

**AGENDA**  
**CAPITAL DEFENSE SEMINAR**  
**November 21-22, 2023- Columbus, Ohio**  
**FINAL REVISED 2024.11.12**

**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  
(APP) (60)**

**Speaker:     Russ Bensing – Cleveland**

**9:45 – 10:00 am     BREAK**

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

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

**11:15 – 12:15     Representing Veterans: Unique Challenges in  
(60)                     Representation and Record Collection**

**Speaker:     Art Cody USN (Retired) Director of the Center for  
Veteran Criminal Advocacy**

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

## **APPELLATE BREAKOUT**

**1:15 – 2:15 pm     Investigating, Drafting, and Litigating Post  
(APP) (60)           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  
(APP)(60)**

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

**3:30 – 4:30           Telling Your Story on Appeal  
(APP)(60)**

**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  
                         (180)           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 (60) 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 (90) (APP) 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 am (APP) (60) 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 LUNCH – PROVIDED**
- 1:15 – 2:15 (60)(APP) 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**  
**(60)**                      **“Scientist.”**

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

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

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