

Trial Advocacy Skills Training

August 4-9, 2008

Holiday Inn on The Lane

328 Lane Avenue

Columbus, Ohio

TO: Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia Project Directors, Managing Attorneys,
and Training Responsible Persons

DATE: May 27, 2008

CORT and OSLSA are presenting a Trial Advocacy Skills Training (TAST) August 4-9, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio.

DESCRIPTION

TAST is an intensive six-day training designed to provide attorneys an opportunity to develop, refine, and practice trial skills. The participants will conduct a full jury trial on the final day of the conference. As a prerequisite for TAST, all attendees must have attended the Litigation Planning Training and must also submit a trial notebook.

The training will include lectures and demonstrations on trial skills. Participants will perform and be critiqued on several trial exercises. These exercises will focus on components of trial practice including opening statements and closing argument, direct and cross-examination, and the use of demonstrative evidence. Each participant will be videotaped during the exercises and critiqued by experienced trainers.

This conference is open to attorneys. All attendees should have completed Basic Lawyering Skills (BLST) or its equivalent. It is strongly recommended that the training be attended between the second and third years of practice. We have found that attorneys with at least this level of experience gain the greatest benefit from TAST. CORT offers TAST every year, so it is recommended that those in their first year of practice wait for the next training.

Each person who is accepted will be required to submit an **appropriately detailed trial notebook to CORT no later than July 3, 2008**, using the materials distributed through the Litigation Planning Training. Persons who apply to attend TAST, but did not participate in the most recent Litigation Planning will be sent the necessary materials upon receipt of an application.

All TAST participants must submit a **complete Trial Notebook** for the party they represented at Litigation Planning. **We strongly encourage all participants to begin work on their trial notebook immediately** so that you have sufficient time to do a thorough job. All participants should strive to make their trial notebook as complete and detailed as possible. All trial notebooks will be reviewed and awards will be presented for the best trial notebook for each party.

At TAST, we will try to assign all participants to the same parties they had at Litigation Planning. If we are not able to do that for some participants because we need to balance groups, we will give them a copy of the Best Notebook for their new party to use at TAST.

SUBMISSION OF AN ACCEPTABLY DETAILED TRIAL NOTEBOOK IS A NON-NEGOTIABLE, NON-WAIVEABLE REQUIREMENT. PERSONS WHO FAIL TO TIMELY SUBMIT AN ACCEPTABLE TRIAL NOTEBOOK WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN TAST. INADEQUATELY DETAILED TRIAL NOTEBOOKS WILL BE RETURNED.

We have applied for Ohio CLE credits for this training. CORT is a recognized training sponsor in West Virginia.

TENTATIVE TRAINERS

Jennifer Branch, Gerhardstein Branch & Laufman Co. LPA
Branford Brown, Legal Aid of Western Ohio
Linda Cook, Ohio State Legal Services Association
Marjorie McDiarmid, College of Law, West Virginia University
Davida Dodson, Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
Adolf Olivas, Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati
Gale Carroll, Legal Aid of West Virginia
Michael Smalz, Ohio State Legal Services Association
Fred Gittes, Spater Law Firm, Columbus
Kelly Bidelman, Legal Aid and Defender Assoc
Dan Bonner, Legal Aid of Western Michigan
Dolores Trese, Legal Aid of western Michigan

LOCATION

The training will take place at the Holiday Inn on The Lane, at 328 Lane Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

REGISTRATION FEES

As a CORT-sponsored event, there is no fee for programs participating in CORT.

For registrants from Ohio, Michigan and West Virginia legal services programs not participating in CORT, the registration fee is the pro-rata share of the net cost of the training plus a surcharge of \$300. For these participants, the registration fee is \$1100.

For other participants, the registration fee is the pro rata share of the cost of the training plus 20%. For these participants the registration fee is \$900.

ROOM AND BOARD

CORT will bill programs for the cost of rooms and meals after the training. The daily cost of sleeping rooms is \$99. If participants share rooms, CORT will divide the cost of the room by the number of occupants and bill programs accordingly. The approximate daily cost of meals is \$45. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided, Tuesday through Saturday. All dinners are the responsibility of the participant.

QUESTIONS?

