



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

CODIS for Prosecutors

July 26, 2023
1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

The New Jersey Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) Program is currently averaging 81 DNA hits a month. For most prosecutors, it is just a matter of time before they handle a case involving a DNA hit. This course will provide prosecutors with the tools they need to understand CODIS. The presenters will start with an overview of the New Jersey and national CODIS program, including when DNA collection is required, how DNA is collected, and how hits are determined. The presenters will then focus on the role of the deputy attorney general or assistant prosecutor in CODIS cases, including compelling offenders to provide reference samples, relevant case law, and the prosecutor's role in guiding the investigation.

Eligibility

This program is designed for assistant prosecutors and deputies in the Division of Criminal Justice. However, other attorneys in the Department of Law and Public Safety are welcome to attend.

Faculty

Andrew A. DeMuth Jr. is the manager of the Division of Criminal Justice's CODIS Compliance Unit. The unit is responsible for overseeing the DNA collection process of more than 500 law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities throughout the State and ensuring that DNA collections comply with State and federal regulations. The CODIS Unit is also responsible for administering state-wide training. Prior to joining DCJ, Mr. DeMuth was a member of the Freehold Borough Police Department, where he served as the Agency Training Officer, Firearms Range Master, Press Information Officer, Youth Police Academy Director, Agency Intelligence Officer, and Investigations Division Manager. He also served on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement statewide Violent Gang Task Force and as an undercover officer with the Monmouth

County Prosecutor's Office. Mr. DeMuth holds a Master's Degree in Administrative Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University and is a graduate of the NJSACOP Command and Leadership Academy.

DAG Amanda Schwartz serves in the Division of Criminal Justice's Appellate Bureau, where she litigates criminal appeals in the Appellate Division and Supreme Court. She is a member of the Bureau's working groups on DNA/CODIS, Search and Seizure, and Miranda Warnings. Prior to joining the Division, DAG Schwartz clerked for the Honorable Patrick DeAlmeida, J.A.D., while he was the Presiding Judge of the Tax Court and a judge in the Appellate Division. She received a B.A. from the College of Staten Island and a J.D., cum laude, from Seton Hall Law School.

CLE Credit

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

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.