Program Announcement

Top Gun Class 41 - Investigating and Prosecuting Gang & Drug Cases

June 22-29, 2012
Bergen County Police, Fire & EMS Academies
281 Campgaw Road
Mahwah, NJ 07340

Program Summary

Top Gun is an intensive 6-day program designed to train police officers and prosecutors on substantive legal and practical skills using an effective combination of classroom lectures and practical exercises. Top Gun trains law enforcement officers and prosecutors together, so that each can understand the needs, problems, and concerns of the other. Each class consists of approximately 90 State, county and federal law enforcement officers and 16 State and county prosecutors, who receive classroom instruction together and are then divided into 8 Squads for practical exercises. The practical exercises are designed to challenge the students to apply their experience and the classroom knowledge in a real world setting. Each class requires nearly 70 faculty members drawn from many State, county, municipal and federal agencies.

Who Should Attend?

State, county and federal law enforcement officers and State and county prosecutors.

Who is the Faculty (CLE-Eligible Courses Only)

See Attached for Details.

How Do I Register?

County and municipal personnel must register with their County Gang, Gun and Drug Task Force Commander, in the County Prosecutor’s Office. State and federal personnel must register with SDAG Philip S. Aronow, at the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. Space is limited and allocated by county and certain agencies. Pre-registration is mandatory - there is no registration at
the door. Questions should be directed to SDAG Aronow at aronowp@njdcj.org. Those seeking CLE credits must register through the Attorney General’s Advocacy Institute’s Course Registration Program after being selected for the program as follows:

State Employees

Most State employees are able to register for this course by going to http://reg.dej.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2 and creating an AGAI Course Registration account. To do so, your computer must be attached to the government's Garden State Network. Upon opening the AGAI Course Registration System home page, you will see the Create Account link in the Login Box. Click on it and create your account, which will include you selecting a user name and password. Once you create your account, you can access the AGAI Course Registration System at http://reg.dej.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2 to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.

Non-State Employees or State Employees not Connected to the Garden State Network

If you are not a State employee, or are otherwise unable to access the AGAI Course Registration System through the Garden State Network, kindly email the Advocacy Institute at: AdvocacyInstitute@lps.state.nj.us for an authorization code to allow you access to the AGAI Course Registration System through the My New Jersey portal. Setting up your account through the portal is a two-step process, the details of which are set forth in the next two paragraphs.

Once you receive the portal authorization code you will be prompted to go to the My New Jersey portal at http://www.state.nj.us/ and create a portal account. This is Step 1 of the process, which you need only do once.

Upon setting up your portal account, you need to set up your AGAI Course Registration System account. This is Step 2. To do so, log on to the My New Jersey Portal http://www.state.nj.us/. Upon opening the AGAI Course Registration System home page, you will see the Create Account link in the Login Box. Click on it and create your account, which will include you selecting a new user name and password. Once you create your account, you can access the AGAI Course Registration System at http://reg.dej.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2 to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.

CLE Credit (See attached for details)

NJ CLE Credit: Up to 5.9 substantive credits
NY CLE Credit: Up to 5.5 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)
PA CLE Credit: Up to 4.5 substantive credits ($1.50 mandatory registration fee for each credit)
CLE - ELIGIBLE MODULES & FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Presentation Title: Legal Issues Concerning Informants

June 22, 2012 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This presentation will discuss the use of confidential informants and cooperating witnesses in gang and narcotics investigations, and the legal implications arising therefrom. Particular emphasis will be placed on preserving the integrity of the investigation, safeguarding the informant, and the discovery implications related to the use of informants.

Presenter: Assistant Prosecutor Gennaro Rubino has been an Assistant Prosecutor for the Hudson County Prosecutor’s Office since 1996. He served in the Appellate Section, Juvenile Section, Adult Trial Team, and Task Force as a trial prosecutor. Currently, Assistant Prosecutor Rubino is an investigative legal advisor overseeing the Prosecutor’s Office Narcotics, Municipal and Gang Task Forces, as well as the coordinator and advisor for the Arson Unit. He also consults the Homicide Unit on select cases. Assistant Prosecutor Rubino is responsible for assisting the Hudson County Prosecutor and the Chief of Investigations in developing police policy and procedures throughout the County. He is also responsible for preparing media press releases and coordinating press conferences for the Prosecutor. This is a 60-minute module.

NJ CLE Credit: This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.2 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and 1.2 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in criminal trial law.

NY CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit ($1.50 mandatory registration fee required)

Presentation Title: Search Warrants

June 26, 2012 from 9:20 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

This presentation will teach students about drafting search warrants and related affidavits. Emphasis will be placed on the description of the property to be searched, officer qualifications as they relate to specific warrants, and the probable cause aspects of gang and narcotics warrants. Students will also learn about related issues such as “anytime of the day or night”, "no knock "warrants, the use of distraction devices and other issues related to execution of the warrant, and the proper procedures for inventory and return.

Presenter: Assistant Prosecutor Danielle Grootenboer has been an Assistant Prosecutor for the Bergen County Prosecutor’s Office since March 15, 1993. During her time in the Prosecutor’s Office, Danielle has worked in the Grand Jury Section, the Trial Section, the Domestic Violence
Unit and the Narcotics Task Force. She is currently assigned to the Homicide Squad. In addition to those duties, Assistant Prosecutor Grootenboer is certified by the Police Training Commission to teach police recruits and lectures to municipal police officers on Fourth Amendment issues. She was also a faculty member of the Advanced Domestic Violence Training sponsored by the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office. **This is a 60-minute module.**

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.2 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and 1.2 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in criminal trial law.

**NY CLE Credit:** 1.0 substantive credit (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)

**PA CLE Credit:** 1.0 substantive credit ($1.50 mandatory registration fee required)

**Presentation Title:** *Search & Seizure Update*

June 27, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. and 9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

This presentation will give students a broad and comprehensive update on the latest judicial developments as they effect search and seizure law in New Jersey. Emphasis will be placed on cases impacting most directly on gang and narcotics investigations.

**Presenter:** AAG Ron Susswein. has served for a combined 29 years as a DAG/AAG in the Division of Criminal Justice and the Union County Prosecutor’s Office. During his career, AAG Susswein helped to draft many of the Attorney General directives and guidelines that are designed to channel a prosecutor’s plea bargaining discretion, including the policies concerning “Brimage,” “Graves Act,” “NERA,” and public corruption cases. **This is a 100-minute module.**

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 2.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and 2.0 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in criminal trial law.

**NY CLE Credit:** 2.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)

**PA CLE Credit:** 1.5 substantive credits ($3.00 mandatory registration fee required)
Presentation Title: Courtroom Testimony

June 29, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

This presentation will instruct students on preparing for trial, direct and cross examination, demeanor and the nuanced effect of clear, concise and honest testimony on the court and jury.

Presenter: James P. Lynch has been an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney’s Office (New Jersey) since 2006. Prior to this position, he was the First Assistant Prosecutor in the Camden County Prosecutor’s Office, having been appointed in 1996. Jim also served as the First Assistant Prosecutor in Gloucester County and was an Assistant Prosecutor in Camden from 1982-1994. During his tenure as a prosecutor, Jim served as Trial Team Leader and as Chief of the Major Crimes Unit, the Homicide Unit and the Narcotics Task Force. His extensive prosecutorial experience encompasses a vast array of cases. Over his career, Jim has successfully tried several very high profile cases, and his experiences are invaluable for the students. This is a 75-minute module.

NJ CLE Credit: This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.5 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and 1.5 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in criminal trial law.

NY CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit ($1.50 mandatory registration fee required)