



## Black History Month Spotlight

Aleta Ballard



It's not uncommon that an attorney sees multiple sides of the courtroom, but what makes them stand out in a crowd is their passion. After seeing that the defense needed attorneys who care, Aleta Ballard made the switch from prosecutor in 2007, to defense attorney in 2010. A 2006 graduate of Wake Forest University School of Law, her journey into juvenile defense after leaving the DA's office began. Aleta is a wealth of knowledge and savvy defender, while also a juvenile contract attorney enlisted by OJD to help shape our juvenile defense network.

When asked, "Why is Black History Month important to you & how does that impact your juvenile work?" Aleta says this:

Black history month means a celebration of black excellence. It gives us an opportunity to thank those who broke the barriers and blazed the trails for us to walk. It's my wish that in my work as a juvenile defender that my juveniles will see me and know that they can be anything that want to be. It's about how you finish not how you start.