

CPCS CRIMINAL DEFENSE TRAINING



The Changing Landscape of Trying Eyewitness Identification Cases

April 26, 2016, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Holyoke Community College, 303 Homestead Ave. Holyoke, MA 01040

May 12, 2016, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Massachusetts Bar Association, 20 West St. Boston, MA 02111-1204

WHY ATTEND?

Mistaken eyewitness identification is among the greatest contributing factors to wrongful convictions. Growing awareness of the factors contributing to those mistakes is generating important changes in the law in Massachusetts. Criminal practitioners must be able to understand these changes, and those that may lie ahead, in order to effectively defend their clients from unfair and unreliable evidence.

WHAT WILL IT INCLUDE?

At this program, Radha Natarajan of the New England Innocence Project will provide practical guidance on how to effectively litigate identification issues. Included in her presentation will be an overview of the case law on this subject and the social science that has driven its most recent developments. Drawing on that science, participants will analyze the facts of real cases. They will think creatively about the factors supporting and undermining the integrity of the identification evidence in those cases. Participants will also be encouraged to think about how various moments in the life of those cases may have distorted or tainted the identification evidence that the Commonwealth will seek to introduce at trial.

HOW TO REGISTER

All interested parties should email Kristen Munichello of the CPCS Criminal Defense Training Unit at kmunichiello@publiccounsel.net. Please include in your email the number of years you have practiced criminal law, the county/counties in which you primarily practice, and whether your practice is mostly in the District/BMC, Juvenile, or Superior Court. **Please also indicate which session you are interested in attending**