



Criminal Defense Training Academy

Session 2 – September 20 and 21, 2019
Spokane Community College, Spokane

AGENDA

Friday, September 20

- 9:00 – 10:00 **Storytelling, and Developing Your Theory of the Case** – Lecture - Travis Stearns
- 10:00 – 12:00 **State v. Larry Bird: Theory of the Case and Theme** - Small Group – 15 minute break built in
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch – served on-site
- 1:00 – 2:00 **Working with Expert Witnesses** – Lecture - Sonja Hardenbrook
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:15 – 3:15 **Opening Statements and Closing Arguments** – Lecture - Kim Gordon
- 3:15 – 5:00 **State v. Larry Bird: Opening Statements** – Small Group – 15 minute break built in
- 5:00 Adjourn

Saturday, September 21

- 9:00 – 10:00 **Cross Examination** – Lecture - Brooks Holland
- 10:00 – 12:15 **Cross Examination of Deputy Earvin Johnson** - Small Group – 15 minute break built in
- 12:15 – 1:15 Lunch – served on-site
- 1:15 – 2:30 **I Object! Crafting Evidence & Record Preservation** – Lecture – Travis Stearns
- 2:30 – 3:30 **Objections Exercise**
- 3:30 – 3:45 Break
- 3:45 – 4:15 **A Strategic Approach to Evidence** – Lecture – Travis Stearns
- 4:15 – 4:45 Training Academy Graduation, Evaluations, Group Picture
- 4:45 Adjourn

Presenters

Kim Gordon has more than 15 years of experience representing misdemeanor and felony crimes at the state and federal level. She has dedicated much of her life to developing the skills and expertise necessary to provide the highest quality criminal defense for her clients. She began criminal defense as a public defender at the Washington Appellate Project, where she handled the appeals for hundreds of adult and juvenile felony clients. Kim then spent six years at The Defender Association, where she managed large misdemeanor and felony caseloads including complex cases involving fraud, sex, murder and other serious felony offenses, and managed the Misdemeanor Division. Now in private practice, Gordon litigates simple misdemeanors, complex frauds, and serious felony cases for juveniles and adults in state and federal courts. She also became a member of the Criminal Justice Act Panel for the Western District of Washington.

Sonja Hardenbrook has been at Snohomish County Public Defender Association since 2003, starting as a Rule 9 intern, then serving two years in the district court unit, many years in the felony unit, and two years in a management rotation. Since 2015 she has worked exclusively in the 71.09 unit representing clients civilly committed as sexually violent predators under RCW 71.09. In her 15 years as a public defender Sonja has hired or examined experts on toxicology, firearm ballistics, fingerprints, pharmacology, accident reconstruction, autopsy examination (bullet wounds, stab wounds, ligature marks, drowning, blunt force trauma), psychiatry/psychology (competence to stand trial, diminished capacity, insanity, competence as a witness, identification as a sexually violent predator), plethysmography, sexual assault nurse examinations, DNA, forensic accounting, medical, statistics, actuarial, and child interviewing.

Brooks Holland joined the faculty of Gonzaga University School of Law in 2005 after eleven years of practice as a public defender in the Bronx and Manhattan. Holland's experience representing clients in New York, and his continuing experience as a federal appellate lawyer, inspire his interest in working with future lawyers to prepare them for the rewards, rigors, and vital impact a career in law can offer. At Gonzaga, Holland teaches professional responsibility, criminal law, criminal procedure, and advanced criminal procedure. Holland also has taught comparative criminal law, trial advocacy, constitutional law, and perspectives on the law. In all of these courses, Holland strives to ensure that students understand not only the critical doctrine, but also the opportunities lawyers have to build a fulfilling professional identity, to contribute to the legal system, and to impact the lives other individuals.

Travis Stearns has worked in public defense most of his career, currently with the Washington Appellate Project. He worked as a public defender in New York City and Whatcom County before working at the Washington Defender Association. He has also focused on training and substantive policy reform, having seen success in the appellate courts and with the legislature. He is a nationally recognized speaker on issues relating to trial advocacy, the right to counsel and the impact of criminal convictions. He has published articles in law school journals, primarily on issues relating to the impact of criminal convictions on reentry. He is an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law.