

Below is the agenda for the  
2010 TRIAL SKILLS ACADEMY

To view written materials produced in conjunction with a particular session at the seminar, click on the [blue link](#) to that agenda item.

Please note that the absence of a link for a specific session indicates that the presenter did not provide any written materials for that session.

**Federal CJA Trial Skills Academy  
California Western School of Law  
April 25 - April 30, 2010  
San Diego, CA**

**Sunday April 25, 2010**

9:00-10:30 a.m.      **Faculty Meeting**

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.      **Registration** (1<sup>st</sup> Floor Lobby of CWSL, 350 Cedar)

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.      **Reception** (Courtyard or Roy Bell Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

1:30 - 1:45 p.m.      **Welcome and Introduction to the Academy** - Moot Court Rm - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor\*

*Bob Burke, Chief, Office of Defender Services Training Branch,  
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Washington, DC*

*Reuben Cahn, Executive Director, Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.,  
San Diego, CA*

*The Honorable Irma I. Gonzalez, Chief Judge, United States District  
Court, Southern District of California, San Diego, CA*

*The Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina, United States District Court, District  
of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC; Member, Committee on  
Defender Services; Training and Education Member of the Subcommittee  
on Long-Range Planning and Education*

1:45 - 3:00 p.m.      **Attorney-Client Relations and Interviewing Skills (Plenary)**

*Tina Hunt, Senior Litigator, Federal Defenders of the Middle District of  
GA, Inc.*

This session will focus on important aspects of the attorney-client relationship, as well as the elements of, and techniques for, effective interviewing that promotes obtaining information from a client and others that will best allow the creation of a persuasive theory of the case.

\* All plenary sessions will be conducted in the Moot Court Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

3:00 - 3:15 p.m. **Break** (All breaks set up in 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby)

3:15 - 4:00 p.m. **Brainstorming the Facts (Plenary - Use of Plenary Fact Problem)**

*Fredilyn Sison, Assistant Federal Defender, Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina, Inc., Asheville, NC*

This session will present the elements of effective brainstorming and include having all participants brainstorm the facts of the plenary fact problem.

4:10 - 5:30 p.m. **Brainstorming the Facts (Small Group Breakouts) - Breakout Assignments and Room Designations Can Be Found on the Yellow Small Group Breakout Assignments Sheet**

Participants brainstorm the facts of their own cases in small group breakouts.

## **Monday April 26, 2010**

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. **Brainstorming the Facts (Small Group Breakouts Continued)**

10:10 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Interviewing Skills (Small Group Breakouts)**

Participants practice interviewing techniques and skills and receive constructive feedback.

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. **Lunch**

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. **Theory and Themes / Storytelling (Plenary)**

*Anthony "Tony" Natale, Supervisory Asst. Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender Organization for the Southern District of Florida, Miami, FL*

Having a theory of the case and supporting themes allows one to effectively organize a case and tell a persuasive defense story. This session will define a theory and theme and will present the elements of effective, persuasive storytelling. It will address how to develop theories and themes and weave them into a defense story.

2:45 - 3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:00 - 5:30 p.m. **Development of Theory and Themes and Storytelling**

(Small Group Breakouts)

Participants practice the development of theories, themes and storytelling elements.

5:30 - 5:45 p.m. **Break**

5:45 - 6:15 p.m. **Demonstrative Evidence and Aids (Plenary)**

*Stephen Lindsay, Fairview, NC*

Sometimes, a picture is worth a thousand words. This session will address the elements of the effective use of audio-visual aids in litigation.

## **Tuesday April 27, 2010**

8:30 - 9:20 a.m. **Jury Selection (Plenary)**

*Richard Kammen, Kammen & Associates, Indianapolis, IN*

One of the most important aspects of any trial is jury selection. This session will focus on goals in selecting a jury (including advancing the theory of the case), approaches to questioning prospective jurors, and the methods by which you can gather information from prospective jurors.

9:20 - 11:30 a.m. **Jury Selection (Small Group Breakouts)**

Participants will practice voir dire and receive constructive feedback.

11:30 - 11:40 a.m. **Break**

11:40 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Opening Statements (Plenary)**

*Shereen Charlick, Chief Trial Attorney, Federal Defenders of San Diego, San Diego, CA*

Opening statement is one's first opportunity to tell the jury what your case is all about. It is a critical part of the trial. This session will focus on the goals of, and preparation for, an opening statement, how jurors perceive opening statements, and the nuts & bolts of how to construct an opening statement that will advance the theory of the case and defense story.

