

# *“Partnering to Preserve and Protect”*

## DAY ONE

**Monday, May 17, 2021**

**2:00 – 3:30PM Est**

“Conference Warmup: Nuts and Bolts of MDTs”

**2:00 – 3:30**

“Nuts and Bolts of MDTs from Federal and State Perspectives”

*Talitha Guinn-Shaver (federal) and Meredith Smith (state)*

## SESSION DESCRIPTION AND SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### DAY ONE

**May 17, 2021**

**CONFERENCE WARMUP: “Nuts and Bolts of MDTs from Federal and State Perspectives”**

*Talitha Guinn-Shaver (federal) and Meredith Smith (state)*

This session will introduce multidisciplinary teams and explore why they may be useful in your community to address adult abuse. It will identify the elements of a strong MDT and challenges common to MDTs as they form and grow over time. Finally, it will highlight state and national resources available to help support the work of MDTs.

**Talitha Guinn-Shaver** is the Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Technical Advisor for the Elder Justice Initiative (EJI) at the US Department of Justice. Guinn-Shaver’s experience with MDTs includes her prior role as Director of the Elder Abuse Prevention program at the Institute on Aging, where she served as the Director of the San Francisco Elder Abuse Forensic Center and chair of the San Francisco Elder Abuse MDT. She has also participated in other MDT models such as serving on the San Francisco Elder Death Review Team and The Hoarding and Cluttering Taskforce. She has also proudly served the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) working on elder abuse special projects. Supporting existing elder abuse case review MDTs and facilitating the expansion of the model, is the primary objective of the EJI MDT TAC.

**Meredith Smith** is an Associate Professor of Public Law and Government at the UNC School of Government. Her work focuses on the areas where clerks of superior court serve as judicial officials, including guardianship proceedings, power of attorney proceedings, and estate administration. She also is a co-creator of the North Carolina Elder Protection Network, available at <http://protectadults.sog.unc.edu/> and co-author of the manual, the Legal Framework for North Carolina’s Elder Protection System. Prior to joining the SOG, Meredith practiced law in Charlotte with the law firm of McGuireWoods LLP. She earned a BA in political science and Spanish, with distinction, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a law degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University School of Law.

