



# ACHIEVING JUSTICE

## for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims

November 14-16, 2023 • Graduate State College  
State College, PA

### Course Information

This course will prepare you to handle complex legal issues using a trauma-informed approach as you pursue justice for the special victims that you serve in domestic violence and sexual assault cases. You will learn how to spot legal issues early in the process, present stronger cases and enhance your communication with victims and investigators. In this victim-centered, offender-focused approach to prosecution, you will gain a better understanding of how crime victims respond to trauma while also recognizing the risk of vicarious trauma in your own work.

### Tuesday, November 14, 2023

<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast Buffet/ Course Registration</b>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Victim Impact Statement</b> Jill Myhre Domestic Abuse Survivor
	Brianna Ringwood, Esquire Chief of Professional Standards Montgomery Co. DA's Office
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Strengthening Your Case</b> Kristen McElroy, Esquire Chief, Adult Special Victims Unit Bucks Co. DA's Office
<b>12:15 PM</b>	<b>Lunch Buffet</b>
<b>1:15 PM</b>	<b>Charging Decisions in DV and Sexual Assault Cases</b> Kara Bowser, Esquire Chief Deputy Prosecutor York Co. DA's Office
	Charles Murphy, Esquire Chief Deputy Prosecutor York Co. DA's Office
<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Working with Victims</b> <u>Moderator:</u> Honorable Seán McCormack District Attorney Cumberland Co. DA's Office
	<u>Panel Members:</u> Jennifer Gettle, Esquire Chief Deputy District Attorney Dauphin Co. DA's Office

Edward McCann, Esquire  
First Assistant District Attorney  
Montgomery Co. DA's Office

Jennifer Schorn, Esquire  
First Assistant District Attorney  
Bucks Co. DA's Office

**4:00 PM** **Adjourn**

### Wednesday, November 15, 2023

<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast Buffet/ Course Registration</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Plea Negotiations and Trial Issues</b> Edward McCann, Esquire First Assistant District Attorney Montgomery Co. DA's Office
	Jennifer Schorn, Esquire First Assistant District Attorney Bucks Co. DA's Office
<b>10:45 AM</b>	<b>Providing Context: Introducing Expert Testimony in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Cases</b> Jonathan Kurland, Esquire Attorney Adviser AEquitas
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Strangulation</b> Lauren Marvel, Esquire Assistant District Attorney Montgomery Co. DA's Office
<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Lunch Buffet</b>

**2:00 PM**

**Utilizing a Forensic Nurse**  
Jennifer Gettle, Esquire  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Dauphin Co. DA's Office

Nicole Baselj, MSN, RN SANE-A  
Unit Director  
Forensic Nursing Department  
UPMC

**3:30 PM**

**Offender Focused  
Prosecution**  
Kelly Callihan, Esquire  
Counsel for Policy and  
External Relations, PDAA

**4:30 PM**

**Adjourn**

### Thursday, November 16, 2023

<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast Buffet/ Course Registration</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Going Forward Without the Victim: Weighing Lethality and Impact on the Victim</b> Brianna Ringwood, Esquire Chief of Professional Standards Montgomery Co. DA's Office
<b>10:15 AM</b>	<b>Prosecutor Well Being: Recognizing and Addressing Vicarious Trauma</b> Honorable Seán McCormack District Attorney Cumberland Co. DA's Office
<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

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This project was supported by PCCD subgrant 2019-2020-JG-SS-36258, awarded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute presents...



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## Registration

**Registration for this conference is restricted to prosecutors currently employed in Pennsylvania by a county district attorney's office or the Office of Attorney General.** The PDAI reserves the right to decline registrants who do not meet the criteria. **Attendance is limited to 60 prosecutors. Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.** To register, please complete and return the attached registration form, along with your \*food and beverage fee to the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute, no later than **October 6, 2023 at 4:30 PM**. You can also email your registration form to [pdaa@pdaa.org](mailto:pdaa@pdaa.org) or register online [here](#).

## Accommodations

PDAI will pay for single occupancy accommodations (room and tax only) on the nights of November 13<sup>th</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>. Overnight rooms will be reserved for attendees at the [Graduate State College](#), where the course will be held. **PDAI will make all hotel reservations; you should not contact the hotel directly to make your reservations.**

## Cancellation Policy

Those who cancel on or before **October 27, 2023 by 4:30 PM** will be refunded the full fee. To cancel, please email Támara Heagy at [theagy@pdaa.org](mailto:theagy@pdaa.org). No refunds can be issued for cancellations received after **October 27, 2023 by 4:30 PM**. Those who have not paid will still be required to send payment. As always, substitutions are allowed for persons who have to cancel after the cancellation date. **If you are a no-show, you will be invoiced for any applicable hotel charges or fees.**

## CLE Credit

This course is worth 1 ethics and 11 substantive CLE credits.

### Graduate State College

125 South Atherton Street • State College, PA 16801  
814-231-2100

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

County/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility Requirements:

☐ **\$250 Payment Enclosed**

\*Food and beverage fee.

I will need a room for the following nights:

- ☐ Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>
- ☐ Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>
- ☐ Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>
- ☐ I do not require accommodations.

"By signing below, I understand that if I am a no-show, I will be invoiced for any applicable hotel charges or fees."

Please return this form and your payment, no later than **October 6, 2023 by 4:30 PM** to the PDAI, 2929 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110, to the attention of Támara Heagy.