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Julie Michaels Keegan joined Disability Rights New York in April 2013. Julie served as a staff attorney, supervising attorney, and is now the Director of the Protection and Advocacy Program for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PADD). Julie uses DRNY's federal statutory access authority to identify, address, and prevent abuse, neglect, and unnecessary institutionalization of people with disabilities in residential settings, prisons, jails, schools, and other locations where services are provided. Julie also engages in individual and systemic advocacy and litigation on a wide range of issues impacting people with disabilities. Prior to joining DRNY, Julie managed her private practice in special education law. She also worked with the New York State Law Revision Commission and the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court – Third Department. Julie is a magna cum laude graduate of Albany Law School.