



Immigration Court Trial Advocacy College

Arrest, Detention and Release

Kansas City, MO
April 24-26, 2025

DAY 1 - Thursday, April 24

Lathrop GPM offices

2345 Grand Blvd., Suite 2200, Kansas City, MO 64108

Registration: 9:10-9:25am CST (22nd floor lobby)

TIME	PANEL	INSTRUCTORS
9:30 – 9:45am	Introduction and Housekeeping (Lathrop Room)	<i>Rekha Sharma-Crawford</i>
9:45 – 11:00	The Story Stage: Detention basics and the effective use of Habeas	<i>Michelle Saenz-Rodriguez Rekha Sharma-Crawford</i>
11:00-12:15	The elements of your case and the fundamentals of storytelling	<i>Erich Straub</i>
12:15 – 12:35	<i>GRAB YOUR LUNCH</i>	
12:35 – 1:35	Lunch Discussion:-Storytelling at Every Stage – bond hearings, evidence packets, motions/briefing, appeals	<i>Elina Magaly Santana Hon. Paul Schmidt (ret.) Hon. Lory Rosenberg (ret.)</i>
1:35-2:35	Field trip to the Kansas City Immigration Court (5th floor of the same building) to observe Master hearings for 30 minutes (2 groups) First group to “ask the experts” help	<i>Faculty</i>
2:35-2:45	<i>BREAK</i>	
2:45-3:45	A View from the Bench – Ethical Lawyering & Cultural Competency in Immigration Hearings	<i>Michael Sharma-Crawford Hon. Ed Kelly (ret.) Hon. Sue Roy (ret.)</i>
3:45-4:45	Preliminary Issues – Preserving the Arguments Interactive discussion: analyzing NTAs and immigration arrest records	<i>Angel Graf Lauren Anselowitz</i>
4:45-5:00	Wrap Up and Questions	

Happy Hour: 5:30pm, Venue TBD

On the day of your hearing, participants will be expected to have reviewed and understood the course materials. To maximize your experience, please spend Thursday night 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 25

Lathrop GPM offices

2345 Grand Blvd., Suite 2200, Kansas City, MO 64108

Check-In/Breakfast 8:00–8:25am CST

22nd floor lobby

TIME	PANEL	INSTRUCTORS
8:30 – 10:00am	Protecting the Protectors: maintaining attorney wellness	<i>Aditya Chothani</i>
10:00 – 10:30am	Direct Examination Fundamentals + Objections Demonstration (Lathrop Room)	<i>Faculty</i>
10:30 – Noon	Drills: Direct Examination + Objections	<i>Breakout Groups with Faculty</i>
12:00 – 12:15	<i>GRAB YOUR LUNCH</i>	
12:15 – 1:15pm	Lunch discussion: Diagnosing a bond case for strengths & weaknesses and addressing hard facts	<i>Annelise Araujo Michael Sharma-Crawford</i>
1:15 – 1:30	<i>BREAK</i>	
1:30 – 2:00	Cross Examination Fundamentals + Demonstration	<i>David Bell & Kelly Driscoll</i>
2:00 – 3:00pm	Drills: Cross Examination	<i>Breakout Groups with Faculty*</i>
3:00 – 3:15	<i>BREAK</i>	
3:15 – 3:35	Witness Prep Demo	<i>Faculty</i>
3:35 – 5:00pm	Meet and prep your witness;* practice direct and cross exam	<i>Breakout Groups with Faculty*</i>

Wrap up for the day. Mock Bond Hearings are tomorrow morning, so please spend the evening preparing!



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**DAY 3 – Saturday, April 26 Jackson County Courthouse 415 East 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106**

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

Check in at the jury room (3rd floor) – and give yourself time to get through security!

TIME	EVENT
9:00 – 10:30am	Bond Hearings (half of the groups) <i>(run by conference attendees & judged by faculty)</i>
10:30-10:45	<i>BREAK</i>
10:45 – 12:15pm	Bond Hearings (other half of the groups) <i>(run by conference attendees & judged by faculty)</i>
12:15 – 1:30pm	<i>PICK UP LUNCH + Debrief with Faculty</i>

Go. Fight. Win.

*During the breakout sessions on day 2, attendees will be divided 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 hearings on day 3.

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