

FY 2020 Authorized DSO Training Events and Conferences*

TYPE OF PROGRAM AND TITLE	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	DATES & LOCATION	ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE
DEFENDER STAFF PROGRAMS			
Orientation Seminar for New Assistant Federal Defenders	Focuses on a basic introduction to federal criminal law for new assistant federal defenders.	Nov. 11-15, 2019 Santa Fe, NM	120
Appellate Writing Workshop for Federal Defenders	Through a mix of lectures and small group exercises, provides in-depth instruction in legal writing. Each participant writes a brief in advance of the program using a provided sample case file.	Feb. 19-21, 2020 Washington, DC	35
Federal Defender Conference	Conference for heads of offices	March 2-3, 2020 Austin, TX	130
Federal Defender Capital Habeas Unit Conference	Addresses office and case management practices, as well as substantive capital habeas issues.	March 25-27, 2020 Portland, OR CANCELLED	175
Computer Systems Administrators Conference	Focuses on the effective use of technology in federal defender office administration and litigation support.	May 5-8, 2020 CANCELLED	170
National Seminar for Federal Defenders	Designed for assistant federal defenders with a minimum of three years' experience and focuses on a mix of federal substantive and procedural law topics, ethics, technology, trial tactics, and sentencing issues.	May 27-29, 2020 Denver, CO CANCELLED	500
Case Management Conference	Building on past introductory training with policy guidance (Chapter 18 of the Operations Manual and DSO bulletins) as well as training on advanced use of input and reporting functionality in dData.	May 19-20, 2020 Atlanta, GA CANCELLED	85
Administrative Officer Conference	Addresses issues of office management and administration, including related national policies.	July 14-15, 2020 Denver, CO CANCELLED	120
Sentencing Strategy Session	Designed for federal and community defender, this session brings one person from each Defender office to discuss trends in sentencing.	Sept. 2020 TBD	70
Community Defender Organization Board Leadership Meeting	Discusses common leadership and management issues and challenges and strategies for addressing them.	Next in FY2021	45
Federal Defender Supervisory Leadership Training	Addresses leadership skills for federal defender office managers and supervisors including non-attorney supervisors.	Next in FY2021	250

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PANEL REPRESENTATIVES			
National Panel Attorney District Representatives Conference	A gathering of the panel representatives from each district to address policies and issues of national interest to the program and panel attorneys.	Feb. 28-29, 2020 Austin, TX	130
PROGRAMS FOR FDO STAFF AND PRIVATE CJA PRACTITIONERS			
Train the Trainers Workshop	This workshop is intended to expand the pool of educated and experienced faculty available for national and local CJA training programs. It addresses and has participants apply principles of adult learning, elements of effective training design, and persuasive presentation techniques.	Oct. 24-26, 2019 Cincinnati, OH	40
Techniques in Electronic Case Management Workshop I	This hands-on workshop focuses on addressing e-discovery challenges in federal criminal cases, and teaches concepts and techniques to better organize, search and analyze digital case materials.	Nov. 7-9, 2019 Long Beach, CA	70
Andrea Taylor Sentencing Advocacy Workshop I	This hands-on workshop focuses on the elements of effective, persuasive sentencing advocacy.	Nov. 14-16, 2019 Houston, TX	70
Winning Strategies I (Regional)	This general federal criminal law seminar covers a variety of substantive, procedural, sentencing, and trial strategy issues specific to the region.	Dec. 5-7, 2019 Austin, TX	200
Webinar: Admissibility of Electronic and Digital Evidence	This presentation will focus on evidence rules, from the role of the trial judge as the evidentiary gatekeeper, to relevance, authentication, hearsay, the original writing rule, and concerns about excessive prejudice. Included will be a discussion of recently enacted Fed. R. Evid. 902(13) and (14) that deal with self-authentication of certified records generated by an electronic system or process, and certified data copied from an electronic device, storage medium or file.	Jan. 22, 2020 (10:00 am) & Jan. 24, 2020 (1:00 pm)	

