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*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **ETHICAL AND PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN PLEA BARGAINING**

**November 2, 2016**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex**

**6th Floor Point Meeting Area – Attorney General's Library**

**25 Market Street**

**Trenton, New Jersey**

### **PLEASE READ: NOTICE REGARDING COURSE MATERIALS**

All materials for New Jersey Attorney General's Advocacy Institute continuing legal education courses are now available electronically through the Advocacy Institute website: [www.njadvocacyinstitute.com](http://www.njadvocacyinstitute.com). Materials will be posted to the website approximately one week before the course date.

The institute will no longer provide paper copies of course materials. This policy is effective immediately and is within the guidelines of the New Jersey Board of Continuing Legal Education and the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board. Please follow the procedure below to obtain course materials:

- Click on the Course Information tab.
- Select Course Materials from the drop-down menu.
- Click on the course that you are registered for. Courses are listed alphabetically by title.
- Most courses will have two files; a file containing class materials that you should bring to the session and a file with reference materials such as statutes, regulations and cases.
- Print the documents in the class materials file and bring them with you to the session.
- You have the option of printing the documents in the reference materials file or downloading them to a computer or mobile device.

### ***Program Summary***

This seminar will discuss ethical issues that can arise in connection with the criminal plea bargaining process, and will include an examination of the new “escalating” plea policy under the recently-issued Attorney General Directive to implement Criminal Justice Reform. The presentation will present an overview of basic principles of ethical plea bargaining, and will engage the audience in a lively conversation concerning hypothetical scenarios that probe the boundaries of prosecutorial ethics.

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

This presentation is open to all government attorneys, space allowing.

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

**Ron Susswein** is an Assistant Attorney General in the Division of Criminal Justice, and currently serves as Counsel to the Division. He previously has served as Assistant Counsel to the Governor, and also has served as Special Assistant to several Attorneys General.

Mr. Susswein graduated with honors from the Georgetown University Law Center. In May 2015, Mr. Susswein received the Attorney of the Year Award from the New Jersey Law Journal, based in part on his litigation efforts in search-and-seizure cases under the State Constitution. That award recognizes the attorney “who had the greatest impact on the law, legal profession or cause of justice in New Jersey over the past year.” In October 2014, the New Jersey County Prosecutors Association presented Mr. Susswein with the award for “Outstanding Advocacy Over a Career in a Non-Trial Role.”

Mr. Susswein has served in the Division of Criminal Justice in many roles, including as the Deputy Director for Policy, and later as Deputy Director for Major Crimes, supervising the Division’s Organized Crime and Racketeering Bureau, Major Narcotics Bureau, Appellate Bureau, Casino Prosecution Section, Office of Bias Crimes and Community Relations, and Computer Analysis and Technology Unit (cyber crimes).

From 1992 to 1994, Mr. Susswein was Executive Assistant Prosecutor in Union County, and served as the Chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association Criminal Law Section from 1993 - 1994.

Mr. Susswein has drafted a number of statutes, including the Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987. Mr. Susswein also drafted statutes for the President’s Commission on Model State Drug Laws, including the “Criminal Justice Treatment Act,” which called for providing treatment for addicted offenders. Mr. Susswein has played an important role in the development and implementation of New Jersey’s Drug Court program, and drafted the statute that first authorized courts to impose treatment in lieu of an otherwise mandatory term of imprisonment.

Mr. Susswein was the principal draftsman of “Toward a Drug-Free America: A Nationwide Blueprint for State and Local Drug Control Strategies,” which was adopted by the National Association of Attorneys General, the National District Attorneys Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Criminal Justice Association, and other groups. Mr. Susswein was later asked to draft the initial concept paper for the “Weed and Seed” program, which was adopted by the United States Department of Justice and became an important part of the nation’s drug and urban crime reduction strategy.

In 2014, he served as the principal draftsman of a report for the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse entitled: “Confronting New Jersey’s New Drug Problem – A Strategic Action Plan to Address a Burgeoning Heroin/Opiate Epidemic Among Adolescents and Young Adults.”

## *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 2.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 2.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

**NY CLE Credit:** 2.0 Ethics Credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

**PA CLE Credit:** 1.5 Ethics Credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

## **How Do I Register?**

### **State Employees**

Most State employees are able to register for this course by going to <http://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/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://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/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](mailto: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. Once your portal account is created you are prompted to enter your authorization code. This is Step 1 of the process, which you need only do once.

**If you have already been issued an authorization code in the past you do not need to request another one.** You can log into your account on the Garden State Network at <http://www.state.nj.us> and under the heading NJ L&PS Applications you will see the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute's Registration System. Click on that and log into your account on our system.

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://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/login.aspx?portalid=2> to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.