



**NATIONAL DEFENDER INVESTIGATOR ASSOCIATION
2023 REGIONAL CONFERENCE
Providence, RI**



“Due Diligence”

DRAFT AGENDA (8.7.2023) – Subject to Change / Speaker Coordination Ongoing

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm		REGISTRATION	TUESDAY, September 5
8:00 am – 9:15 am		REGISTRATION and Coffee Bar	WEDNESDAY, September 6
9:15 am – 9:30 am		Welcome and Opening Remarks Shawn Tobin, NDIA President	
9:30 am – 10:45 am		PLENARY Mitigation on High Profile Cases Amy Kelso, Mitigation Specialist, Office of the Colorado State Public Defender, Centennial, CO Room	
This session will discuss the unique challenges of working on mitigation in high profile cases. This will include discussion of how to mitigate damaging media stories, interview reluctant witnesses, and change the narrative surrounding your client. We will discuss the importance of the first few days through the end of the trial.			
10:45 am – 11:00 am		Networking Break, Exhibits	
11:00 am – 12:15 pm			
CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
Working with New and Inexperienced Attorneys Melissa Davis, Attorney / Criminal Practice Clinic Director at Univ. of New Hampshire School of Law, Concord, NH Room Melissa, a long-time public defender, is now a law school professor for a criminal defense practice clinic. Over the last three years, she has learned many things about working with law students on their way to becoming public defenders and criminal defense attorneys. This session will offer tools to navigate working with lawyers who are new and inexperienced. It will also explore ways that investigators can set expectations, have difficult conversations, and help create good work habits for new and inexperienced lawyers.	Was that Wrong? Ethics for Investigators and Attorneys Tony Naro, Attorney (Bernazzani Law) / Member of Hearings Committee for NH Attorney Discipline System, Nashua, NH Julian Jefferson, Professor, Univ. of New Hampshire School of Law Professor, Concord, NH Room The witness has a pending case. Can I interview him? The alleged victim is posting on a private social media account. What do I do? This session will be packed with valuable information and case examples for new investigators and experienced investigators alike.	Cellebrite: Forensic Overview of Reader Name, Title, Agency/Office, City, State Room Session Description Pending	
12:15 pm – 1:15 pm		LUNCH BREAK	
1:15 pm – 2:30 pm			
CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
Digital Forensics – Part 1 Steve Verronneau, President of Digital Forensic Division, MWV Multi-Media Forensic Investigative Services, Inc., Fall River, MA Room This session will cover Cellular Networks, Cellular Site Location Information, and Device Locations Data.	Investigating Innocence Cynthia Mousseau, Staff Attorney, New England Innocence Project, Cambridge, MA John Nardizzi, Founder/Investigator, Nardizzi & Associates, Inc., Boston, MA Room This session will cover working with clients and attorneys in post-conviction innocence cases. Although in many ways, questioning and reporting on innocence cases may appear identical, there are specific ways, means, and issues unique to this type of post-conviction investigation. We'll talk about specific general principles around post-conviction innocence investigations using case examples to explore the ways we can work best as an attorney-investigator-client team to free innocent folks.	Interviewing 101 (Rough Title) Bruni Marrero, Director of Investigative Services, The Legal Aid Society, New York, NY Room Session Description Pending	
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm		Networking Break, Exhibits	
2:45 pm – 4:00 pm			
CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
Digital Forensics – Part 2 Steve Verronneau, President of Digital Forensic Division, MWV Multi-Media Forensic Investigative Services, Inc., Fall River, MA Room This session will cover Cellular Forensics (on devices), Social Media Investigations, and Computer Forensics.	Mitigation 101 Amy Kelso, Mitigation Specialist, Colorado Public Defender's Office, Centennial, CO Room This session will discuss the first steps in mitigation investigation and the process for developing a compelling and persuasive mitigation narrative. This will include strategies for how to complete a social history with our clients, identify witnesses, locate records, and different interview techniques. We will discuss how to pull all of our information together to tell our client's story. We will also discuss the "checklist" for standard topics and questions to utilize when conducting social history interviews.	What You Think You Know Might Kill Them: Substance Use Disorder and Harm Reduction Sarah Landres, Attorney, Primmer Piper Eggleston and Cramer, Portsmouth, NH Room Many criminal cases involve a defendant or witness who has substance use disorder or uses drugs. But familiarity does not equal knowledge. This session will provide a fact-based overview of SUD and ideas for working with clients and interviewing witnesses who use drugs. We will share tools for applying harm reduction principles to investigation in order to get the best-case outcome for the client while doing the least amount of harm along the way.	
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm		Networking Break, Exhibits	
4:15 pm – 5:30 pm		PLENARY Jason Carroll's Story: The Coerced Confession of a Teenager that led to a 33-Year Fight for Innocence Cynthia Mousseau, Staff Attorney, New England Innocence Project, Cambridge, MA Jackie Carroll, Jason's Sister Room	
At 19, Jason Carroll finally found a job he really liked, working with the National Guard as a mechanic. He even thought he would maybe make a career out of it. But Jason's plans came to a screeching halt when state police came into his workplace one day to speak with him about a murder that had gone unsolved for over a year. Over the course of the next few days, teen-aged Jason was subjected to hours of grueling interrogation. Even his mother, a local cop, engaged in pressuring Jason to admit involvement in the crime. The statements pulled from Jason during those days formed the basis for capital murder charges. The only problem? The statements Jason made just don't match the facts...This session will focus on the facts of the case and the fight to free Jason Carroll from incarceration based on his wrongful conviction.			
https://www.newenglandinnocence.org/innocence-blog/2023/2/23/jason-carroll			
Networking Reception - Main Dining Room 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm			



