

The 2025 Criminal Justice Institute Faculty

Excellence and Experience for Every Session

Featured Speakers

Chief Justice Natalie E. Hudson

Natalie E. Hudson was appointed Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court in October 2023. She first joined the Supreme Court in 2015 after serving on the Minnesota Court of Appeals from 2002 to 2015. From 1994 until her appointment to the Court of Appeals, she was employed with the Office of the Minnesota Attorney General in the Criminal Appellate Division.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith M. Ellison

Attorney General Keith Ellison represented Minnesota's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2007 to 2019. Before being elected to Congress, Attorney General Ellison served four years in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Prior to entering elective office, he spent 16 years as an attorney specializing in civil rights and defense law, including five years as executive director of the Legal Rights Center. Attorney General Ellison received his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Ramsey County Attorney John Choi

John Choi is the Ramsey County Attorney and Co-Chair of the American Bar Association Prosecutorial Independence Task Force. He was elected Ramsey County Attorney in 2011. Since taking office, he has become a state and national leader in progressive justice reform, working with public officials and impacted communities to reimagine justice. Prior to becoming Ramsey County Attorney John served as city attorney for the City of Saint Paul and spent a decade in private practice.

Damien A. Riehl

Damien Riehl is Vice-President, Solutions Champion at vLex where he leads work integrating AI-backed technologies (e.g., GPT) to improve legal workflows and to power legal data analytics. A litigator, coder, and AI-builder, Damien clerked for Chief Judge Edward Toussaint of the Minnesota Court of Appeals, as well as Chief Judge Michael J. Davis of the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. He has represented clients in complex litigation and led teams of cybersecurity and digital forensics investigations, and legal software development. He is Co-Chair of the Minnesota Governor's Council on Connected and Automated Vehicles and Chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association's AI Committee.



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AUGUST 20 & 21, 2025
Minnesota CLE Conference Center

The 60th Annual

Criminal Justice Institute

60 YEARS

Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Present,
Preparing for the Future

FEATURED SESSIONS



Damien Riehl

LawGPT for Justice: How AI is Transforming Criminal Legal Practice



John Choi

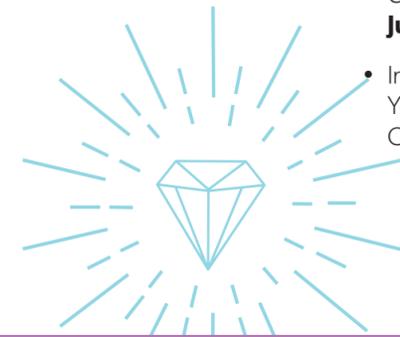
The Importance of the Rule of Law and Maintaining Judicial and Prosecutorial Independence

PLUS

- **Chief Justice Natalie E. Hudson**
Building a Stronger Criminal Justice System
- **Minnesota Attorney General Keith M. Ellison**
Minnesota Attorney General's Address
- *Conference Luncheon Honoring Judge Peter A. Cahill (ret.)*
- Institute Reception Celebrating 60 Years of Being the Great Minnesota Criminal Justice Get-Together

NEW SPECIAL CREDIT

Walking Wounded: How to Recover and Reclaim Your Wellness – A Candid Look at Mental Health and Substance Use in the Criminal Bar



In-Depth Analysis of New Developments Impacting Criminal Justice in Minnesota

Essential Updates

- New Cases
- New Legislation

Cutting-Edge Topics

- Crimmigration
- Victims' Communications

Trial Advocacy

- Jury Selection
- Search & Seizure

Critical Discussions

- Public Defense in Minnesota
- Avoiding Mistakes in the Courtroom



Register today at www.minncle.org

The 60th Annual Criminal Justice Institute

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• **Natalia Madryga**
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Saint Paul

• **Professor David A. Schultz**
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• **Magistrate Judge David T. Schultz**
United States District Court
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A Special Thank You to Our Esteemed Faculty

The presenters appearing in this program donated their time, effort and expertise for the benefit of the criminal justice system and the advancement of the legal profession. We thank them for their dedication and generosity.

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Keeping You and Your Criminal Practice at the Forefront of Advocacy and Innovation

DAY 1 – AUGUST 20

8:15 – 8:45 a.m.
CHECK-IN & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.
WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

PLENARY SESSIONS

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Building a Stronger Criminal Justice System
– Justice Anne K. McKeig

9:30 – 9:35 a.m.
BREAK

9:35 – 10:20 a.m.
New Rules and Legislation Affecting Criminal Cases in State District Court
– Karen Kampa Jaszewski

10:20 – 10:30 a.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
The Recent Minnesota Decisions Every Criminal Law Attorney Needs to Know
– Amy R. Lawler
– Adam E. Petras

FEATURED KEYNOTE

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
LawGPT for Justice: How AI is Transforming Criminal Legal Practice

This presentation, led by litigator, coder, and AI-builder Damien Riehl, will explore how AI is already reshaping criminal defense, prosecution, and case management. We'll examine how AI tools can help lawyers manage heavy caseloads more effectively, assist in case preparation, and support administrative functions – all while addressing critical ethical considerations including AI hallucinations, bias, and confidentiality.

– Damien A. Riehl

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.
LUNCH BREAK

Enjoy lunch on your own or join your colleagues at Fogo de Chão to honor **Judge Peter A. Cahill** (ret.), enjoy light refreshments, and celebrate 60 years of the Criminal Justice Institute.



