



# COURTNEY TEASLEY

TRANSFORMING  
JUSTICE,  
DISRUPTING  
STATISTICS,  
EMPOWERING  
EQUALITY

- Author
- Social Enterprise Entrepreneur
- Criminal Defense Attorney/Organizer
- Criminal Justice Educator



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# COURTNEY TEASLEY'S BIO



Courtney Teasley, the author of "Disrupt the CJ-SOO: The Easy Way to Learn Your Rights!" is a trailblazing attorney and advocate for criminal justice reform. Born and raised in East Nashville, Teasley's personal experiences as a member of a disproportionately affected community have fueled her commitment to fighting for justice and dismantling oppressive systems.

Teasley's journey began after she graduated from college during the challenging economic climate of the 2008 recession. She joined the renowned criminal defense firm of Joy Kimbrough as a legal assistant, where she discovered her ability to be a force to be reckoned with, even in the face of opposition. While working full-time during the day at the Veterans Regional Office, she enrolled in night law school, attending the same institution where many judges taught. Her dedication and determination culminated in her graduation from law school and the establishment of her own criminal defense law practice.



Recognizing the urgent need to empower individuals with knowledge and resources, Teasley resurrected the mock trial team at her alma mater, ensuring that young minds were equipped with the skills necessary to navigate the criminal justice system. She furthered her impact by teaching courses in American Legal Systems, Intro to Corrections, and Constitutional Criminal Law at TN State University, ensuring her students understood their rights and the workings of the state court system.

Teasley's dedication to proactive change was showcased in a remarkable case where her former student, involved in a self-defense shooting, sought her guidance. Applying the principles she taught, Teasley helped navigate the complex legal landscape, ensuring the young individual's rights were protected. The successful outcome fueled her thirst for more proactive measures and community involvement.

As Teasley chaired legal committees for social justice organizations, she became acutely aware of the community's grievances, particularly regarding criminal defense representation. She leveraged her expertise as a campaign manager, assisting a mentee in unseating a problematic Criminal Court judge, marking a historic moment in Nashville's judicial history. This campaign, led by millennials, served as a catalyst for Teasley's new venture.

Now at the helm of emeffen., a black-, millennial-, woman-owned social enterprise, Teasley spearheads innovative strategies to disrupt and dismantle the CJ-SOO. With a focus on creating specifically tailored, proactive products and services for the disproportionately affected marginalized minority (DAMM) community, she is committed to putting a dent in the disproportionate mass incarceration rates of black and brown bodies.

With over a decade of legal practice, Teasley recognizes the power of being proactive in protecting oneself and working effectively with a lawyer. Through "Disrupt the CJ-SOO," she imparts invaluable knowledge and reveals the Magic Words that can assert one's rights and proactively assist legal representation.

Courtney Teasley's unwavering dedication, passion for justice, and commitment to empowering marginalized communities make her a leading voice in criminal justice reform. Through her book and her ongoing work, she aims to create lasting change and ensure that everyone has access to the tools and knowledge needed to protect and assert their rights.