WISCONSIN STATE PUBLIC DEFENDERS

Fact, Fiction, and Forensics
2026 Annual Defender Conference

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - Youth Certification Introductory Training (included with "Full Conference" admission)	
Executive Room (2nd Floor)	
8:00-8:25 am: Check-In for Youth Certification Introductory Training	
8:25-8:30 am	Welcome and Speaker Introductions, *Eileen Fredericks*
8:30-9:15 am	Introduction to Chapter 938 and Youth Defense, *Ben Gonring*
9:15-10:05 am	Interviewing the Youth Client and Other People Important to Your Client's Case, *Breanna Magallones*
10:05-10:15 am: BREAK	
10:15-11:05 am	The Role of Counsel in Juvenile Court: You are NOT the GAL, *Eileen Fredericks*
11:05-11:55 am	Detention Hearings: Making the Best Argument for Release, *Amanda Roush*
11:55-1:10 pm: LUNCH (on your own)	
1:10-2:00 pm	The Juvenile Court Process and Procedures, *Paisley Hoffman*
2:00-3:00 pm	When your Client Asks "What should I do in my case?": Available Options and Possible Consequences and Dispositions under Chapter 938, *Devon Lee & Michelle Brandemuehl*
3:00-3:15 pm: BREAK	
3:15-4:00 pm	When your Client Asks "What should I do in my case?": Available Options and Possible Consequences and Dispositions under Chapter 938 Cont., *Devon Lee & Michelle Brandemuehl*
4:00-4:45 pm	It Isn't Over: Brief Summary of Post-Dispositional Matters including Sanctions, Extensions and Revisions, *Abby Hean*
4:45-5:00 pm	Resources Available to Lawyers who Handle Delinquency Cases
4:00-7:00 pm (1st Floor Lobby)	**Pre-Conference Check-In (Optional)**

Scan QR for Event App: Agenda, Sessions, Speakers, Announcements, and more!

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12						
	Regency Ballroom (2nd Floor)	**Lakeshore Ballroom AB (1st Floor)**	**Lakeshore Ballroom C (1st Floor)**	**Executive Room AB (2nd Floor)**	**Executive Room CD (2nd Floor)**	**Milwaukee Room (2nd Floor)**
8:00-8:30 am: Check-In						
8:30-9:55 am	Junk Science and the American Criminal Justice System *M. Chris Fabricant* Livestream Available			Mitigation and Holistic Defense *Prescott Loveland*	Secondary Trauma *Amber Ault, Ph. D.*	
9:55-10:05 am: BREAK						
10:05-11:00 am	Gen AI in the Courtroom: Emerging Issues with Altered and Fabricated Evidence *Mitha Nandagopalan* Livestream Available	Strategically Building Amicus Support for Complex Appeals *Tamar Lerer*	The Gavel Games *Brodee Schwarm & Sarah Hamilton*	A Guide to Probation, Parole, and Extended Supervision Revocation Cases *David Conley & Connor Romenesko* ***Counts toward private bar revocation cases certification requirement***	The Ghost in the Courtroom: Understanding the AI Behind the State's Case *Erin Nagy*	ACD Essentials: Appointments, Billing, and Resources for Assigned Counsel *Kathleen Pakes & Katlyn Lengfeld & Aaron Banman*
11:05-12:00 pm	Be the Ultimate Influencer: Strategic Storytelling Openings *Prya Murad* Livestream Available	Nothing Forensic About it - The Pretense of Science Behind Forensic Interviews *Paul Rifelj*			Write It Anyway-Getting Creative with Pretrial Motions *Heather Roehr*	TPR Appeals 101: Back to the Basics *Megan Lyneis*
12:00-1:15 pm: LUNCH (on your own)						

1:15-2:30 pm	Litigating As-Applied Challenges to Ballistics Evidence *Tamar Lerer* Livestream Available	Whose Opinion Is It Anyway? Surrogate Experts After Smith v. Arizona *Thomas Aquino & Adam Fontana*	To Be or Not to Be Competent: What Does That Mean? *Solomon Gatton*	Beyond the Zero-Sum Game: Interest-Based Negotiation for the Repeat Defense Attorney *Keith A. Belzer*	Evaluating AI: Daubert and Fourth Amendment Reliability Challenges to AI/ML Evidence *Mitha Nandagopalan*	"AI in Investigations" - Tools, Tactics, and Ethics for Criminal Defense *Kevin W. McClain C.C.D.I., B.A.I.*
2:30-2:40 pm: BREAK						
2:40-4:00 pm	Ethics of Generative AI in Legal Practice *Lexi Brennan* ***(ETHICS)*** Livestream Available	From Custody to Community: *The Charnel Ground* Screening & Discussion *Shannon Ross, Daniel Fox, Maura McNamara, & Brodee Schwarm (moderator)*				
4:00-4:15 pm: BREAK						
4:15-5:15 pm	**Awards & State of the Public Defender Address** *Jennifer Bias* Regency Ballroom Livestream Available					
Day One Reception						