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8:00 am – 9:20 am			Coffee Bar	THURSDAY, September 7
9:20 am – 9:30 am			Opening Remarks	
Shawn Tobin, NDIA President				
9:30 am – 10:45 am			PLENARY	
The Mystery and Reality of Memory and Suggestibility Dr. John Daignault, Forensic Psychologist, Braintree, MA Room Session to include the misconceptions about human memory and the most updated scientific understanding about memory and suggestibility.				
10:45 am – 11:00 am			Networking Break, Exhibits	
11:00 am – 12:15 pm				
CONCURRENT SESSIONS				
Cellebrite: Pathfinder Name, Title, Agency/Office, City, State Room Session Description Pending	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): Impact and Intervention in Work with Child Clients Lisa Wolford, Executive Director, Children’s Law Center of NH, Portsmouth, NH Stephanie Hausman, Litigation Director, Children’s Law Center of NH, Portsmouth, NH Room This session will explore the science of ACEs, the long-term impacts of childhood trauma, and the protective interventions that can help child and adolescent clients overcome adversity and improve life outcomes. We’ll also discuss strategies to enhance the investigator-client relationship and maximize effective communication with clients who are children and adolescents.	Mitigation Evidence in Sexual Assault Cases Theodore Lothstein, Attorney, Lothstein Guerriero, PLLC, Concord, NH Room Mental health and development concerns can bring quite a few mitigating factors into a case. Finding a clinician that will present those concerns in a way that is informed and measured is necessary to ensure those concerns are considered. This session will address the ways a clinician should be assessing a client, the possible evaluations that can be administered and how to evaluate the quality of an assessing clinician.		
12:15 pm – 1:15 pm			LUNCH BREAK	
1:15 pm – 2:30 pm				
CONCURRENT SESSIONS				
DNA-Related Topic (Title TBD) Joseph Lopez, Director of Complex Litigation, Office of the Chief Public Defender, Hartford, CT Room Session Description Pending	Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy and Traumatic Brain Injury Cases Tony Sculimbrene, Attorney, Gill & Sculimbrene, PLLC, Nashua, NH Room This session will cover what Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTEs) and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) are, what you need to know as an investigator, and how these conditions may be used as possible defenses in criminal cases.	Session Title (Tech Related) Matt Hanna, Supervisory Investigator, Public Defender Service, Washington, DC Eric Hirst, Chief Information Officer, Public Defender Service, Washington, DC Room Session Description Pending		
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm			Networking Break, Exhibits	
2:45 pm – 4:00 pm				
CONCURRENT SESSIONS				
Initial Investigation Bruni Marrero, Director of Investigative Services, The Legal Aid Society, New York, NY Room Session Description Pending Related to Intake, Preliminary Hearings, Arraignments	Session Title Pending Name, Title, Agency/Office, City, State Room Session Description Pending	How Listening to Crime Podcasts Can Make You a Better Investigator Lara Bricker, Journalist / Podcast Host / Investigator (Jillian Kalosky Investigations, LLC), Concord, NH Room Were you one of the millions of people who listened to the podcast Serial when it came out in 2014? Do you think true crime podcasts are just for entertainment value? Or are there lessons we can learn as investigators by listening to true crime podcasts. What if learning about some of the cases in true crime podcasts could help us improve as investigators. Here’s a spoiler... they can!		