



Office of the State Public Defender
Indigent Defense Improvement Division

IDID Bulletin
July 2025

Indigent Defense Updates

2024 Annual Report

IDID's [2024 Annual Report](#) highlights a year of meaningful progress in strengthening and supporting public defense throughout California. Through comprehensive county engagement and direct support for defenders — including high-quality trainings, conferences, and resource development — IDID continues to advance efforts to uplift public defense statewide.

Resource and Training Survey for CARE Court Teams

IDID wants to hear from CARE Court practitioners, social workers, and other team members about their experiences, challenges, and training/resource needs. Please take a few minutes to complete the brief [survey](#) to aid in our development of training and resources to support CARE teams across the state.

Free Defend-On-Demand Online Courses

IDID is pleased to provide you with a [catalog of the FREE courses](#) we offer. These courses are self-paced, and most are eligible for self-study MCLE credit.

California Public Defender Trainers July Virtual Meetup

Tues 7/1/25 from 12:00pm-1:00pm [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Our group of California Trainers meets monthly to share information and hear from a trainer or presenter on a rotating topic raised by someone in the group. We look forward to seeing you there. As always, this meetup will have time for trainer questions and networking, so bring your ideas, or email them in advance to ray.ibarra@ospd.ca.gov.

Topic: Upping your Trainer Tech Game

Host: Ray Ibarra, OSPD-IDID

Discussion: We are tackling some common tech challenges for Trainers, including those challenges (tech or otherwise) that you want to discuss. In the short starting presentation, we will cover: What can/should trainers do with all their old video recordings? How can trainers use tech to track/survey inner office needs? And the most famous question of all: *How do I get PowerPoint to play that video with sound!?* After the short presentation we will have an open floor for your current training challenges and a chance to make community with other CA Trainers.

July 2025 IDID Training Events

Unless otherwise noted these trainings are intended for criminal defense team members only, including attorneys, investigators, social workers, paralegals, mitigation specialists, law office professionals, and other job roles on defense teams.

7/23

The Eugenic History of California's Three Strikes Law

DANIEL LOEHR, Associate Professor, CUNY School of Law

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Did you know that "habitual offender" laws originated in the early 1900s as part of the eugenics movement? Associate Professor Daniel Loehr has conducted extensive research into the history of such laws, including the pseudoscience on which they were based. In his writing, Prof. Loehr explains how current Three Strikes laws are part of the legacy of racist beliefs that crime has a biological basis. In this webinar, Prof. Loehr will share his findings and well as ideas on how to use this history to support RJA claims at the trial and appellate level, *Romero* motions, and other challenges to Three Strikes sentencing.

1 hour of MCLE Credit in Recognition and Elimination of Bias is offered for this training

August 2025 IDID Training Events

Unless otherwise noted these trainings are intended for criminal defense team members only, including attorneys, investigators, social workers, paralegals, mitigation specialists, law office professionals, and other job roles on defense teams.

8/11

Persuasively Using the Beyond a Reasonable Doubt Instruction Throughout the Entire Trial

ALLEN CAVE, Assistant Felony Supervisor, Santa Cruz County Office of the Public Defender

TERESA DEAMICIS, Deputy State Public Defender, Office of the State Public Defender – Indigent Defense Improvement Division

DANA RAE GROSS, Deputy Public Defender, Sonoma County Public Defender

TATIANA KLINE, Deputy Public Defender, Office of the State Public Defender – Indigent Defense Improvement Division

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Every criminal defense trial attorney must be prepared to persuasively and effectively argue CalCrim 220, the Reasonable Doubt instruction, during a jury trial. During this webinar moderated by Teresa DeAmicis, public defender attorneys Allen Cave, Dana Gross, and Tatiana Kline will provide different perspectives on the ways they have intertwined this instruction from motion in limines to closing arguments. At the end of this webinar, attendees will leave with a multitude of ways they can eloquently weave this powerful instruction throughout the trial.

1 hour of MCLE Credit is offered for this training

8/14

Required Reporting and Client Trust Accounts: An Ethical Inquiry

MICHAEL CROWLEY, Founder and Lead Attorney, Crowley Law Group

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Rules of Professional Conduct are in place to ensure ethical behavior in the legal community and to protect the public from unethical conduct. Rule 8.3, Required Reporting and Rule 9.8.5, State Bar Client Trust Account Protection Program, are two rules that serve those purposes. In this webinar, attorney Michael Crowley will outline his take on how these two rules impact the legal profession and the ways that attorneys can find themselves in violation of them. At the end of this webinar, attendees will be able to describe what the rules are and identify how they might impact their practice.

1 hour of MCLE Credit in Legal Ethics is offered for this training

8/18

Building Trauma-Informed Defense Teams

MEGAN LESCHAK, LMSW, Investigator, Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California

12:15 PM - 01:15 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Public defense social workers are exposed to the trauma due to the nature of the work. Because of this, it's important that social workers and their teams strive to be trauma informed. During this webinar, Megan Leschak, LMSW, will discuss common causes and symptoms of psychological trauma including interpersonal, environmental, and social engineered forms of stress. Additionally, Megan will invite attendees to explore ways to gather trauma histories to reduce harm to selves and promote healing on teams. At the end of this webinar, attendees will be able to identify the types of trauma that show up in their work and will develop tools to sustain in the public defense forensic social workspace.

There is NO MCLE or Legal Specialization Credit offered for this training

Other Training Opportunities

Provided for information only and are not affiliated with OSPD



Learn How to Use California's New Police Records Database

Presented by California Public Defenders Association

7/7/2025, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Virtual

[More Information and Registration](#)



2025 Albert J. Krieger Annual Meeting of NACDL

presented by National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

7/9/2025 – 7/12/2025 CDT

Minneapolis, MN

[More Information and Registration](#)



International Forum for Mitigation Practitioners

Presented by Advancing Real Change

7/10/2025, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

Virtual

[More Information and Registration](#)



Ask a Mitigation Specialist

Presented by Defense Investigators Association

7/16/2025, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT

Virtual

[More Information and Registration](#)



Justice in the North: Nuts & Bolts to SYTF Litigation

presented by California Youth Defender Center

7/18/2025, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Chico, CA

[More Information and Registration](#)



Basic Trial Skills Institute

Presented by California Public Defenders Association

7/28/2025 to 8/1/2025

San Diego, CA

[More Information and Registration](#)



Capital Defense Community Resilience Discussion Forum

Presented by Advancing Real Change

7/28/2025, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM EDT

Virtual

[More Information and Registration](#)



2025 Baltimore Seminar | Mitigation Practice: Key Tools and Strategies

Presented by Advancing Real Change

7/31/2025, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT

Baltimore, MD

[More Information and Registration](#)



2025 Federal Sentencing CLE

presented by National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

7/30/2025 - 8/1/2025 EDT

Lake Buena Vista, Florida

[More Information and Registration](#)



Advocating for Queer Clients

Presented by Advancing Real Change

8/5/2025, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

Virtual

[More Information and Registration](#)

The Office of the State Public Defender is a state agency founded in 1976 to represent indigent criminal defendants on appeal. Today, the agency has two divisions. The Appellate Division provides high quality appellate representation for those convicted of capital offenses. The Indigent Defense Improvement Division supports trial level indigent defense systems across California by providing defense attorney training and assistance to counties with public defense systems. See Gov. Code Section 15420(b).
