



WEBINAR: Desiree Lassiter

Chemistry 102 for Lawyers

a. Date – Webinar: February 24, 2022 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EST

b. Description

Chemistry 102 aims to arm lawyers and the defense team with the chemistry vocabulary needed to identify potential challenges to drug predicates, spot potential evidentiary issues in drug cases and understand the chemistry terms commonly referenced in charging documents and discovery. A high-level review of the common analytical methods used in drug cases will also be conducted. Attorneys will also be able to use this knowledge to collaborate with chemistry experts more effectively. This webinar compliments Chemistry 101 for Lawyers: An introduction to the basic chemistry principals driving the latest challenges to state drug priors, under the ACCA, 21 U.S.C. § 802(44), and more.

This is the second installment in our Chemistry for Lawyers series. Although participants are encouraged to view the Chemistry 101 webinar prior to attending Chemistry 102, it is not required to grasp the teachings of Chemistry 102.

Start time is 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (10:00 a.m. PST).

c. Presenter

Desiree Lassiter received her Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from MIT and wrote an undergraduate thesis on the chemical vapor deposition of thin films. While studying at MIT, Desiree was employed by MIT's tutorial services room as a chemistry tutor and served as a chemistry teaching assistant for MIT's project interphase. Desiree was also awarded MIT's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership award for her work within the Latino community and her commitment to uniting underrepresented communities across

MIT's campus. Following her time at MIT, Desiree continued her studies in chemical engineering at the University of California, Los Angeles. At UCLA, she was awarded the Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, received a Master of Science degree in chemical engineering, and wrote her thesis on the plasma etching of thin films using chlorine-based plasmas. Desiree served as a teaching assistant for a semiconductor processing course and supported UCLA's Center for Excellence in Engineering and Diversity, where she taught and tutored underrepresented engineering students in their undergraduate chemistry courses.

Desiree went on to earn her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. During the pursuit of her law degree, Desiree made the difficult decision to transition away from the world of engineering and become a public defender. Her decision was based in part on her family's personal experience within the criminal justice system and her work in Berkeley's Death Penalty Clinic. After law school, Desiree joined the Bronx Defenders and developed her foundation as a public defender. She served the Bronx community for 7 years before moving to Baltimore, Maryland and joining the Federal Defenders office. Desiree is also a registered patent attorney.