

## **Mary Bland Love (Public Defender)**

Mary Bland Love's practice focuses on medical and general civil liability. Ms. Love primarily represents the defense in cases focused on hospital and physician liability and physician representation before the Department of Health.

Mary Bland was honored with The Justice Raymond Ehrlich Trial Advocacy Award by the Jacksonville Bar Association (2016), in recognition of her career long "example of steadfast obedience to ethics, professionalism, preparation, and respect to all participants in the legal process, aggressive advocacy, mentorship, scholarship, and a driving force to do what is right."

She is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and served as the first woman President of the Jacksonville chapter (2002) and named the Boards' Trial Lawyer of the Year (2011). As a former member of the Jacksonville Association of Defense Counsel, she served as its first woman President (1987-88). She has been a Barrister, Master and Emeritus Member of the Chester Bedell Inn of Court. She has also served on the Florida Bar Trial Lawyers Section Executive Council (1999-2002) and the Fourth Circuit Nominating Commission (2001-2006). She was elected the first woman President of the Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (1986-1987). Ms. Love was appointed to the Jacksonville Ethics Commission by Public Defender Charles Cofer and approved by City Council in July 2017. She also served as board member of the Jacksonville Women's Network.

Ms. Love graduated from the University of Virginia. ('74 B.A., '78 J.D.). She continues to serve her community both in and out of the office. She enjoys contributing to community organizations which serve the intellectually and developmentally disabled. She also serves as an Elder and Clerk of the Session at her church, St. John's Presbyterian. In her leisure time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, enjoying the outdoors and traveling.