1:15 – 2:00 p.m.
BREAKOUT A

NEW DEVELOPMENTS
101
Crimmigration in an Uncertain Legal Landscape – What to Do About Enhanced Enforcement and Evolving Legal Threats
– Maria Baldini-Potermin
– Steven C. Thal

ADVANCED TRIAL TOPICS
102
Strategies for Protecting Victims' Privileged and Confidential Communications
– Rana S. Alexander
– Representative Kelly K. Moller

ESSENTIAL UPDATES
103
2025 DWI Update – Past Trends, Current Battles, Future Fights
– Daniel J. Koewler
– Charles A. Ramsay

2:00 – 2:10 p.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

2:10 – 2:55 p.m.
BREAKOUT B

201
False Confessions – Understanding How They Happen and How to Litigate Them
– Carman A. Leone

202
Communicating Through a Crisis – Negotiation Tools from a Retired FBI Hostage Negotiator
– Christopher V. Langert
– Maggie Samec

203
2025 Pretrial Motion Practice Update – Best Practices For Litigating a Pretrial Omnibus Motion
– Samuel J. Edmunds
– Kevin A. Sieben

2:55 – 3:05 p.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

3:05 – 3:50 p.m.
BREAKOUT C

301
Moving Beyond Batson – How to Pick a Jury Using Minnesota's New Rules for Jury Selection
– Christopher E. Freeman
– Nicole A. Kettwick

302
How to Impact Your Case at Trial and on Appeal – A Roundtable Discussion
– Chief Judge Kerry W. Meyer
– Cathryn Y. Middlebrook
– Hao Q. Nguyen
– Judge Jon Schmidt

303
2025 Sentencing Update – Avoiding the Unintended Departure
– Linda M. McBrayer
– Nathaniel J. Reitz

3:50 – 4:00 p.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

4:00 – 4:45 p.m.
The Importance of the Rule of Law and Maintaining Judicial and Prosecutorial Independence
– John J. Choi

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.
Toast to the Titans! – The Annual CJI Reception

Catered by Fogo de Chão



DAY 2 – AUGUST 21

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

PLENARY SESSIONS

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Minnesota Attorney General's Address
– Minnesota Attorney General Keith M. Ellison

9:30 – 9:35 a.m.
BREAK

9:35 – 10:05 a.m.
A Review of Ways the Trump Administration is Impacting Criminal Justice
– Professor David A. Schultz

10:05 – 10:15 a.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
What Passed and Didn't Pass – The 2025 Minnesota Legislative Update
– Courtney R. Jasper
– Natalia Madryga

10:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Review of Important Recent U. S. Supreme Court Decisions
– Marshall H. Tanick

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Walking Wounded: How to Recover and Reclaim Your Wellness – A Candid Look at Mental Health and Substance Use in the Criminal Bar

1.0 mental health/substance use credit applied for

This session will delve into the unique stressors faced by those in the criminal bar, including the challenges of chronic stress, vicarious trauma, and the risk of burnout. Drawing on personal experiences and practical insights, the panelists will offer strategies for developing resilience, promoting wellness, and recognizing the signs of substance use and mental health challenges within oneself and colleagues and discuss lawyer assistance programs and resources available to support personal and professional well-being.

– Charles A. Ramsay
– Jessica Rugani
– Jon M. Tynjala
– Carolyn Agin Bruno, moderator

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.
LUNCH BREAK (on your own)

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.
BREAKOUT D

CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS
401
A View From the Bench – Top Courtroom Mistakes Lawyers Make and How to Avoid Them
– Christopher W. Madel
– Magistrate Judge David T. Schultz

TIMELY TOPICS
402 [2-hour session]
The Dirty Dozen – 12 Topics in 120 Minutes
1. Understanding DAS/DAR/DAC
– Michael J. Brandt
2. Federal Compassionate Release Act
– Deidre Y. Aanstad
3. Stops After DOJ Decree/MDHR Settlement
– Martin J. Costello
4. The Interaction of Child Protection and CSC Cases
– Lucas J.M. Dawson
5. Polygraph Examinations 101
– Terry D. Ergen
6. William Shakespeare – The World's Greatest Legal Mind
– Jon Foss

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR BREAK

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
BREAKOUT E

501
From Gideon to Today: Minnesota's Public Defense Story
– Andrew H. Mohring
– Katherian D. Roe
– William M. Ward

7. The Criminal Justice System of Ancient Rome
– Marsh J. Halberg
8. Minnesota's New Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act
– Karley A. Jorgensen
9. Carver-Scott Veteran's Treatment Court
– Stefanie L. Menning
10. Divine Intervention - Murder and the Norwegian Bible
– Mark A. Metz
11. Juvenile Records
– Jackie Nichols
12. Mandatory Psychosexual Examinations for Repeat CSC Offenders
– Tricia Sudenga, PsyD

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- 90 days of electronic access to the Linked Law DWI Deskbook – newly updated June 2025
- 40% off all Deskbooks
- The 2025 Minnesota Criminal Code Book
- The ability to watch all Institute sessions for one year (not for CLE credit)
- Electronic access to materials and PowerPoint slides during and up to one year after the Institute

INSTITUTE INFORMATION

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