Thursday All-Day Rooms & Conference Amenities

- **Gilpatrick Room (1st Floor):** Overflow Room for Regency Ballroom
- **Crystal Room (2nd Floor):** Attendee Call Lounge (Available for calls & drop-in work)
- **Byron Room (1st Floor):** Attendee Call Lounge (Available for calls & drop-in work)

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13							
	Regency Ballroom AB (2nd Floor)	**Regency Ballroom CD (2nd Floor)**	**Lakeshore Ballroom AB (1st Floor)**	**Lakeshore Ballroom C (1st Floor)**	**Executive Room AB (2nd Floor)**	**Executive Room CD (2nd Floor)**	**Milwaukee Room (2nd Floor)**
8:30-9:30 am	Advanced Impeachment Techniques *Larry Pozner* Livestream Available	Litigating STRmix: Journey Through a DNA Case *Joey Cavise* Livestream Available	Wisconsin Supreme Court Updates *Dustin Haskell*	Staying on Track in a Distracted World *Ivan J. Wayne, Ph. D.*	The Nuts and Bolts of Attacking Statistical Opinions *Kathleen Pakes & Dr. Meghan Hughes, MD MPH*	DNA Fundamentals: A Beginner's Guide *Connor Romenesko*	Identification of Bias through OSINT *Joe Pacini*
9:35-10:35 am		Manner of Doubt: Litigating Cause and Manner Determinations *Erin Nagy & Adam Welch* Livestream Available	Cellular GPS Data – Or is it? *Mark Kozlowski*	Rethinking Harmless Error: The State's Burden or an Injunction on the Courts *Jeremy Newman & Nick Smith*	Cameras, Cameras Everywhere: Litigating Automated License Plate Readers and Pervasive Surveillance *Megan Graham*	Inclusive Communication: Insights from "Neurolaw" Research, Advocacy, & Practice *Joseph A. Wszalek, JD, PhD*	More Than Just an Option: Mastering Defense Advocacy in Treatment Courts *Heather Kierzek, Mark Gumz, Bradley Schraven, Liesl E. Nelson & Matthew Lantta*
10:35-10:45 am: BREAK							
10:45-12:00 pm	Advanced Impeachment Techniques Cont. *Larry Pozner* Livestream Available	SCOTUS Criminal Law Update *Cecelia M. Klingele* Livestream	"DUI" Did U Investigate? The ABC's of the SFST's *Kevin W. McClain C.C.D.I., B.A.I.*	Crimmigration 101 *Allison McCarthy & Melissa Nepomiachi*	Hidden Exploits: Confronting GrayKey, EPM, and the New Encryption Frontier	Rethinking Communication: A Workshop for Administrative Staff, Client Services, and Investigators	Guardians of Due Process: A Roundtable for Treatment Court Defense Counsel *Heather Kierzek, Mark Gumz,*

		Available			*Guy Cardamone & Katie Rozmarynowski*	*Michele LaVigne & Joseph A. Wszalek, JD, PhD*	*Bradley Schraven, Liesl E. Nelson & Matthew Lantta*
12:00-1:15 pm: LUNCH (on your own)							
1:15-2:05 pm	Judicial Panel: Strategies for Effective Sentencing Advocacy *Judge Jack Dávila (Milwaukee), Judge Monica M. Isham (Sawyer), Judge Ashley Morse (Rock), Judge Mario D. White (Dane), Judge Suzanne O'Neill (Marathon) & Jeremy Perri (moderator)* Livestream Available	Threading the Needle to Debunk Pattern "Matching" Evidence: Jurors, Deference to "Experts," & Evidence-Based Advocacy *Richard E. Gutierrez* Livestream Available	Memory on the Stand: Science, Preparation, and Courtroom Execution *Kevin Miller, PhD, James Schoenecker & Regan Norton*	Your Client Says Competent, You're Not So Sure: Navigating the Defense Lawyer's Role in Competency Proceedings *Kevin Smith*	Challenging K-9 Trespass After *Campbell* *Colin Murphy*	From Facts to Advocacy: Practical Westlaw & CoCounsel Workflows for Defenders *Dan Neilsen & Andrew Shulman*	Digital Evidence in the AI Era: From Review to Courtroom *David Swanson*
2:10-3:00 pm				Setting Clients up for Success: Ensuring Workable and Constitutional Conditions of Supervision *Olivia Garman*	Is DNA a Bad Fact? Cross-Examining SANEs on Contamination *Aaron A. Nelson*		
3:00-3:10 pm: BREAK							
3:10-4:30 pm	Ethical Considerations in Cross-Examination *Callie Steele* ***(ETHICS)*** Livestream Available	*Overflow Room for Regency Ballroom AB*					

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