

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required by Jan. 30

W9 Inside the Black Box: Forensic Psychiatry for Lawyers

Monday, February 13, 2023

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

CE Hours: 6.5

Learning Overview: After attending this workshop, attendees will: (1) have an expanded understanding of mental illness; (2) learn how to effectively utilize an expert psychiatric witness in criminal and civil cases; (3) understand the difference between appropriate and inappropriate consult questions for the expert; (4) learn about unethical expert witnesses (how to spot them, why to avoid them, and effectively crossing them); and (5) understand the ethical obligations of an expert witness and anticipate when these can conflict with an attorney's ethical duties.

Impact Statement: This workshop will have a positive impact on the forensic science community in terms of helping attorneys work more effectively and ethically with experts in the mental health field. The skill and knowledge acquired will also help inform members of the forensic mental health field to avoid some of the pitfalls that can occur in the midst of complex legal cases. Some of the ethical issues examined will be generalizable to other expert witnesses.

Program Description: This workshop will cover the history of forensic psychiatry, the use and types of experts, and the clinical and ethical guidelines followed. Discussion will include the crucial differences between a treating clinician and an expert, the use and misuse of psychological testing, and the application of case law and statutes to appropriately answer psychiatric-legal questions. This workshop will be interactive, with case debates prepared by the presenters and invited submissions from attendants. This workshop is designed to help inform attorneys how to work more effectively with mental health experts, as well as confidently navigate the ethical waters when doing so.

Chair:
Corina Freitas, MD
Freitas and Associates
Alexandria, VA

Co-Chair:
Vivian Shnaidman, MD
Jersey Forensic Consulting, LLC
Princeton, NJ

Presenter:
George D. Annas, MD
Forensic Psychiatry Consulting, LLC
Syracuse, NY

Target Audience: Jurisprudence

Knowledge Level Required: Basic

Program:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Introduction of Speakers, Topic, & Basic Psychiatry <i>Corina Freitas, MD</i> |
| 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM | History of Forensic Psychiatry and How to Formulate a Psychiatric-Legal Question <i>Corina Freitas, MD; Vivian Shnaidman, MD; George D. Annas, MD</i> |
| 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM | BREAK |
| 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Ethics in Forensic Psychiatry <i>Corina Freitas, MD; Vivian Shnaidman, MD; George D. Annas, MD</i> |
| 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM | DSM-5, Diagnoses, and Psychological Testing <i>Corina Freitas, MD; Vivian Shnaidman, MD; George D. Annas, MD</i> |
| 3:00 PM – 3:15 PM | BREAK |
| 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Active Case Participation <i>Corina Freitas, MD; Vivian Shnaidman, MD; George D. Annas, MD</i> |
| 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM | Questions and Answers |