

## **Speaker**

Jackie Steele, Commonwealth Attorney, 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

## **Session Title**

Victim's Advocate in the Criminal Process

## **Objectives**

Attendees will understand the role the victim's advocate plays in domestic violence cases and how they help victims through the criminal aspect of a case.

## **Bio**

Jackie L. Steele, Jr. is married to Jennifer Carrier Steele and has three sons Jacob (18), Joshua (15) and Jordan (13). Jackie graduated from South Laurel High School in 1993. He continued his education and graduated from The University of the Cumberlands, formerly known as Cumberland College, in 1998 where he also participated in athletics. Jackie earned his Juris Doctorate Degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University in 2001.

Jackie and Jennifer made their way back to Laurel County, KY after completing their schooling where Jackie practiced civil law for 1 ½ years prior to accepting a full time position as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in 2003. After the retirement of the previous Commonwealth's Attorney, Danny Evans, Jackie was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear in June 2008. In the past 18 years Jackie has handled hundreds of felony cases ranging from Theft, Embezzlement, Rape, Drug Trafficking, and Murder. Jackie has been named "Outstanding Commonwealth's Attorney" by then Commonwealth Attorney General, Jack Conway, recognized by Laurel and Knox County Drug Court Staff for his exceptional support to the Drug Court Program, recognized by the Kentucky Narcotic Officers Association for his "Outstanding Support and Commitment to the Kentucky Narcotic Officers Association and Drug Enforcement Efforts in the Commonwealth of Kentucky" and he has been presented with the "Sword of Justice Award" by the Commonwealth Attorney's Association for his ceaseless dedication to the pursuit of justice.

Jackie is the Vice Chairperson for Operation Unite, Past-President of the Commonwealth Attorney's Association, a member of Corinth Baptist Church, Laurel County Bar Association, Kentucky Bar Association, Laurel County Child Abuse Response Team, Knox County Child Abuse Response Team and Laurel County Adult Literacy board member.