



**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES**

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FY24 Q1&2 Training Synopsis

On July 21, 2023, the Department hosted a webinar featuring Dr. Adam Dunbar<sup>1</sup> on Bias in the Criminal Justice System. 59 people registered for the program and 36 attorneys attended the training on the day it was presented. Of the 36 attendees, 34 regularly practice in the rural counties or took cases in the rural counties.

On September 1, 2023, the Department hosted a webinar featuring Courtney Farnsworth, a Psychiatric Case worker with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, on Navigating the System when Representing a Client with Mental Health or Substance Abuse Issues. 43 people registered for this program and 23 attorneys attended the training on the day it was presented. Of the 23 attorney attendees, 19 regularly practice in the rural counties or took cases in the rural counties.

The Department also co-hosted a program on DNA with the Washoe County Public Defender's Office and the Washoe County Alternate Public Defender's Office. The class was presented over October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> (a half day, and a full day of training, respectively) for a total of 9.0 CLE credits. Topics included DNA basics, issue spotting, making sense of reports and methods, ethics and discovery, DNA transfers, DNA statistics, probabilistic software, pre-trial and trial strategies, and emerging issues in DNA cases. Six rural attorneys attended the majority of the content virtually. The total number of in-person attendees is not know by the Department at this time.

The Department encouraged rural attorneys to attend a training presented by the Clark County Public Defender's Office and the Clark County Special Public Defender's Office on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2023 on the Colorado Method of voir dire. However, no rural attorneys attended the training.

The Department has planned trainings for November (on wellness) and December (on ethics and civility) and has begun the process of planning our 2024 Annual Conference.

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<sup>1</sup> Adam Dunbar is an assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Nevada, Reno.