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Trial Skills Workshop I	Hands-on workshop focusing on specific areas of trial practice.	Jan. 23-25, 2020 New Orleans, LA	60
Winning Strategies II & Fundamentals I	This general federal criminal law seminar covers a variety of substantive, procedural, sentencing, and trial strategy issues, and often includes a “Fundamentals” day for those new to federal practice.	Jan 30 - Feb. 1, 2020 Los Angeles, CA	200
Race in the Federal Criminal Court	This seminar educates CJA panel attorneys and defender staff about the many ways race impacts the administration of justice in federal court and provides them with strategies to combat racial injustice in the criminal justice system.	Feb.6-8, 2020 New Orleans, LA	200
Non-Capital Sentencing Mitigation Skills Workshop	This workshop presents a hands-on method on the development of non-capital mitigation and its integration into persuasive sentencing advocacy. Through plenary and small group sessions, participants will further their understanding on non-capital mitigation evidence and the skills necessary to effectively interview for mitigation; investigate, collect and analyze records; and write reports and/or sentencing memorandum to present mitigation at sentencing.	Feb. 27-29, 2020 Orlando, FL	45
Techniques in Electronic Case Management Workshop II	This hands-on workshop focuses on addressing e-discovery challenges in federal criminal cases, and teaches concepts and techniques to better organize, search and analyze digital case materials.	March 5-7, 2020 Philadelphia, PA	70)
Webinar: Immigration		March 17 –10:00am March 19 - 1:00pm (ET)	
Andrea Taylor Sentencing Advocacy Workshop II	This hands-on workshop focuses on the elements of effective, persuasive sentencing advocacy.	March 26-28, 2020 New Orleans, LA CANCELLED	70
Webinar: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Strategies for Protecting Clients Rights		April 7 – 10:00am April 9 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Trial Skills Workshop II	Hands-on workshop focusing on specific areas of trial practice.	April 9-11, 2020 San Diego, CA	60 CANCELLED

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Webinar: National Litigation Support Team: Technology		April 28 – 10:00am April 30 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Federal Defender Investigator & Paralegal Seminar	This program addresses numerous topics such as sentencing mitigation, records collection, the use of technology, document organization and management, forensics, BOP, interviewing, report writing and more. A component of the seminar will focus on topics addressing issues for interpreters as well	May 12-14, 2020 Kansas City, MO CANCELLED	250
Webinar: Self Care/Mental Health		May 19 – 10:00 am May 21 – 1:00pm (ET)	
National Forensics College	This joint program with NACDL and Cardozo School of Law trains attorneys, both trial and post-conviction, on a variety of forensic topics, and facilitates the strategic litigation of forensic issues nationwide.	June 7-12, 2020 New York, NY CANCELLED	135
Webinar: How Defense Attorneys Can Eliminate Bias and Racial Disparities		June 16 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Webinar: Military Records		June 18– 1:00pm (ET)	
Webinar: Busting Bond Myths and Winning Pretrial Release		June 23 – 11:00am June 25 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Winning Strategies III & Fundamentals Seminar II	This general federal criminal law seminar covers a variety of substantive, procedural, sentencing, and trial strategy issues, and often includes a “Fundamentals” day for those new to federal practice.	June 2020 TBD CANCELLED	200
Webinar: Supreme Court Update		July 15 – 10:00am July 17 – 1:00pm (ET)	
The Paralegal and Investigator Skills Workshop	This is a hands-on program providing intensive training in several skills (e.g., interviewing, writing, case management/organization, locating records and witnesses, analyzing documents) that are essential to the daily work of paralegals and investigators in federal defender offices or assigned to CJA panel cases	July 16-18, 2020 New Orleans, LA CANCELLED	70

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Webinar: Anatomy of Cross Examination		July 21 – 10:00am (ET)	
Webinar: Field Investigations		July 22 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Webinar: Inspired Impeachment CP/CSAM		July 23 – 1:00pm (ET)	
Federal CJA Trial Skills Academy	The Academy is a hands-on, skills-based workshop that focuses on (1) the use of an advocacy process to facilitate development of a persuasive, fact-based theory and supporting themes, and (2) the advocacy skills necessary to persuasively advance that theory and those themes.	July 2020 CANCELLED	66
Law and Technology: Electronic Courtroom Presentation	Focuses on the use of modern technology to improve the persuasiveness of courtroom presentations.	CANCELLED	70
Webinar: Legal Professionals CP/CSAM		Aug 4 – 11:00 am (ET)	
Webinar: Exploitation Cases		Aug 6 – 1:00 pm (ET)	
Webinar: Opioids		Aug 18 – 11:00 am Aug 20 – 1:00 pm (ET)	
Multi-Track Federal Criminal Defense Seminar/Persuasive Writing	This seminar typically presents practitioners with more in-depth training on several criminal defense topics. The Persuasive Writing Workshop is held three days prior to the start of the Multi-Track Seminar. It makes use of brainstorming and principles of storytelling and persuasion to craft fact driven written advocacy that persuasively integrates the facts of one's case with relevant legal principles in a way that enhances the chances of winning.	Aug. 2020 CANCELLED	175
Webinar: Identifying Clients Living with Mental Illness		Sept 8 – 11:00 am Sept 10 – 1:00 pm (ET)	
Law and Technology: Techniques in Electronic Case Management III	This hands-on workshop focuses on addressing e-discovery challenges in federal criminal cases, and teaches concepts and techniques to better organize, search and analyze digital case materials.	Sept. 10-12, 2020 Portland, OR CANCELLED	70

