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*The Advocacy Institute, in Conjunction with the Union County Prosecutor's Office,  
Is Pleased to Announce*

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **DEALING WITH DEFENDANTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES: PRE-ARREST DIVERSION THRU POST-SENTENCING COMMITMENT**

**June 23 2011  
8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.  
Hunterdon County Complex  
Building No. 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. Assembly Room  
328 State Route 12  
Flemington, NJ**

#### ***Program Summary***

This program will address dealing with individuals with mental health issues within the Criminal Justice System from pre-arrest diversion programs through post-incarceration involuntary civil commitment. Among the topics to be discussed in the morning are an overview of mental illness, screening laws and pre-arrest diversion programs with an emphasis on Crisis Intervention Team training (CIT), police training and charging issues. The afternoon will focus on post arrest diversion and legal issues such as competency, insanity, diminished capacity and involuntary civil commitment..

#### ***Who Should Attend?***

Attorneys who prosecute individuals with mental illness should attend this course. Investigative staff responsible for police training would also find the morning session of this course of interest. Attorneys working with individuals who are mentally ill in the civil arena such as civil commitment hearings would also benefit from this program.

#### ***Who Is the Faculty?***

**Chief Thomas Garrity** is a 27-year law enforcement veteran, first serving in the US Army Military Police, before serving for 24 years with the Collingswood Police Department, 14 years as Chief of Police, most recently becoming the Chief of Investigators for the Camden County Prosecutor's Office in New Jersey. He obtained his Bachelor Degree and Masters Degrees from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Chief Garrity was the first CIT certified Police Chief in the state of New Jersey and implemented the very first CIT unit within

the state at the Collingswood Police Department in 2007. He currently serves on the NJ Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma and the NJ Governor's Police Suicide Task Force. Chief Garrity sits on numerous Boards related to mental health issues and is working to spread CIT and mental health training to each and every police department throughout NJ. Chief Garrity is also currently serving on the Board of Directors for CIT International.

**Maureen O'Brien, Esq.**, a former Assistant Prosecutor, recently retired after serving 28 years with the Union County Prosecutor's Office. She was the Supervisor of the Special Offender Unit dealing exclusively with defendants with mental health issues. Ms. O'Brien was instrumental in establishing the first Superior Court jail diversion program and pilot mental health court-based program in New Jersey. She has lectured throughout the state and nationally to both mental health and law enforcement professionals on all aspects of mental health issues within the criminal justice system.

**Jessica S. Oppenheim, Esq.** began her legal career with the Administrative Office of the Courts as staff attorney to the Civil Appeals Settlement Program (CASP). In 1985, she began a twenty-year career as a Deputy Attorney General in the Division of Criminal Justice serving in a variety of capacities culminating with her serving as Bureau Chief of the Prosecutors Supervision and Coordination Bureau. In that capacity, in addition to overseeing the 21 County Prosecutors Offices and over 500 municipal prosecutors and police departments, she was instrumental in the implementation of federal grants for law enforcement training in the various areas. Ms. Oppenheim also was counsel to the State Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy and the State Medical Examiner's Office, and represented the Attorney General on several advisory bodies. Ms. Oppenheim oversaw the drafting of the Attorney General's Megan's Law Guidelines for Law Enforcement and the SANE/SART Protocols for the investigation of sexual assault cases, as well as various Attorney General Directives. In 2007, Ms. Oppenheim went to the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office to run the Domestic Violence and Megan's Law Units. Ms. Oppenheim has provided extensive training over the years to law enforcement and the community, as well as state, county and local agencies and community organizations, which activities she continues. She is a certified Police Training Commission instructor, and is an adjunct professor in the criminal justice studies department of Fairleigh Dickinson University. In 2010, Ms. Oppenheim retired from government service and joined the Arc of NJ as Director of the Developmentally Disabled Offenders Program in June 2010. In that capacity she provides support and assistance to criminal offenders who have developmental and intellectual disabilities, seeking alternatives to incarceration. In addition to her work with Arc of NJ, Ms. Oppenheim is a member of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, the NJ State Bar Association, developmental disabilities rights section, the Middlesex County Bar Association, and is on the Board of Women Aware, the Middlesex County service provider for survivors of family violence.

### ***How Do I Register?***

You may [REGISTER HERE](#) or online at [www.njadvocacyinstitute.com](http://www.njadvocacyinstitute.com). Registering ensures that you will receive handout material and that there will be ample space for all attendees.

### ***CLE Credit***

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program had been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 6.5 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law and criminal trial law.

**PA CLE Credit:** 5.0 substantive credits (\$7.50 mandatory registration fee required)

**NY CLE Credit:** 6.5 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy)

### ***Special Notice***

As many of you are aware, the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute cannot, pursuant to OMB guidance, as interpreted by this office, provide refreshments at its programs. In this instance, our co-sponsor, The Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office, is graciously doing so. Because this is a joint-venture for educational purposes, Deputy Attorneys General and Assistant Attorneys General attending this program may partake of the refreshments. If, however, you are planning to attend this program and are ***not*** a Deputy Attorney General or Assistant Attorney General, you should check with your Department's or agency's ethics officer to see what, if any, restrictions exist on your partaking in these refreshments. Please do not contact the Institute on this issue. Thank you.

## PROGRAM AGENDA

8:30a.m.	Registration
9:00a.m. - 9:50a.m. <sup>1</sup>	Opening remarks  <i>Video – The Community I Serve</i>
9:50a.m.-10:00a.m.	Break
10:00a.m. - 10:55a.m.	The Basics of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Laws
10:55a.m. - 11:00a.m.	Break
11:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.	CIT and Pre-Arrest Diversion
12:00p.m. - 12:20p.m.	Screening Laws and the Use of Screening Centers
12:20p.m. - 1:00p.m.	Lunch (provided)
1:00p.m. - 1:30p.m.	Post Booking Diversion
1:30p.m. - 2:20p.m.	Competency
2:20p.m. - 2:30p.m.	Break
2:30p.m. - 3:20p.m.	Insanity and Diminished Capacity
3:20p.m. - 3:30p.m.	Break
3:30p.m. - 4:15p.m.	Involuntary Civil Commitment
4:15p.m. - 4:30p.m.	Question and Answer Session

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<sup>1</sup> This session is not CLE eligible.