

2025 Felony Defender Training

February 5-7, 2025 / Chapel Hill, NC

*Co-sponsored by the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government
& Office of Indigent Defense Services*

Wednesday, February 5

9:00-9:15 am	Welcome and Introductory Remarks
9:15-10:15 am	Felony Case Preparation – What’s Different in Superior Court (60 min.) Danny Spiegel, Assistant Professor of Criminal Law, Procedure, and Evidence UNC School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC
10:15-10:30 am	<i>Break</i>
10:30-11:45 am	Discovery and Investigation in Felony Cases (75 min.) Keith Williams, Attorney Law Offices of Keith Williams, Greenville, NC
11:45-12:45 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
12:45-2:00 pm	WORKSHOP: Developing an Investigative and Discovery Strategy (75 min.)
2:00-2:15 pm	<i>Break</i>
2:15-3:45 pm	Sentencing in Superior Court (90 min.) Jamie Markham, Associate Professor of Public Law and Government UNC School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC
3:45-4:00 pm	<i>Break</i>
4:00-5:00 pm	Confidential Informants and Defense Investigation: A Case Study (60 min.) Jackie Willingham, Attorney Willingham Law, Raleigh, NC
5:00 pm	<i>Adjourn</i>



Thursday, February 6

- 9:00-10:00 am **Ethics for Felony Defenders** (60 min.) ETHICS
Kelley DeAngelus, Deputy Counsel
North Carolina State Bar, Raleigh, NC
- 10:00-10:15 am *Break*
- 10:15-11:30 am **Motions to Suppress: Statements, Property, and Identification** (75 min.)
Phil Dixon, Teaching Associate Professor
UNC School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC
- 11:30-12:30 pm *Lunch*
- 12:30-1:45 pm **WORKSHOP: Motions to Suppress and Evidence Blocking** (75 min.)
- 1:45-2:00 pm *Break*
- 2:00-3:00 pm **Lab Reports and Legal Issues** (60 min.)
Sarah R. Olson, Forensic Resource Counsel
Office of Indigent Defense Services, Durham, NC
- 3:00-3:15 pm *Break*
- 3:15-4:30 pm **Voir Dire and Demonstration** (75 min.)
Michael Kabakoff, Assistant Public Defender
Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office, Charlotte, NC
- 4:30 pm *Adjourn*
- 5:30 pm *Optional Social Gathering – Location TBD*



Friday, February 7

- 9:00-10:00 am **Pretrial Release Advocacy in Superior Court** (60 min.)
Idrissa Smith, Assistant Public Defender
Durham County Office of the Public Defender, Durham, NC
- 10:00-10:15 am *Break*
- 10:15-11:15 am **Preservation Essentials** (60 min.)
Amanda Zimmer, Assistant Appellate Defender
Director of Training, Outreach, and Special Litigation
Office of the Appellate Defender, Durham, NC
- 11:15-11:30 am *Break*
- 11:30-12:30 pm **Pleading Guilty in Superior Court** (60 min.)
Ray Griffis, Attorney
Law Office of Matthew Charles Suczynski, Chapel Hill, NC
- 12:30-1:30 pm *Lunch*
- 1:30-2:45 pm **Motion Practice to Advance Your Theory of the Case** (75 min.)
Jonathan Broun, Senior Staff Attorney
NC Prisoner Legal Services, Raleigh, NC
- 2:45-3:00 pm *Break*
- 3:00-4:00 pm **A View from the Bench** (60 min.)
Hon. Bryan Collins, Resident Superior Court Judge
Judicial District 10, Wake County, NC
- 4:00 pm *Final Wrap-Up and Adjourn*

CLE HOURS: 17.00

Includes 1 hour of ethics/professional responsibility
