



# SCHEDULE

## Day 1 | Wednesday, July 17

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. CHECK-IN & REGISTRATION

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

### Perspectives of the National and Local Office of Hearings Operations

*Chief Administrative Law Judge Richard C. Thrasher*

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

### Questions & Answers with the Chief Judge

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. BREAK

3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

### 50 Things Every Rep Should Know: Prepping the Troops

There are hundreds of things that every representative should know. A representative must continuously relearn what he or she learned before. The session will try to cover as much material as possible in as short a time as possible. This session is part review of the basics and part clarification of common misunderstandings.

*Thomas A. Krause*

4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

### All Those Other Social Security Benefits – 101

Most disability representatives can do a deep dive in the minutia of disability related issues. But what about all those other Social Security benefits? Most of us have enough to keep track of already. The local office can tell the client whatever they need to know about all those other Social Security benefits. But honestly, would it really kill us to know a little about those other benefits? Would it? This is a quick primer on all those other Social Security benefits.

*Joseph G. Basque*

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. RECEPTION

## Day 2 | Thursday, July 18

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. CHECK-IN & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

### Administrative and Legislative Update

This session will keep you up to date with what is happening in Congress and the Social Security Administration. Several bills have been introduced, regulations proposed, and policies changed that can affect your practice. In addition, we will discuss the Supreme Court's recent decisions that have an impact on Social Security claims.

*Barbara Silverstone*

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

### Loose Lips Sink Ships: New Developments in Confidentiality

*1.0 ethics credit to be applied for*

From obligations to former clients, to potential malpractice claims, to blogging and social media, confidentiality seems to be on the mind of the ABA and state ethics authorities. This session will take a look at how the interpretations of Rule 1.6 are shifting and what lawyers should look out for.

*Eric T. Cooperstein*

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. BREAK

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

### Deconstructing the Practice – Pre-Hearing Process: Planning the Battle

This one-hour "rapid-fire" presentation will outline a set of ideas implemented by Social Security representatives to pursue desired strategic goals much like a military operation. The strategy deals with the planning and the conduct of campaigns, the movement and disposition of resources and the deception of the "enemy." The seminar will outline strategy and tactics, as well as the science employed to secure objectives to promote victory.

*Kaitlyn J. Ausborn, John P. Lander & Kirk C. Thompson  
James Colwell (moderator)*

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

### Deconstructing the Practice – The Hearing: Firing the Cannon, Winning the War

This session will offer multiple perspectives on and approaches to the hearing process, with helpful insights to apply to your own practice to streamline processes and achieve more effective results.

*Sean D. Cuddigan, Timothy J. Cuddigan, Paul McGrath & Asha Sharma  
James Colwell (moderator)*

12:45 – 1:45 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

### Inside the Mind of a Vocational Expert

Steve Bosch, a veteran of numerous Social Security disability hearings, will discuss and answer questions about a wide range of vocational issues. Areas discussed will include how the vocational expert prepares for the hearing, transferrable skills analysis and calculating numbers of jobs.

*Steve Bosch & Edward C. Olson*

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

### Tools and Tactics for Cross Examining Vocational Experts

This session will address strategies and tactics related to VE testimony, including: common issues that arise during VE testimony; facts to include in potential hypotheticals; why it is important to know what is or is not past relevant work; and tips on using available resources prior to, and during the hearing.

*Carrie L. Burton & F. Anthony Mannella*

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. BREAK

4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

### Supreme Court and Eighth Circuit Caselaw Update: What's Hot and What's Not

The Supreme Court usually decides one Social Security case each term, if any. This last term, the Court decided three Social Security cases. This session will review the Supreme Court's recent decisions in *Smith*, *Biestek*, and *Culbertson*. We will also cover the continuing ramifications of the Supreme Court's decision in *Lucia v. SEC*. Finally, we will look at some recent Eighth Circuit Social Security cases.

*Wes Kappelman & Thomas A. Krause*

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

### Appellate Practice: Repairing the Record and Appeals Council Briefs

Every Request for Review to the Appeals Council you file is on a hearing you lost. What did you do right? What did you do wrong? Can you fix this case on appeal? With a declining ALJ allowance rate and a declining Appeals Council remand rate, attorneys must look at their practice and their cases and determine how they can best represent their clients. This session will focus on repairing the record at the Appeals Council. This session will also focus on preparing the written argument for the Appeals Council.

*Thomas A. Krause & Edward C. Olson*

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. RECEPTION

## Day 3 | Friday, July 19

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. CHECK-IN & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

### Strategies for Working with Clients with Mental Illness

This session will use real-life case examples to suggest ways we can work with clients successfully.

*Laura Melnick & Meghan R. Scully*

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

### Understanding Trauma: ACE Study Implications, Limitations, and Future Directions

This session will provide an overview of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study and its implications for disease risk and quality of life in adulthood – with association to how those results intersect with the world of social security disability benefits.

*Kathryn Freeman, MD*

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. BREAK

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

### Establishing a Trauma-Informed Lawyer-Client Relationship

To create a solid foundation for working effectively with traumatized clients, lawyers must focus on building strong attorney-client relationships that respond to the common effects of childhood trauma. Even though most lawyers are not mental health professionals, a working understanding of trauma, including its origins and its impacts, can be helpful in anticipating and responding to trauma's effects as they surface in our work with clients.

*John P. Lander*

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

### Stress, Addiction and Mental Health: An Ethical Perspective

*1.0 ethics credit to be applied for*

For lawyers, trust account issues, missing deadlines and failing to communicate or complete projects may be the tip of the iceberg for far greater problems ranging from too much stress to addiction and mental health issues. Those same issues and others may be present in clients. When a client is impaired, the lawyer has both obligations and opportunities. When the lawyer is impaired, there are obligations as well but there is also help available. This program looks at professional responsibility aspects of impairment from primarily the lawyer perspective, with insight from a licensed clinical social worker on some of the help and tactics available to attorneys.

*Joan M. Bibelhausen & Elizabeth Wittenberg*

12:45 p.m. CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

**REGISTER TODAY!**

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