

**AGENDA**  
**CAPITAL DEFENSE SEMINAR**  
**November 21-22, 2024**  
**Columbus, Ohio**

**Thursday, November 21**

**8:00 - 8:30 am     Registration**

**8:30 – 8:45 am     Introduction - Recent Developments in Death Penalty  
Litigation, Legislation, and Methods of  
Execution**

**Speakers:     David Stebbins – Columbus**

**8:45 – 9:45 am     Caselaw Update – Ohio and US Supreme Courts**

**Speaker:     Russ Bensing – Cleveland**

**9:45 – 10:00 am     BREAK**

**10:00 – 11:15 am     Death Penalty 101 – Review and Revisit the Basics  
and the Guidelines**

**Speaker:     Paul Kuzmins – Cuyahoga County Public Defender’s  
Office - Cleveland**

**11:15 – 12:15 am     Introduction to Funding the Defense for the Indigent  
Defendant – at Trial, on Appeal, and in Post-  
Conviction/SMI.**

**Speaker:     S. Adele Shank - Columbus**

**12:15 – 1:15 pm     LUNCH (PROVIDED)**

## **APPELLATE BREAKOUT**

**1:15 – 2:15 pm     Investigating, Drafting, and Litigating Post Conviction Petitions**

**Speakers:             Randall Porter, OPD Columbus  
                             Rachel Troutman, OPD – Columbus**

**2:15 -2:30 pm     BREAK**

**2:30 – 3:30 pm     Developments in Capital Habeas Corpus Litigation**

**Speakers:             Alan Rossman – CHU – Cleveland  
                             Joe Wilhelm – CHU - Cleveland**

**3:30 – 4:30             Telling Your Story on Appeal**

**Speakers:             Erica Cunliffe, Cuyahoga County Public Defenders  
                             Office – Cleveland  
                             Jeff Gamso - Cleveland**

## **TRIAL BREAKOUT**

**1:15 – 4:15 pm     Introduction to and Demonstration of the Colorado Method of Voir Dire for Capital Cases**

**Speakers:             Don Malarcik, Ohio Defense Firm, Akron  
                             Noah Munyer, Ohio Defense Firm, Akron**

**Friday, November 22**

- 8:30- 9:30 am      Integrating the Mitigation Theme into Counsel's Arguments at Trial**
- Speaker:      Diane Menashe, Menashe Law Group - Columbus**
- 9:30- 9:45              BREAK**
- 9:45 – 11:15 am      Ohio's Serious Mental Illness Exemption: Litigation Strategies; Additional Evaluations, Discovery, Preparing for and Conducting an Evidentiary Hearing; Negotiations; Appeals**
- Speakers:      Tim Sweeney – Cleveland  
Lisa Lagos – CHU – Columbus  
John L. Tilley, Psy.D., MSCP, ABPP – Columbus**
- 11:15 – 12:15        Representing Veterans: Unique Challenges in Representation and Record Collection**
- Speaker:        Art Cody USN (Retired) Director of the Center for Veteran Criminal Advocacy**
- 12:15 – 1:15              LUNCH – PROVIDED**
- 1:15 – 2:15              His Journey from Death Row to Freedom: Why We Do This Work.**
- Speakers:      Lamont Hunter – Cincinnati  
Erin Barnhart – CHU – Columbus  
Justin Thompson – CHU – Columbus**
- 2:15 – 2:30              BREAK**

**2:30 - 3:30            Challenging the “Science” and Challenging the  
“Scientist.”**

**Speaker:    Allen Bohnert – CHU - Columbus**

**3:30 – 4:30            Talking to Your Jury in Opening Statements and  
Closing Arguments**

**Speaker:    Fred Benton, Jr. – Columbus**