

## **2018 NYCDS CLE**

*Title: Speaking Truth: Voir Dire and the New York Practitioner*

**Date: Friday November 16, 2018 @ Fordham University School of Law**

**Registration: 12:15pm to 1:00pm**

**Program: 1:00pm to 5:00pm = Total of 3 CLE CREDITS**

**Reception Immediately Following on the 2nd Floor**

Host:

**Sidney Lester**

**Supervising Attorney, NYCDS**

C. Sidney Lester, Esq. is a 1984 graduate of the now, Quinnipiac School of Law. There, he inaugurated the school's first BALSAs chapter. After graduation he became the legislative aide to then Senator Wynona Lipman, (D) and continued in politics as an OMB lobbyist for Mayor Edward Koch (D). Realizing his interest lay most in litigation, he joined the Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division, Kings County, NY in 1986. It was there that he learned trial technique, motion practice and plea negotiation. Mr. Lester left Legal Aid in 1990 and opened Lester, Hubbert & Gill, a private firm concentrating in civil and criminal litigation. In 1997 he was lured from his practice by New York County Defender Services where he continues to practice today. He is also an adjunct law professor at Seton Hall University School of Law teaching a course in trial practice. He is a member of the NYS Bar Association, National Bar Association and the Supreme Court Bar Association.

### **FIRST PANEL: 1:00pm to 2:00pm – 1.0 CLE Credit**

**Title: *Jury Selection and the Law: Where Strategy Meets Limits***

Moderator:

**Sergio De La Pava**

**Legal Director, NYCDS**

Sergio De La Pava is the Legal Director of New York County Defender Services.

Panelist:

**Cynthia Colt**

**Staff Attorney, Appellate Advocates**

Cynthia Colt is a graduate of New York University School of Law. She has been an appellate lawyer with Appellate Advocates since 2017. Before that, she worked as a trial and appellate attorney in the criminal divisions of the Legal Aid Society. She has also worked as the law clerk for a New York State Supreme Court judge.

### **SECOND PANEL: 2:15pm to 3:15pm – 1.0 CLE Credit**

**Title: *Life Experience Voir Dire: Learning What You Need to Know About Your Jurors***

Moderator:

**Renate Lunn**

**Training Supervisor, NYCDS**

Renate Lunn is the Training Supervisor at New York County Defender Services in Manhattan. Prior to joining NYCDS, she worked for The Legal Aid Society representing clients in The Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan. After graduating from Columbia Law School, she clerked for Hon. Robert P. Patterson of the

Southern District of New York. She is on the faculty of the New York State Defenders Association's Basic Trial Skills Program and blogs for NAPD.

Panelist:

**Ira Mickenberg**

**Founder and Director of National Defender Training Project**

Ira Mickenberg is a criminal defense lawyer, defender trainer and consultant from Saratoga Springs, NY. Ira has designed, directed and taught trial, appellate, capital, and post-conviction training programs for defender organizations throughout the nation, and is the founder and Director of the National Defender Training Project. He has also represented defendants in the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeal, and the highest courts of several states, and has tried homicide and other felony cases. From 1988 to 1994, Ira was a founder and Attorney-in-Charge of the Office of the Appellate Defender in New York City. He has been certified as an expert witness in federal and state courts on the subject of effective assistance of counsel, and has taught criminal law, criminal procedure, death penalty litigation, and appellate advocacy at the University of Dayton School of Law, American University School of Law, Williams College, and New York Law School. During the month of August, Ira shuts down his practice, refuses to answer his phone, mail or e-mail, and can be found in the clubhouse at Saratoga thoroughbred racetrack.

**THIRD PANEL: 3:30pm to 4:30pm – 1.0 CLE Credit**

**Title: *Jury Consultants: Inside the Minds and Habits of Jurors***

Moderator:

**Joe Conza**

**Supervising Attorney, NYCDS**

Joe started his legal career at the Manhattan office of the Legal Aid Society in 1997. He is a graduate of the Cardozo School of Law. In 2000, Joe joined NYCDS as a staff attorney. As a public defender for over 20 years he has tried approximately 70 cases. Joe is now a supervising attorney at NYCDS.

Panelist:

**Lindsay Butera**

**Director of Jury Research, Dubin Research and Consulting**

As Director of Jury Research at Dubin Research & Consulting, Lindsay Butera manages all aspects of research projects, namely focus groups and mock trials. Lindsay's experience in quantitative research methodologies and survey design is essential to performing qualitative and quantitative data analysis, drafting juror questionnaires and voir dire questions, conducting venue research and media analysis. Additionally, Lindsay has a strong research background in the area of social and forensic psychology, its application to the law and jury behavior. She has assisted in drafting jury questionnaires and voir dire outlines for major cases. After completing her undergraduate degree at Lafayette College (B.A. Psychology), Lindsay obtained a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, where she specialized in jury behavior and group decision-making.

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