



# Introduction to Trial Advocacy

September 24-26, 2024

The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center • 215 Innovation Boulevard • State College, PA 16803 • 800-233-7505

## Course Information

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute is pleased to offer its Introduction to Trial Advocacy course. This intensive, three-day course focuses on the prosecution theory of a case and the process of communicating that theory to jurors. This involves developing a theme and using it throughout the trial to help guide jurors. The course concentrates on each component of the trial from jury selection through closing argument.

The course emphasizes the importance of communication theory including the use of visual communication and an easily understood prosecution theory. The teaching method includes performance workshops with video and live critiques as well as demonstration and lecture format. The ideal student should have some experience with courtroom advocacy, but **the course is designed for prosecutors with less than two or three years of experience.**



## Eligibility & Number of Participants

**Class size is limited to the first 25 qualified registrants!** This course is limited to active prosecutors in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To ensure a fair representation among counties, attendance will be limited to **no more than three prosecutors from each county.**

## CLE Credit

Introduction to Trial Advocacy has been accredited by the PA CLE Board for **1 Ethics and 14 Substantive CLE Credits.**

## Case Scenario

A specific case scenario has been developed for this course by PDAI's Education and Training Committee. Approximately one month prior to the start date of the course, the case scenario, along with the registrants' attendee confirmation and revised schedule, will be emailed to all eligible course participants. Attendees should review the case scenario prior to the course and be familiar with the facts of the case. Participants will be expected to give an opening statement, conduct direct and cross examinations, as well as a closing argument, based on the facts of the scenario. Attendees will receive two critiques: a live critique and a critique of their recorded presentation by two separate course faculty members.



**Questions? Contact Támara Heagy at 717-238-5416 or [theagy@pdaa.org](mailto:theagy@pdaa.org).**



The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute presents...

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## Course Faculty

*In order of appearance*

**Honorable Francis Chardo**

District Attorney, Dauphin County

**Edward McCann, Esquire**

First Assistant District Attorney, Montgomery County

**Michael Sprow, Esquire**

First Assistant District Attorney, Dauphin County

**Jennifer Gettle, Esquire**

Chief Deputy District Attorney, Dauphin County

**Honorable Francis Schultz**

Former Crawford County District Attorney

**Honorable Michelle Henry**

Pennsylvania Attorney General

### Critiquers

**Honorable Katie Charlton**

District Attorney, Armstrong County

**Honorable Séan McCormack**

District Attorney, Cumberland County

**Honorable Samuel Sanguedolce**

District Attorney, Luzerne County

**Honorable Jennifer Schorn**

District Attorney, Bucks County

**Honorable David Sunday**

District Attorney, York County

**Jodi Lobel, Esquire**

Chief of Staff, Office of Attorney General

**Kelly Lloyd, Esquire**

Deputy District Attorney, Montgomery County

**Michael Madeira, Esquire**

Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Office of Attorney General

## Schedule

**Tuesday, September 24, 2024**

**9:00 AM - 5:15 PM**

Orientation

Practical & Ethical Considerations in  
Pre-Trial Preparation & Jury Selection

Case Analysis Workshop

Lecture and Demonstration:  
Opening Statement

The Visual Trial:

Use of Visual Aids Throughout  
a Trial in a Persuasive and Ethical Manner

Opening Statement Performances

Lecture & Demonstration:  
Direct Examination

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024**

**9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Direct Examination Performances

Lecture & Demonstration:  
Cross Examination

Cross Examination Workshop

Cross Examination Performances

**Thursday, September 26, 2024**

**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Lecture and Demonstration:  
Closing Arguments

Closing Statement Performances



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## Overnight Accommodations



**The Penn Stater**  
Hotel & Conference Center  
215 Innovation Boulevard  
State College, PA 16803  
800-233-7505

A block of rooms has been reserved at [the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center](#) at the rate of \$100.00 per night, single or double occupancy plus state and local taxes. The room rate is a separate charge paid directly to The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center. You may make your reservations by calling the hotel directly at 800-233-7505 by **August 16, 2024**. Reference Reservation ID Number: **PDAI24A** to receive the group rate.

## Registration

To register, please fill out and email your form to [pdaa@pdaa.org](mailto:pdaa@pdaa.org) or mail the attached registration form with your \*food and beverage fee to PDAI headquarters no later than **August 16, 2024 by 4:30 PM**. You may also register and pay online by clicking [here](#).

*This project was supported by PCCD subgrant 2024-2025-JG-SS-40947, awarded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD).*

## Cancellation Policy

Those who cancel on or before **August 30, 2024 by 4:30 PM** will be refunded the full fee. To cancel, please email Támara Heagy at [theagy@pdaa.org](mailto:theagy@pdaa.org). No refunds can be issued for cancellations received after **August 30, 2024 by 4:30 PM**. Those who have not paid will still be required to send payment. As always, substitutions are allowed for persons who have to cancel after the cancellation date. You must also call the hotel directly at 800-233-7505 to cancel your room reservation. **If you are a no-show you will be invoiced for any applicable charges.**

## Attendance & Dress

It is essential that participants attend all training sessions. Dress for the general lectures is casual. Courtroom attire is required for the trial advocacy workshops.

## Meals

Breakfast, a full lunch buffet and breaks will be offered each day of the course. Each attendee is responsible for their own dinner plans and any incidental expenses.

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Attorney ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years Prosecuting Cases: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Name for Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

County/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### \$400 Payment Enclosed

*\*Food and beverage fee.*

*"I understand that if I am a no-show I will be invoiced for any food and beverage or hotel fee(s)."*

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

DA Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form and your payment, no later than August 16, 2024, to PDAI, 2929 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110, to the attention of Támara Heagy.*