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NEW PAC RATES TOOK EFFECT OCTOBER 1st

The new rate chart is posted online at https://www.ncids.org/counsel-rates/ under "Current Hourly Assigned Rates." For reference, the chart includes columns for the "old" rates and the "new" rates.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



***"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view… until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." ~*Atticus Finch**

A Special Message for You…

Thank you for living out this principle every day.

Your willingness to step into the lives of others and ensure they are seen, heard and fairly represented is a profound service to justice. Your commitment makes a difference that reaches far beyond the courtroom, and it is deeply appreciated.

IDS Welcomes New Executive Director

Meet Whitney Fairbanks, Executive Director for the North Carolina Office of Indigent Defense Services

After a thorough search and selection process facilitated by IDS staff and the UNC School of Government, the IDS Commission Appointed Whitney Fairbanks to a four-year term effective August 10, 2026. CLICK HERE TO READ MORE.

"I believe that* Safeguarding Justice *in the state of North Carolina is some of the most important work we can do. It was an absolute honor to do this work as Assistant Director, and it is going to be an honor to do this work as the new Executive Director."



Whitney Fairbanks

Wishing Mary Pollard a Happy Retirement

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." ~Ruth Bader Ginsberg

Pollard Was Given the 'Friend of the Court' Award on August 7

N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Newby celebrated Pollard's retirement and honored her service by presenting her with the Judicial Branch's highest award.

CLICK HERE to read more about this.



Register for a Day of Learning About Digital Evidence

NCAJ offers 6 Hours of CLE for Public Defenders, PAC, MAC

Public Defenders, Privately Assigned Counsel and Managed Assigned Counsel who are not NCAJ members will have the option of signing up for a free membership (active through June 30, 2027) when they register for the seminar here.

Registration is $225 for PAC / MAC and $110 for IDS and Public Service Members.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR

Bits, Bytes & Beyond: Mastering Digital Evidence in Criminal Cases

NCAJ would like to invite all Public Defenders, Privately Assigned Counsel and Managed Assigned Counsel to attend a day of learning about digital evidence.

Set for **Friday, Dec. 11**, the CLE is worth 6.0 hours of credit, including 1.0 technology hour. Attendees can participate in person at NCAJ Headquarters in Raleigh or virtually on Zoom.

Curated by program co-chairs **Allison Garren,** Public Defender Office 27B in Shelby, and **Glenn Gerding**, Appellate Defender, IDS in Durham, the program features a three-judge panel, public defenders and UNC School of Government educators.

- A three-judge panel of **C. Court of Appeals Judge Allegra Collins**, **District Court Judge Dorothy Hariston Mitchell** of Durham and **Superior Court Judge Alyson Grine** of Hillsborough will share dos and don'ts of digital evidence in the courtroom
- **Ivy Johnson of the ACLU of NC** will cover Flock cameras, doorbells, drones and other ever-present visual surveillance devices

- **Daniel Spiegel of the UNC School of Government** will offer a practical guide to digital evidence: how to keep it out and get it in
- **Anthony Monaghan, Mecklenburg County Assistant Public Defender**, will instruct on navigating cell phone data
- **Shea Denning of the UNC School of Government** will provide insight into machine-generated data and the right to confront witnesses
- **Glenn Gerding, Appellate Defender**, will discuss When Digital Evidence Is the Crime: North Carolina Offenses That Criminalize Bits and Bytes

The program will provide a practical look at how digital evidence is collected, challenged, admitted, and presented in court, including emerging surveillance technologies, confrontation issues, and the unique challenges of technology-generated evidence.

Strengthen Your DWI Defense Skills at NO COST!

The National College for DUI Defense and Indigent Defense Services are offering a free, DWI-focused CLE on **November 13, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Durham County Courthouse.**

This is an excellent opportunity for North Carolina public defenders and private appointed counsel who handle DWI cases to learn from experienced DWI defense attorneys, deepen their understanding of the science behind DWI evidence, and sharpen their ability to identify weaknesses in the State's case. Whether you are building your DWI practice or looking to strengthen your existing skills, this program offers practical, specialized training you can bring directly into the courtroom.

Space is limited, so register today! Visit the program page for registration details.

Do You Need Specific Help With a Case?

"You never have to practice alone."



IDS offers free case consultations to attorneys who defend indigent clients. We have some stellar IDS staff and other attorneys with whom IDS contracts with, who are excellent resources in the field. Some specialize in specific areas of the law including immigration, sex crimes, forensic evidence and more. **Click here for information or to schedule a case consultation / other support: https://www.ncids.org/get-help/consults/**

Since IDS either employs or contracts with most of the legal consultants, we welcome your input on how likely you are to recommend them to others or consult with them again in the future.

If you have worked with any of these consultants recently, please tell us about your experience with them on our new electronic feedback form:

Consultant Recommendation Survey

Friendly Reminder

You can print your CLE records anytime using the NC State Bar Portal: https://portal.ncbar.gov/index.aspx

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

Quick Links



Fee App Payment Dates



PAC Fund Updates



New Payment System



Experts Database



Investigator Directory



Forensic Resources



Training



Trial Resources



UNC SOG Feature

The resources, links, and materials shared in this newsletter—including but not limited to sample motions, briefs, and external content—are provided for informational purposes only. While Indigent Defense Services (IDS) strives to ensure that shared content is accurate and useful, we do not guarantee its completeness, accuracy, or applicability to any particular case or circumstance. Users are encouraged to exercise their professional judgment and independently verify the relevance and suitability of any material before relying on it. If you encounter issues or have feedback, we welcome your input.

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