Fundamentals of Federal Criminal Defense – Week 4  
The Essential Role of Investigation in CJA Cases

a. **Date:** Wednesday, March 10, 2021 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. EST  
b. **Duration:** 90 minutes  
c. **CLE Category:** General  
d. **Description:**  
As cases continue to grow complex with more discovery and information regarding the guilt phase as well as the sentencing phase, the services of a trained and dedicated investigator can be invaluable. Hear from a defense investigator about the road map toward a successful investigation in all phases of a CJA case. An attorney will join the discussion of how the investigator can assist throughout the life cycle of a case, including quickly locating and interviewing witnesses, obtaining information from digital and paper records and seeking out information that can be important for the court to consider at sentencing. The discussion will include information about how to obtain funding for investigative and other expert services.

e. **Presenters:**  
**SHARON SAMEK** is an Attorney Advisor in the Legal & Policy Division of the Defender Services Office. Previously, she was in private practice and a 20-year member of the CJA panel for the Middle District of Florida. Ms. Samek has represented hundreds of CJA clients in district and appellate courts. Ms. Samek graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Berkeley, and holds a J.D. from Stanford Law School. Ms. Samek presents frequently at Training Division programs.

**HERBERT DUZANT** is a native New Yorker, and veteran criminal defense investigator with more than twenty years of experience. Mr. Duzant is
currently the senior investigator in the Capital Habeas Unit at the District of Nevada's Federal Public Defender Office. Before joining the Nevada CHU in 2004, he spent the previous decade working on trial cases at the New York State Capital Defender Office, and the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem (a project of the Vera Institute of Justice). He is licensed in various states and previously conducted private investigations in a variety of criminal defense, civil, and missing persons cases. Mr. Duzant has served on several training committees and programs over the past twelve years, and is a strong proponent of client centered-practices.

f. **Materials:** Written handout materials will be provided to participants.