

# 2006 American Council of Chief Defenders Meeting and Leadership Training

## Wednesday, August 23

Meeting attendees Arrive/Registration

## Thursday, August 24

8:00 am – Meeting Registration

9:00 am -12:30 pm Business meeting

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch on own/Break to phone office – check e-mail

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Outreach to Nevada public defense community and policymakers

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Joint Reception w/ New Leadership Conference Attendees

## Friday, August 25

8:30 am -10:45 am Committee meetings

10:45 am - 11:00 am Break

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Joint Plenary - Sustaining Ourselves as Leaders (Ed Burnette & Clara Hernandez)

Defender leadership presents many challenges including burn-out and a lack of balance between personal and professional responsibilities. This session provides participants with an opportunity to share strategies for sustaining themselves in the midst of challenging leadership roles.

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Joint Luncheon/Break to phone office – check e-mail

1:45 pm – 5:00 pm ACCD Leadership Training

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm ACCD Plenary on Caseload & Ethics (Bob Boruchowitz & Norman Lefstein)

All defenders face the challenge of too many cases. In many areas, having too many cases is the biggest barrier to effective representation of our clients. High caseloads implicate ethical imperatives, including basic competence. There are many ways to respond—contract limits for contract defenders, the California “unavailability” declarations, motions to withdraw, motions for additional funding, development and implementation of state caseload limits, use of “overload” attorneys or offices, systemic litigation on ineffective assistance. Various national and state and local standards set limits on caseloads. This discussion will

review all of those approaches as well as how to assert ethical requirements in individual cases and in systemic change efforts. The session will also address how to obtain more funding to resolve the problem of excessive caseload. The ABA ethics opinion on excessive caseloads (Formal Opinion 06-441) will be discussed.

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm Break

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Choose One:

Break-out Groups to further discuss Caseload & Ethics

OR

Plenary on Employee Wellness (Panel Members TBA)

This panel will present different perspectives on employee well being and how leaders of Public Defender offices can play a significant role in that process. Employee wellness initiatives encourage personal growth, responsibility and satisfaction in the workplace, but they also provide economic benefits to your organization in the form of reducing absenteeism, increasing productivity and promoting staff retention. Burn out, job-related stress and difficult employees take its toll on all our organizations. We can help the client best if we take care of ourselves during the process. This session is designed to provide leaders with the tools to recognize those employees that are in need of assistance and the steps they can take to help the employee, protect the client and preserve your agency.

Saturday, August 26

9:00 am – 1:00 pm Business meeting

1:00 pm - Adjourn