



Shannon Dion was appointed by Governor Ralph Northam as the Director of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services in January 2018, and is the agency's first Asian-American Director. Shannon is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse which, combined with her career in public safety, gives her a well-rounded

perspective on the criminal justice system. She is a former prosecutor who worked for the City of Richmond and the Office of the Attorney General, and also served as the Department's Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs.

As an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, for almost six years Shannon worked with victims, witnesses, law enforcement, probation officers, defense attorneys, judges, and communities to seek just outcomes for everyone impacted by crime. She handled a variety of cases, including traffic offenses, financial crimes, sexual assaults, domestic violence, firearms, robberies, malicious woundings and aggravated assaults, and murders.

At the Office of the Attorney General, Shannon prosecuted crimes in state and federal courts, represented several public safety agencies, and implemented public safety initiatives. One notable case she handled as a Special Assistant United States Attorney involved the federal prosecution of a state employee for embezzling funds from the Virginia Birth Injury Compensation Program. She also prosecuted a state official for corruption and embezzlement crimes.

Shannon graduated from the University of Virginia and obtained her law degree from the University of Richmond School of Law.