

## Forensic Social Work Certificate Program

**March 5, 2025 11:00 PT / 12:00 MT / 1:00 CT / 2:00 ET**

**March 6, 2025 11:00 PT / 12:00 MT / 1:00 CT / 2:00 ET**

### Agenda

#### March 5

**1. Orientation to the FSW Certificate - History and Foundations 11:00 PT / 12:00 MT / 1:00 CT / 2:00 ET**

The opening session welcomes attendees, covers participation expectations and sets the foundation for day's exploration and learning experience. Attendees will gain an understanding of the professional benefits and limitations of the FSW Certificate, take a brief look at the history of the field with specific attention to the cross-cultural nature of social work and the law, and identify emerging topics shaping the future of the field.

John Cocco

**2. Court Systems and Expert Testimony 12:00 PT / 1:00 MT / 2:00 CT / 3:00 ET**

Testifying in court is often a daunting proposition. Yet, social workers, child protection workers, and mental health professionals are regularly subpoenaed. Many professionals are unprepared for testimony even if they have previously testified. Aggressive cross-examinations can be intimidating for those called to testify. Oftentimes mental health professionals are faced with expectations from lawyers and judges contrary to their professional standards or ethics. This session will address strategies to minimize anxiety and enhance effective testimony.

Viola Vaughan-Eden and Dana Prescott

**1:00 PT / 2:00 MT / 3:00 CT / 4:00 ET Break**

**3. (In)justice in the Juvenile Justice System 1:15 PT / 2:15 MT / 3:15 CT / 4:15 ET**

Examines the structure and goals of the juvenile justice system including legal, extra-legal, and socio-political factors. Provides in-depth analyses of the School-to-Prison Pipeline, Racial and Ethnic Disparities (Disproportionate Minority Contact), and a national age of majority as key targets for forensic social work.

Susan McCarter

**4. Law Enforcement: Intentional & Reciprocal Partnerships 2:15 PT / 3:15 MT / 4:15 CT / 5:15 ET (day ends at 3:30 PT / 4:30 MT / 5:30 CT / 6:30 ET)**

Understanding law enforcement can be of significant benefit to variety of FSW functions including work in domestic violence, child protection and dependent and older adult protection. In a socio-cultural climate where community relationships can be tense, there important roles for FSWs and other human service collaborators

David McLeod and Anjali Beuhler

March 6

**5. Trauma-Informed Service Provision for Justice-Involved Populations 11:00 PT / 12:00 MT / 1:00 CT / 2:00 ET**

Explores common sources of trauma and keys to successful trauma-informed service delivery within the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Ethics, diversity, and advocacy are integrated into a discussion on engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation strategies for the direct service provider in forensic settings.

Ali Winters

**6. Keys to Successful Offender Reentry 12:00 PT / 1:00 MT / 2:00 CT / 3:00 ET**

Explores mental health and addiction intervention factors and their impact on the transitioning back to the community; challenges and opportunities for forensic social work.

Sherece Shavel and John Cocco

**1:00 PT / 2:00 MT / 3:00 CT / 4:00 ET Break**

**7. Public Defense Mitigation: Telling the Story 1:15 PT / 2:15 MT / 3:15 CT / 4:15 ET**

Provides a step-by-step approach to the forensic social worker's role in sentencing advocacy; core social work skills are translated into the special needs for working effectively with a defense team.

Emily Abili

**Wrap-Up 2:15 PT / 3:15 MT / 4:15 CT / 5:15 ET**

**(day ends at 2:30 PT / 3:30 MT / 4:30 CT / 5:30 ET)**