Any questions on the substance of the training should be directed to Gene King at 614/221-7201, ext. 125. Questions concerning logistics, reservations, costs or like issues should be addressed to Patricia Brown at 614/221-7201, ext. 107.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Please return your registration and trial notebook no later than **July 3, 2008** to:

Trial Advocacy Skills Training
Ohio State Legal Services Association
555 Buttles Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215-1137
614/221-7201

You will receive a confirmation prior to the training. If you do not receive this letter by **July 10, 2008** please contact Patricia Brown at OSLSA.

CANCELLATION DEADLINE

The deadline for cancellation is July 24, 2008. Registrants cancelling after this date will be billed for any unavoidable costs incurred as a result of the late cancellation.

APPLICATION FOR TRIAL ADVOCACY SKILLS TRAINING

August 4–9, 2008
Holiday Inn on The Lane
328 Lane Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43201

NAME: _____ ATTORNEY REG. # _____

PROGRAM NAME: _____

BRANCH (if any): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

E-MAIL Address _____ WORK PHONE _____

FAX # _____ HOME PHONE _____

1. When were you first admitted to practice? _____

2. How long have you been practicing with legal services? _____

3. Will you be able to be present throughout the entire training (Monday, August 4, 2008 at 1:00 p.m., to Saturday, August 9 at 2:00 p.m.)?

Yes

No—If not, please explain: _____

4. The conference will occur at the Holiday Inn on The Lane, Columbus, Ohio. Would you like:

CORT to make reservations for you to stay at the hotel? (*continue to question 5*)

or to find lodging on your own? (*continue to question 8*)

5. Would you like:

a single room? (full room price billed to your program; please be sure your program will pay for a single room) (*continue to question 7*)

or a double room? (half room price billed to your program) (*continue to question 6*)

6. If you are requesting a double room, do you have a preferred roommate?

Yes: (name) _____

No: If you have no roommate in mind, CORT will attempt to match you with another trainee. Are you: female male smoker non-smoker

7. Will you be arriving the night before the training (the training starts August 4-9)?

Yes (room reservation will be made if applicable)

No

8. If you require any special accommodations of any kind, please indicate those requirements:

9. If you have special dietary needs, please indicate those needs:

Other comments: _____

QUESTIONS?

Any questions? Call Patricia Brown at 614/221-7201, ext. 107.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Signature of Managing Attorney
or Project Director

Date

RETURN APPLICATION NO LATER THAN July 3, 2008 to:

Trial Advocacy Skills Training
Ohio State Legal Services Association
555 Buttles Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215-1137

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
TRIAL ADVOCACY SKILLS TRAINING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2008

10:00 a.m. Trainers Meeting

12:00 p.m. Registration

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. LG Introductions and logistics

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. LG Lecture: Taking control of the Courtroom

2:30 pm. – 3:30 pm. LG Lecture: Direct Examination — Fred Gittes

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. SG Introductions, Assignments, & Expectations

6:30 p.m. DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Trainers Meeting

Evening: prepare exhibit and witness examinations/Exercises 2-5, 6-19

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2008

7:30 – 8:30 BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. LG Theme, Theory, Assessing, Proving, and Arguing Your Case

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. SG Evidence/Exercises 6-19

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m. Meet with trial Partner

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. SG Finish Exhibit Exercises; start witness examinations - Exercises 2-5, & 27-29

3:45 pm. – 4:45 p.m. LG Lecture: Closing Argument

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. LG Lecture: Jury Selection

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Evening: prepare closing arguments/Exercise 30

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2008

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. SG Finish Direct Exam exercises/Begin closing arguments

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. SG Closing Argument Exercises

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. LG Lecture: Cross Examination

5:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. LG Demonstrations: openings & closing

6:30 p.m. DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Trainers Meeting

Evening: prepare cross examination/impeachment exercises 20-29

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. SG Cross examination/impeachment exercises 20-29

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Meet with trial partner

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. SG Cross examination/impeachment exercises

3:30p.m. – 3:45 p.m. BREAK

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. LG Lecture: Opening Statements

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. LG Demonstration of Direct/Cross

6:00 p.m. Pretrials

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Trainers Meeting

Evening: prepare opening statements/Exercise 1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8 2008

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. LG Lecture: Damages — Jennifer Branch

10:00 a.m – 12:30 p.m. SG Opening Statements (no video review)

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. LUNCH

Logistics for Trial/CLE

Trainers Meeting

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Afternoon & Evening: Preparation for trial: witnesses available

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2008

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. TRIALS (Franklin County Municipal Court)