

IICLE® Scientific Evidence in Criminal Cases

October 9, 2017

Learn about the most cutting-edge scientific issues presented in criminal cases, including: Illinois requirements for admissibility of breath alcohol tests, issues with identification testimony, litigating forensic fingerprint evidence, blood preservation procedures and suppression tactics, and drug recognition experts. You'll also learn about BAIID devices and how technology and social media can be used to formulate a defense.

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Moderator: Sami Azhari, Azhari LLC, Chicago and Rolling Meadows

8:50 Welcoming Announcements

9:00 - 10:00

Litigating Forensic Fingerprint Evidence

Learn about the basics of the comparison process, the weaknesses and limitations of the process, new research in the field, and how to prepare for litigation.

Brendan Max, Cook County Public Defender's Office, Chicago

10:00 - 10:15 Break

10:15 - 11:15

Blood Preservation Procedures and Suppression Tactics

Learn the requirements for proper collection, preservation, and testing of blood for alcohol and other drugs, along with strategies for the suppression of unreliable test results.

William L. Vig, Vig Law, Springfield

11:15 - 12:15

Illinois Requirements for Admissibility of Breath Alcohol Tests

From observational periods to breath analysis operator certification, there are plenty of details the State must prove at trial in order to get a breath alcohol concentration test result into evidence. This presentation will review what the State must do in order to get a breath sample into evidence and what mistakes you can point out to keep those breath samples out of evidence.

Michael Myzia, The Law Office of Michael Myzia, Rockford

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch

1:15 - 1:45

The Nuts & Bolts of the BAIID

Learn the basics of how a Breath Alcohol Ignition Interlock Device (BAIID) works, the myths vs. reality of false positives, costs for the program and helpful tips for navigating the Illinois Secretary of State's program.

Jared Holmes, SmartStart, Springfield

1:45 - 2:30

Drug Recognition Experts

Driving under the influence of drugs prosecutions are increasingly common in light of America's opioid epidemic and new cannabis laws. Several police departments utilize a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) to examine DUI-drug arrestees. This lecture will discuss major areas on which to attack a DRE during cross-examination.

Adam J. Sheppard, Sheppard Law Firm, P.C., Chicago

2:30 - 3:15

Issues with Identification Testimony

Witnesses called to the stand must testify to the best of their ability, but does that guarantee a level of accuracy? New case law allows for expert witnesses to testify to one's ability to recall and the three stages of memory: perception, storage, and recollection.

William B. Beattie, The Law Office of William Beattie, Mt. Prospect

3:15 - 3:30 Break

3:30 - 4:30

Technology and Social Media in Formulating a Defense (1.0 Professional Responsibility Pending Approval)

It could cost your clients dearly if you haven't scoured the Internet for evidence or are not familiar with technology and cannot defend your clients adequately. As an attorney, do you have a duty to keep up with technology so that you can most effectively defend your client?

Sami Azhari

4:30 Adjourn

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