

About the Program

Trial Skills Academy is a one-week program, which provides intense, hands-on learning in a wide range of trial skills. In order to assure a quality experience, the program is limited to 64 participants. Participants are divided into eight small groups based on experience level. Small groups engage in mock voir dire, opening statements, direct examinations, cross examinations, and closing arguments. Citizens from the surrounding communities act as jurors and professional actors portray the witnesses. In addition to small group exercises, the Trial Skills Academy format includes lectures, demonstrations, and workshops by a nationally renowned faculty. Skills taught can be applied universally, and are not specific to Wisconsin law. Trial Skills Academy is open to criminal defense lawyers at all experience levels.

Tuition

Tuition for public defenders and private attorneys actively accepting public defender appointments is \$399.00. Tuition for all other criminal defense attorneys is \$599.00. Tuition includes a box lunch on Monday and Tuesday and refreshments each morning and mid-afternoon. Tuition must be paid by check payable to "State Public Defenders Office." Credit cards cannot be accepted. **A \$20 fee will be assessed for returned checks.**

Registration

Trial Skills Academy is limited to 64 participants. Registrations will be taken on a first come, first served basis after payment has been received. Registrations must be postmarked no later than **April 13, 2012**, and include full tuition payment. A confirmation of registration will be e-mailed to participants within a couple of weeks after receipt of the registration form and payment.

Registration is available at the "Training" link of the Wisconsin Public Defender website: <http://www.wisspd.org/>. Payment must be received within 3 days of submitting an on-line registration form.

Continuing Legal Education Credits

Wisconsin continuing legal education credits will be applied for.

Cancellations

If you need to cancel your registration, please contact Brandon Robinson, Training and Development, at 608.261.0622 or robinsonb@opd.wi.gov.

Refunds

Refunds, less a \$25 processing fee, can be made for cancellations made before **May 4, 2012**.

Lodging

Lodging is available at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin at the state rate of \$70/night for a single occupancy room. ***Please note that there are a limited number of rooms in our block and these will fill up extremely fast.*** Call the Grand

Geneva's reservations at **855.833.5345** and tell them you are making reservations for the "Wisconsin Public Defenders' Trial Skills Academy". To receive the state rates, you must make reservations by **Thursday, April 12, 2012**. To learn more about the Grand Geneva Resort's reservation policies and amenities offered, visit their website: www.grandgeneva.com.

Additional Information

For additional information or if you have questions about Trials Skills Academy, please contact Brandon Robinson at robinsonb@opd.wi.gov or 608.261.0622 or Peter Anderson at 608.267.0581 or andersonp@opd.wi.gov. Please note that the agenda and faculty are subject to change. Stay up to date with Trial Skills news and announcements by subscribing to our blog: <http://wispdtraining.blogspot.com/>