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Webinar: How to Review Mobile Forensic Reports		Sept 22 – 11:00 am (ET)	
Webinar: How to Computer Forensic Reports		Sept 24 – 1:00 pm (ET)	
Andrea Taylor Sentencing Advocacy Workshop III	This hands-on workshop focuses on the elements of effective, persuasive sentencing advocacy.	Sept. 2020 TBD CANCELLED	70
Non-Capital Habeas Conference	This program is designed for participants at all levels of habeas expertise and will focus on issues unique to non-capital habeas litigation, including both procedural and substantive issues. It will consist of plenary and break-out sessions presented by both national speakers as well as seasoned non-cap AFPDs.	Sept. 2020 CANCELLED	
Non-Capital Habeas Conference	This program is designed for participants at all levels of habeas expertise and will focus on issues unique to non-capital habeas litigation, including both procedural and substantive issues. It will consist of plenary and break-out sessions presented by both national speakers as well as seasoned non-cap AFPDs.	Sept. 2020 CANCELLED	
Trial Skills Workshop III	Hands-on workshop focusing on specific areas of trial practice.	Sept. 24-26, 2020 San Francisco, CA CANCELLED	60
DEATH PENALTY			
Defense Initiated Victim Outreach I	This program addresses the use of victim outreach by defense teams in capital cases.	Nov. 12-13, 2019	15
Federal Death Penalty Strategy-FD PRC	This training is intended for more experienced federal capital CJA attorneys assigned to represent persons charged with or convicted of federal capital offenses and covers, among other topics, mental health, race-related issues, voir dire, and case budgeting, as well as issues related to developing mitigation evidence.	Nov. 14-16, 2019 San Diego, CA	200

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Capital Mitigation Skills Workshop <i>(2 offerings)</i>	This workshop presents a hands-on approach to the development of capital mitigation evidence and its integration into persuasive sentencing phase advocacy. The workshop is for capital mitigation specialists, attorneys, and other professionals who perform this work under the CJA.	Jan. 16-19, 2020 Austin, TX	36
		May 28-31, 2020 Kansas City, MO CANCELLED	
Federal Death Penalty Resource Counsel Authorized Cases (ACT I, II & III) <i>(3 offerings)</i>	This program brings together trial teams within a region that have authorized capital cases to train and brainstorm on trial skills and strategies.	Jan. 30-Feb. 2, 2020 Atlanta, GA	45
		June 4-7, 2020 Kansas City, MO CANCELLED	
		August 12-15, 2020 Denver, CO CANCELLED	
17th National Seminar on the Development and Integration of Mitigation Evidence	This seminar addresses a variety of aspects related to the discovery, investigation, development, and effective use of sentencing mitigation evidence.	March 5-8, 2020 Philadelphia, PA	200
Section 2255 Authorized Cases Training	This program involves training and consultation with practitioners with capital cases in 2255 proceedings. Participants are trained within the context of the facts and circumstances of their existing cases.	May 2020 POSTPONED	35
The Persuasion Institute	Designed by Professor Anthony G. Amsterdam, together with HAT counsel, this program aims to improve habeas advocacy by teaching participants techniques that can be used in persuasive oral and written advocacy. Capital post-conviction attorneys, professional non-fiction and fiction writers, and legal as well as literary academics work together in a combined lecture, group brainstorming session and small group discussion formats.	June 12-14, 2020 Ithaca, NY CANCELLED	35
Capital Habeas Institute (NITA/Amsterdam)	This post-conviction skills seminar uses a combination of lectures and small group exercises to teach participants how to effectively handle common habeas claims	July 16-19, 2020 Los Angeles, CA CANCELLED	48

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25th Annual National Federal Habeas Corpus Seminar	This program, the only one of its kind, focuses on representation in capital habeas cases <i>in toto</i> . Habeas experts discuss issue identification, investigation, factual and legal development and presentation of claims, the use of mitigation and mental health experts, and substantive and procedural habeas corpus jurisprudence.	August 6-9, 2020 Atlanta, GA CANCELLED	200
Defense Initiated Victim Outreach II	This program addresses the use by defense teams in capital cases of the practice of victim outreach.	Aug./Sept. 2020 TBD	15
Symposium on Race and Ethnicity for Defense Lawyers	This program, for capital defense attorneys and federal defender attorneys, addresses a variety of issues related to race and ethnicity in the criminal justice system.	Sept. 25-27, 2020 New York, NY CANCELLED	80
The Anthony G. Amsterdam Supreme Court Advocacy Institute (SCOTUS)	The goal of this training initiative, designed by Professor Amsterdam, is to improve the quality of strategic planning and advocacy on behalf of death-sentenced inmates in the Supreme Court of the United States and in the process of obtaining or avoiding Supreme Court review.	Next in FY2021	48

**Where dates and locations are confirmed, that information is provided. All webinars occur on Eastern Standard Time. Consult fd.org for updated program dates and locations. Specific inquiries about any of the programs on this list can be directed to the Training Division at 800-788-9908 (toll-free hotline) or 202-502-2900.*