committees and has been a part of numerous project committees. She is a Fellow of the State Bar of Michigan; in 2013, she received the Champion of Justice Award from the State Bar. Over the course of her career she has received numerous awards, including recognition as the 2016 Detroit News Michiganiaan of the Year. Ms. Newman is a Wayne State University Law School graduate. She has taught at the University of Michigan Law School as an adjunct professor for 15 years.

