



# ***Legal Procedures & Strategic Arguments for Mental Health Advocacy***

**June 14, 2024**

**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Clark College, Vancouver, WA**

**Resource Page: [tinyurl.com/WDAmentalhealth](https://tinyurl.com/WDAmentalhealth)**

June 14, 2024 (5.25 CLE credits requested)	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>9:00 am – 10:15 am</b>	<b><i>Fighting Contested Competency &amp; Multiple Restoration Periods</i></b> Presented by Christine Olson, Snohomish County Public Defender Association and Hong Tran, King County Department of Public Defense
<b>10:15 am – 11:15 am</b>	<b><i>Sell Hearings: Your Duty Advocating Against Involuntary Medications</i></b> Presented by Cassie Trueblood, Snohomish County Public Defender Association
<b>11:15 am – 11:30 am</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:30 am – 12:30 pm</b>	<b><i>A Comprehensive Guide to the Affirmative Defense of Diminished Capacity</i></b> Presented by Hong Tran, King County Department of Public Defense
<b>12:30pm – 2:00pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>2:00pm – 3:00pm</b>	<b><i>Clients With Mental Health Concerns: What Do I Do When...?</i></b> Presented by Christine Olson, Snohomish County Public Defender Association, Kari Reardon, attorney, Hong Tran, King County Department of Public Defense, and Cassie Trueblood, Snohomish County Public Defender Association
<b>3:00pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b><i>Unlocking Justice: Encouraging Using the Mental Health Sentencing Alternative</i></b> Presented by Kari Reardon, Attorney

## **PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Christine Olson** has worked for the Snohomish County Public Defender Association (SCPDA) as an attorney since 2015. Prior to becoming an attorney, she worked for SCPDA as a legal assistant for ten years. Currently, Christine is assigned to SCPDA's felony trial unit and recently was the defense attorney in Snohomish County's first restoration jury trial contesting a 3rd period of competency restoration. From 2020-2023, Christine was an Associate Attorney Supervisor at SCPDA where she supported and trained attorneys working in municipal and district courts. In addition to being a public defender, Christine teaches at Edmonds College in the Paralegal Department.

**Kari Reardon** is a criminal defense attorney in Vancouver, WA. She worked for the for Spokane County Public Defender for over 23 years and moved to western Washington in 2020, where she spent time as the Director of Cowlitz County Office of Public Defense. Kari served as the ITA supervisor while in Spokane County. Kari has been part of the WDA/WACDL Legislative Committee since 2015. She is the Chair of the Public Safety Review Panel.

**Hong Tran** is a public defender with The Defender Association Division of the King County Department of Public Defense. She currently works in TDAD's Involuntary Civil Commitment Unit. Prior to joining the King County Office of Public Defense, she worked as a civil legal services lawyer in Washington, North Carolina, and Utah. Ms. Tran has extensive litigation experience, trying 100+ civil and criminal cases to verdict. She has also authored articles extolling the need for greater collaboration between public defenders and civil legal services lawyers and strategies for achieving greater jury pool diversity. She has further presented at CLEs on a wide range of topics including jury pool diversity and implicit bias in jury selection.

**Cassie Trueblood** joined SCPDA in 2006. Cassie earned her B.A. at DePauw University and her J.D. at the University of Washington School of Law. During law school, Cassie worked as a legal intern at the Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho, the Washington Defender Association, and the U.S. Immigration Court in Miami. Cassie was part of the Trueblood litigation team that received the WACDL Champion of Justice Award in 2015. Cassie also received the WDA President's Award and the SCBA President's Award that same year. She has presented at statewide programs on mental health issues and shaken baby trials.