

Mitigation Certificate Program

2023 National Organization of Forensic Social Work Annual Conference

- Participatory Defense
 - Guest speaker: Ms. Dawn Harrington
 - This presentation will focus on Ms. Harrington's journey to developing Free Hearts in Nashville and being the Nashville Hub of the Participatory Defense Movement. The basics of participatory defense will be discussed.
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to explain the main tenants of participatory defense.
- Working with Veterans
 - Guest speaker: Mr. Art Cody
 - This presentation will focus on the needs of veterans going through the criminal justice system process, how to obtain records, and mitigating themes associated with prior military service.
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to articulate how prior military service serves as a mitigator in criminal cases.
- Working with Experts
 - Guest speaker: Dr. Emily Reeder Abili
 - This presentation will focus on the selection of appropriate experts and ideas to retain experts on limited budget.
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to identify legal considerations when hiring experts on criminal cases.
- Juveniles and Emerging Adults
 - Proposed speaker: Michelle Callari
 - This presentation will focus on the phases of brain development for juveniles and emerging adults. Participants will be able to identify ways to advocate for juveniles and emerging adults in the criminal justice system.
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to demonstrate how brain science can be used as a mitigator in criminal cases for juveniles and emerging adults.
- Competency
 - Proposed speaker: Arlene Heshmati
 - This presentation will focus on advocacy within competency proceedings, including legal tactics and utilizing social workers.
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to list at least 1 method to advocate during the competency process in criminal cases.
- Trauma
 - Guest speakers: Dr. Sarah Vinson and Ms. Alena Aguilar
 - This presentation will focus on trauma and its effects. This presentation will also focus on
 - Learning objective: Participants will be able to articulate how trauma can be used as a mitigator in criminal cases.
- Cybertools in Mitigation Investigation

- Guest speaker: Ms. Maria Sapene
- This presentation will focus on open-source websites and online tools that can be accessed to locate and discover the electronic footprint of clients and witnesses in criminal cases.
- Learning objective: Participants will be able to list at least 2 open-source websites that can be utilized to locate information in criminal cases.