



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Ethical Considerations in the Use of Informants

**January 9, 2025
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

WEBINAR

Program Summary

The course will provide an overview of the ethical considerations that govern a prosecutor when dealing with informants, ranging from the United States Constitution to the Rules of Professional Conduct. The presenter will discuss the legal and practical aspects of the interplay between prosecutors and cooperating defendants, or others who are seeking lenity for sharing information, and how those interactions present compelling professional obligations and ethical mandates.

Eligibility

This program is open to Division of Criminal Justice Deputy Attorneys General and assistant prosecutors.

Faculty

John McNamara, Jr. is an adjunct professor at Seton Hall Law School. He retired from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office in 2022, where he served as a Chief Assistant Prosecutor, overseeing the Appellate and Special Investigations Units. He previously served as the Supervising Assistant Prosecutor of the Professional Standards Unit and as Chief of the Major Crimes Unit as its supervising attorney. Mr. McNamara has prosecuted numerous homicide cases on behalf of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, including capital cases before the abolition of the penalty in 2007. He has served as a Special Deputy Attorney General in the contested proceeding before the N.J. Supreme Court-appointed Special Master examining whether New Jersey should modify the admissibility standards for eyewitness identification testimony. He has also served as amicus curiae counsel on behalf of the County Prosecutors Association of New Jersey and argued on its behalf before the N.J. Supreme Court.

Mr. McNamara initially joined the Morris County Prosecutor's Office under Prosecutor John B. Dangler. He briefly left the office for private practice before returning. Prior to working for the MCPO, he was an Assistant District Attorney for New York County under Robert M. Morgenthau, where his assignments included prosecuting homicide cases in the Homicide Bureau. Mr. McNamara served for five terms as a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Model Criminal Jury Charges, and is a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court Criminal Practice Committee. He holds a B.A. and M.A. in History from the University of Scranton, a J.D. from the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, and served as a judicial clerk to the Hon. Donald G. Collester, Jr., J.A.D.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 2.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 2.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.