

Kate O'Shea has been representing capital defendants since 2009. She is a second-generation mitigation specialist who learned the trade from her mother, longtime public defender Cindy O'Shea, and began her own agency in 2015. Kate has worked on around 85 capital cases, 18 of which have gone to trial. She has experience with identifying mental illnesses and developmental disabilities such as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Intellectual Disability.

In 2011, Kate served as a regional director for the Florida Capital Resource Center. She was awarded the 2022 FASD Experts Award for Outstanding Contribution to FASD & The Law as well as the Harry Gulkin Memorial Award in connection with her work on the Parkland School Shooter case, which ended in a life sentence.

Kate joined Suzerain Capital Defense in 2022 with the goal of using her experience to assist capital defenders around the country. She is a member of Suzerain's Capital Case Intensive Consultation Team, which provides in-house case consultation and training.