

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS  
OFFICE OF DEFENDER SERVICES TRAINING BRANCH**

**Fundamentals of Federal Criminal Defense Training**

**June 9, 2011**

**Indianapolis, IN**

**Draft Agenda**

*Designed as an overview for new federal CJA practitioners, this track addresses topics which are essential to defending clients in federal criminal cases.*

- 7:30 to 8:30 AM      Registration**
- 8:15 to 8:25 AM      Welcoming Remarks**  
*Rafael Andrade, Assistant Federal Public Defender, District of Puerto Rico*
- 8:30 to 9:30 AM      BAIL REFORM ACT**  
*Francisco Morales, AFD, Southern District of Texas*  
How can you maximize your chances of getting your client released under the Bail Reform Act? This session will address pretrial interviews, third party custodians, other favorable witnesses, the detention hearing, the appeal of a detention order and release pending appeal
- 9:30 to 10:30 AM      NAVIGATING THE CLIENT INTERVIEW**  
*Jim Skuthan, Chief Assistant Federal Public Defender, Middle District of Florida*  
“What’s in a client interview?” Tons of gold, land mines, obstacles, misunderstandings and hard brick walls - that’s what! An important look at how to avoid a blow-up or running down the wrong alley and into a wall while you mine for gold and meet with a key player in your case - the client.
- 10:30 to 10:45 AM      Break**
- 10:45 to 11:45 AM      INTRODUCTION TO THE FEDERAL SENTENCING GUIDELINES  
(SENTENCING GUIDELINES 101)**  
*Alan Dorhoffer, Esq., United States Sentencing Commission, Washington, D.C.*  
*Robert Truitt, Assistant Federal Defender, Indiana Federal Community Defender*  
This session will cover the basics of applying the federal sentencing guidelines. Drug amount calculations, criminal history, and offense conduct will be included in this discussion.

**11:45 to 1:00 PM      LUNCH**

**1:00 to 2:00 PM      CROSS-EXAMINATION**

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

Cross-examination is the cornerstone of any good attorney's arsenal. This highly regarded presentation explores cross-examination techniques, strategies, pitfalls and the need to fully investigate the background of the witness – including the details of government “deals” all in order to neutralize important government witnesses.

**2:05 to 3:05 PM      PLEA NEGOTIATIONS AND PROFFERS**

*Callie Glanton-Steele, Assistant Federal Public Defender,  
Central District of California*

A discussion of how to negotiate a plea, with a particular focus on providing charge alternatives that limit a client's exposure, and avoiding pitfalls as you guide your client through proffers to the government.

**3:05 to 3:20 PM      BREAK**

**3:20 to 4:20 PM      PUTTING THE SENTENCING SOUP TOGETHER**

*Eric Vos, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Defender Services  
Legal, Policy & Training Division, Washington, D.C.*

This session takes practical look at how to address de-construction of the Guidelines during the sentencing phase, new ways to enter the Post - Booker World and how best to present Sentencing arguments to the court in writing, multi-media content, and during oral argument.

**4:25 to 5:25 PM      PRESERVING ERROR: GIVING YOUR CLIENT A CHANCE ON APPEAL**

*Tom Moran, Schneider & McKinney, Houston, Texas*

Every defendant is entitled to one fair trial. If the client does not get one, that is why we have appeals. But, if the attorney does not preserve error, the conviction will be affirmed in an unpublished *per curiam* opinion. This is an important guide on the preservation of error and some of the minefields and traps the appellate courts have set for you.