



Fundamentals of Federal Criminal Defense, Part 2 – Week 5

Workshop: Applications of Criminal History Guidelines §§4A1.1 – 4A1.2

- a. **Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 from 2:00-3:15 p.m. EST
- b. **Duration:** 75 minutes
- c. **CLE Category:** General
- d. **Description:**

Although a rigid application of the Sentencing Guidelines is no longer mandatory under Supreme Court precedent, correctly calculating your client's guideline range is one of the most important steps in obtaining the best possible sentence for your client. In this session of Fundamentals, we will break out into small groups led by skilled facilitators. Using problems from real cases, we will practice applying two criminal history guidelines, §§4A1.1 – 4A1.2.

- e. **Facilitators:**

AKIN ADEPOJU has served as an Assistant Federal Defender in both the Trial and Capital Habeas Units for the Federal Defender Offices for the Western District of Pennsylvania and District of Delaware. He has worked on cases from pre-indictment stages to state and federal capital and non-capital trials. Akin has published scholarly articles and lectures nationally on trial and sentencing advocacy, litigating race and trauma issues, legal writing, and ethics. Before joining the Federal Defender family, Akin was an attorney at the Fair Trial Initiative, where he litigated almost exclusively state capital trial cases in North Carolina. Akin is a *cum laude* graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, earned his J.D. *cum laude* from Rhode Island's Roger Williams University School of Law, where he was a Dean's Scholar and student-attorney in the Criminal Defense Clinic, and earned his LL.M. from Temple University School of Law as a Public Interest Scholar. He is the recipient of the Feinstein Public Interest Award. Akin serves as Adjunct

Professor of Law at Delaware Law School, where he teaches Eighth Amendment Capital Punishment and Advanced Criminal Law courses. Akin was detailed to Defender Services Office in D.C, where he now serves as an Attorney Advisor.

CRAIG CRAWFORD joined the Training Division of the Defender Services Office in January 2017. Prior to the Training Division, Craig was an Assistant Federal Defender (AFD) in the Middle District of Florida from 2001 to 2017 and in the Northern District of Florida from 1996 to 2001. In his last 19 months as an AFD, he served as Detailee Counsel on the Judiciary Committee for Senator Richard Durbin, Democratic Whip. During his time as an AFD prior to the legislative detail, Craig practiced almost exclusively in the appellate divisions of the offices, arguing cases in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the Supreme Court of the United States. In 2006, he argued *James v. United States*, 550 U.S. 192 (2007). Before becoming an Assistant Federal Defender, Craig taught at Florida State University in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. He also worked as an Assistant State Attorney in the Eighteenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits in Florida. Craig received his law degree from the Ohio State University College of Law and obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Economics and International Relations from the College of William and Mary.

JOAN POLITEO joined the Training Division, Defender Services in September 2018. Joan was a Deputy Federal Public Defender in the Central District of California for well over two decades before she joined the Training Division on a temporary duty assignment in 2016. Joan was primarily a trial attorney and handled a few non-capital habeas cases during her years as a defender. She has also handled matters before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Joan served as one of the defender representatives for the Convictions and Sentence Alternatives Program (CASA), an innovative post-guilty plea diversion program. CASA was one of the first collaborative court programs in the federal courts. Before she joined the Office of the Federal Public Defender, Joan was a staff attorney for the Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington D.C. where she represented indigent clients in housing litigation before the courts and administrative agencies. Joan was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area.

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