



IMMIGRATION COURT TRIAL ADVOCACY COLLEGE

DEFENSIVE ASYLUM

KANSAS CITY ♦ APRIL 28 - 30, 2022



Trial lawyers are storytellers for their clients. They must be prepared, be disciplined, and have humility. In today's climate, immigration trial lawyers must train and be ready to battle – to stand up for what is right, fight for the rule of law, and protect due process. This 2.5-day program is designed to get you ready. Unlike any other training for immigration court practitioners, the Immigration Court Trial Advocacy College provides hands-on training using real cases, real situations, and real court rooms. Attendees get one-on-one mentorship, best practices training, and a confidence boost designed to make you a force in the court room.

DAY 1 – Thursday, April 28

Johnson County Community College – Regnier Center Building

Registration: 10:15am -10:40am CST on 2nd floor, room RC 270

TIME	PANEL	INSTRUCTORS
10:45 – 11:00	Introduction and Housekeeping	<i>Rekha Sharma-Crawford</i>
11:00am – 12:00	The Importance of Winning at Trial	<i>Rekha Sharma-Crawford Hon. Lory Rosenberg (ret.) Hon. Paul Schmidt (ret.) & Hon. Susan Roy (ret.)</i>
12:00 – 12:20pm	<i>GRAB YOUR LUNCH</i>	
12:20 – 1:10pm	Lunch Discussion: A View from the Bench – Ethical Lawyering & Cultural Competency in Immigration Court	<i>Hon. Susan Roy (ret.) Michael Sharma-Crawford</i>
1:15pm – 2:15pm	The elements of your case and the fundamentals of storytelling	<i>Erich Straub</i>
2:15pm – 2:30pm	<i>BREAK</i>	
2:30pm - 2:40pm	Closing Arguments Demonstration	<i>Faculty</i>
2:40pm – 3:35pm	Closing Arguments Fundamentals + Drills	<i>Small Breakout Groups*</i>
3:35pm – 3:45pm	<i>BREAK</i>	
3:45pm – 4:15pm	Objections & Defending Against Them + Demonstration	<i>Faculty</i>
4:15pm-5:15pm	Objections Fundamentals + Drills	<i>Small Breakout Groups*</i>

On the day of trial, participants will be expected to have reviewed and understood the course materials. In order to maximize your experience, please spend the evening reviewing them. Use storytelling fundamentals to start to put your case together. What are the strengths, weaknesses? What is your theme? Who is the villain, the hero, the victim?



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DAY 2 – Friday, April 29

Johnson County Community College – Regnier Center Building

Check-In 8:30am – 8:50am CST
Check in on 2nd floor, room RC 270

TIME	PANEL	INSTRUCTORS
9:00am-9:30am	Direct Examination Fundamentals + Demonstration	<i>Faculty</i>
9:30am-11:00am	Drills: Direct Examination	<i>Small Breakout Groups with Faculty*</i>
11:00am-11:15am	<i>BREAK</i>	
11:15am-11:45am	Cross Examination Fundamentals + Demonstration	<i>Faculty</i>
11:45pm-12:00pm	<i>GRAB YOUR LUNCH</i>	
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch discussion: Diagnosing a case for strengths & weaknesses – tips and strategies	<i>Genevra Alberti Michael Sharma-Crawford</i>
1:00pm-2:30pm	Drills: Cross Examination	<i>Small Breakout Groups with Faculty*</i>
2:30pm-2:45pm	<i>BREAK</i>	
2:45pm-5:00pm	Quick witness prep demo by faculty, then meet and prep your witness;* practice direct and cross exam	<i>Small Breakout Groups with Faculty*</i>

Happy Hour: 5:30pm
Quivira Park Shelter
11901 Quivira
Overland Park, KS 66213



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DAY 3 – Saturday, April 30
Johnson County Courthouse
150 W. Santa Fe St.
Olathe, KS 66061

Check-In/Breakfast - 8:30 - 8:50am CST

Check in at the jury room on the first floor (one floor up from court entrance)

TIME	EVENT
9:00am-11:00am	Trials (half of the groups)⁺ (run by conference attendees & judged by faculty)
11:00am-11:20am	<i>BREAK</i>
11:30am-1:30pm	Trials (other half of the groups)⁺ (run by conference attendees & judged by faculty)
1:30pm-1:45pm	<i>BREAK - PICK UP LUNCH</i>
1:45pm-3:00pm	Debrief with Faculty

Go. Fight. Win.

* During the breakout sessions on days 1 and 2, attendees will be broken up into small groups with attorney faculty/mentors assigned to each group. On day 2, each attendee will be provided with a volunteer witness (either a respondent or government witness) to prep for the mock trials to be held on day 3.

⁺ On day 3, conference attendees will be broken up into groups of 2; each group of 2 will run one trial - one attendee will act as Respondent's counsel, and one as DHS counsel; there will be one respondent per trial, plus one DHS witness per trial. The same volunteer witnesses you meet with on day 2 will act as the respondents or the DHS witnesses at the mock trials on day 3.