

United States District Court
Southern District of Georgia

**Criminal Justice Act (CJA)
Panel Attorney Training**

Friday, April 26, 2024
Savannah Technical College
Eckburg Auditorium
5717 White Bluff Road
Savannah, GA 31405

8:00-8:30 **Registration**

8:15-8:40 **Coffee Service**

8:40-8:45 **Welcome and Overview of Program**

*David Stewart, CJA Panel Attorney, District Representative
Crowder Stewart LLP
Augusta, GA*

8:45-9:45 **Supreme Court Update**

*Nicole M. Kaplan, Assistant Federal Defender
Federal Defender Program, Inc.
Atlanta, Georgia*

This presentation will cover recent Supreme Court decisions pertinent to all areas of federal defense practice and may address some current cases pending before the high court.

9:45-10:45 **Practice Pointers for SDGA CJA lawyers**

*Amy Lee Copeland, CJA Panel Attorney
Rouse + Copeland LLC
Savannah, GA*

This presentation provides pointers and guidance for topics that regularly arise in our practice, including the correct approach to Rule 17 subpoenas, discovery issues including Brady, navigating a fully electronic courtroom and an overview of the new local criminal rules.

10:45-10:55 **Morning Break**

10:55-12:25 **Mitigation for Effective Sentencing Advocacy**

Fredilyn Sison, CJA Attorney, Asheville, NC

Since the Guidelines are advisory and the vast majority of federal criminal cases continue to sentencing, using mitigation for effective sentencing advocacy is one of the most important skills of federal criminal defense practice. This presentation focuses on how to investigate, develop, and present persuasive mitigation, including the importance of obtaining funding for investigative and other expert services, and the centrality of using persuasive theories, themes and storytelling to make a compelling argument at sentencing.

12:25-1:15 **Lunch and Conversation with Clerk's Office Staff**

1:15-2:45 **4th Amendment Case Law Update, Motions to Suppress and other Pretrial Practice Issues**

*Don Samuel
Garland, Samuel, & Loeb Law
Atlanta, GA*

This presentation will provide recent case law updates to the 4th Amendment and will cover developments over the last decade in relation to electronic data such as cell site location and social media and cloud searches, and will include discussions regarding pretrial motions and hearings on suppression issues.

2:45-3:45 **U.S. Sentencing Guidelines Amendments**

*Marty Bragg, Retired United States Probation Officer
Southern Sentencing Consultants
Savannah, GA*

The Sentencing Commission recently changed certain Guidelines provisions that are now in effect and relevant to our current sentencing practices. This presentation will include an overview and discussion of the Amendments and will also cover certain issues involving the BOP that are pertinent to our CJA clients.

3:45-4:00 **Afternoon Break**

4:00-5:00 **Panel Discussion: Professionalism**

*The Honorable Lisa Godbey Wood
United States District Judge
Brunswick, GA*

*The Honorable R. Stan Baker
United States District Judge
Savannah, GA*

*Teri Thompson
The Law Office of Teri Thompson, LLC
Snellville, GA*

*Tom Withers
Withers Law Firm, P.C.
Savannah, GA*

*Brian Tanner
Griffin Durham Tanner & Clarkson
Savannah, GA*

*David Stewart, CJA Panel Attorney, District Representative
Crowder Stewart LLP
Augusta, GA
Moderator*

Judges and criminal practitioners will discuss topics in professionalism.

5:00 **Dismissal**

Many thanks to the CJA Training Planning Committee:

Dow Bonds
Adrienne Browning
Donnie Dixon
Laura Hastay
John Ossick
Mukti Patel
David Stewart
Pete Theodocion