

**2004 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
FOR
CIVIL COMMITMENT COUNSEL
Friday, January 23, 2004
School of Government, Chapel Hill**

AGENDA

- 8:15 – 8:50 am** **Registration**
- 8:50 – 9:00** **Welcome**
- 9:00 – 10:00** **Going with the Flow: Mastering the Paperwork in Commitment Cases**
A detailed examination of the forms and paperwork process, including new AOC forms
Laura Shivar, Special Counsel, Cherry Hospital
- 10:00 – 10:15** **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:45** **Practical Psychiatry for Lawyers**
A layman’s description of major mental illnesses, symptoms, treatment, and assessment of dangerousness; a practical understanding to help you communicate with clients and prepare your case
John Kraus, MD, PhD, Service Chief of Adult Psychiatry, Dorothea Dix Hospital
- 11:45 – 12:30** **What the Appellate Courts Think: An Overview of Commitment Case Law**
A tour of important cases in the commitment field and how they apply on an everyday basis
Mark Botts, Associate Professor, School of Government, UNC-CH
- 12:30 – 1:30** **Lunch** (provided in the building)
- 1:30 – 3:00** **Ethics and Advising Your Client on the Collateral Impact of Commitment**
Your obligations in counseling your client on common collateral effects of commitment (firearm rights, driving privileges, military service, and the like)
Robert Stranahan, Special Counsel, Dorothea Dix Hospital
Keith Bridges, Special Counsel, Broughton Hospital
William A. Sigmon, Special Counsel, Broughton Hospital
Ann Sanders, Staff Attorney, Children’s Law Center
- 3:00 – 3:15** **Break**
- 3:15 – 4:00** **Swinging at Ghosts: Hearings Without Opposing Counsel**
Advantages, disadvantages, and strategies
Ann Sanders, Staff Attorney, Children’s Law Center
- 4:00 – 4:30** **Preserving Error and Making a Record for Appeal**
Fundamentals of protecting your record for appeal in commitment cases
Anne Gomez, Assistant Appellate Defender, Office of the Appellate Defender