12:30 - 1:45 p.m. **Lunch**

1:45- 4:45 p.m. **Preparation for and Presentation of Opening Statements (Small Group**

### **Breakouts)**

Participants prepare and present opening statements and receive constructive feedback.

4:45 - 5:00 p.m.

### **Break**

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

### **Cross-examination (Plenary)**

*Ronald Tyler, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender Organization for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, CA*

This session will cover goals of, and preparation for, cross-examination, effective cross-examination techniques, how to properly and effectively impeach a witness, and how to advance the theory of the case and defense story through the use of cross-examination.

5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

### **Impeachment Demo**

*Alfredo Villarreal, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender Organization for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX*

Presentation of an effective cross-examination, including proper and effective impeachment.

## **Wednesday April 28, 2010**

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Cross-examination and Evidence Issues (Small Group Breakouts With 10:30 Break)**

Participants practice cross-examination, impeachment of witnesses, and proper procedures for the use and admission of evidence during cross-examination, and receive constructive feedback.

12:30 - 1:45 p.m.

### **Lunch**

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

### **Direct Examination / Client Prep (Plenary)**

*Cynthia Roseberry, Executive Director, Federal Defenders of the Middle District of GA, Inc.*

Direct examination provides another opportunity to advance the theory of the case and defense story. This session will cover techniques to use to present a compelling direct examination.

2:45 p.m.                    **Adjourn for the Day**

**Thursday April 29, 2010**

8:45 - 11:45 a.m.        **Direct Examination / Client Prep (Small Group Breakouts)**

Participants practice direct examinations and receive constructive feedback.

11:45 a.m - 1:15 p.m.        **Lunch**

1:15 - 2:15 p.m.        **Closing Arguments (Plenary)**

*Heather Williams, First Assistant Federal Public Defender Federal Public Defender Organization for the District of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

Closing arguments are the last opportunity to communicate directly with the jury. This session will cover techniques that can be used to effectively and persuasively communicate the theory of the case and defense story.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m.        **Break**

2:30 - 3:15 p.m.        **Preparation for Closing Arguments (Small Group Breakouts)**

With the assistance of faculty, participants prepare closing arguments that will be performed in the following breakout.

3:15 - 4:30 p.m.        **Closing Arguments (Small Group Breakouts)**

Participants perform closing arguments and receive constructive feedback.

**Friday April 30, 2010**

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.        **Closing Arguments (Small Group Breakouts Continued)**

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.        **Brunch**

12:15 - 2:50 p.m.        **Closing Argument Demonstration and Jury Deliberations Observation**  
Demo and Observation in Moot Court Room; Deliberations in Roy Bell Reading Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

*The Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina*

*Joseph Ross, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender Organization for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC*

*Kasha Castillo, Supervising Assistant Federal Defender, Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA*

*Eric Vos, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Defender Services Training Branch, Washington, DC*

Participants observe a closing argument demonstration and view jury deliberations via closed circuit TV.

- 2:50 - 3:00 p.m.      **Break**
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.      **Ethics Session (Breakouts)**
- 4:00- 4:15 p.m.      **Closing Remarks**
- Bob Burke*
- 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.      **Reception - Doubletree Hotel**

### **Additional Small Group Faculty**

*Kevin Bulter, First Assistant Federal Defender, Federal Defender Program, Inc., Middle District of Alabama, Montgomery, AL*

*Reuben Cahn, Executive Director, Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA*

*Lori Green, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Defender Services Training Branch, Washington, DC*

*Vionnette Reyes Johnson, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Georgia Federal Defender Program, Inc., Atlanta, GA*

*Omodare Jupiter, Assistant Federal Defender, Federal Public Defender Office, Southern District of Mississippi, Jackson, MS*

*Michael Kennedy, First Assistant Federal Public Defender, Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV*

*A. J. Kramer, Federal Defender, Federal Defender Organization for the District of Columbia, Washington, DC*

*Frank Mangan, Senior Litigation Counsel, Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA*

*Jason Ser, Trial Team Leader, Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., San Diego, CA*

*Selena Solis, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender Organization for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX*

*Alexis Stackhouse, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Defender Services, Washington, DC*

*Daniel Stiller, Federal Defender, Federal Defender Services of Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee, WI*

*Kyle Welch, Senior Litigator, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Texas, McAllen, TX*