

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Friday November 8 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

F-29

How Pre and Post-Conviction Experiences Shape Our Clients: Legal, Forensic, and Clinical Considerations for All Professionals

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Clients mandated to treatment and supervision may present as suspicious, uncooperative, or hostile. But what was the legal, and social-emotional process that led to their sentence – or even the sentence itself? Clients are likely tainted by experiences with law enforcement and prosecutors. This presentation educates clinicians on criminal case proceedings, with tools provided to incorporate this understanding thereby enhancing the therapeutic relationship. Working within a new framework that includes this perspective can reduce early treatment obstacles, and help provide a client-centered approach. This perspective strengthens the therapeutic relationship, which can produce better outcomes for the community and the client.

Learning Goals:

- Attendees will identify stages in criminal case investigation and prosecution that may traumatize or misalign clients with the later goals of successful sex offense treatment and supervision. Attendees will enhance their understanding of specific traumas clients may experience as a result of pre- and post-conviction incarceration for a sex offense that can impact engagement in treatment and supervision.
- Attendees will develop knowledge into the importance of understanding each client's personal journey through criminal investigation, accusation, and the criminal court process related to a sex offense; they will develop tools to productively interpret client statements and behaviors based off this history. Attendees will learn how to take steps to avoid inadvertently replicating the trauma of the criminal process.
- Attendees will learn how their clients can benefit from a reframe of suspicious, uncooperative, or hostile attitudes to treatment and supervision, to enhance the therapeutic alliance and create a collaborative therapeutic context. Attendees will learn how enhancing client wellbeing through understanding their perspective of the post-conviction experience is commensurate with the goals of public safety.

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David Prescott is Clinical Services Development Director for the Becket Family of Services. He has authored and edited 19 book projects and numerous articles and chapters, primarily in the assessment and treatment of abuse and trauma. Mr. Prescott has lectured and implemented treatment programming around the world, and received ATSA's Distinguished Contribution award in 2014. He is a Senior Associate of the International Center for Clinical Excellence and a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers. Mr. Prescott has served on the Editorial Boards of three scholarly journals. He is a past president of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers and Chair of the National Adolescent Perpetration Network Advisory Board.

Laurie Rose Kepros is the Director of Sexual Litigation for the Colorado Office of the State Public Defender where she trains and advises over 800 lawyers and other staff statewide in their representation of adults and juveniles accused or convicted of sexual crimes. She has served on dozens of subcommittees of the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board and Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, and, per appointment of U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, on the Subcommittee to the Judicial Proceedings Panel which advised Congress on law and policy related to sexual assault in the military.

Shoshanna Must is a forensic psychologist who practices in the New York City area, specializing in the evaluation and treatment of persons with sexual behavioral problems. Dr. Must serves as evaluation coordinator and clinician at Empire State Forensics, a private practice that has awarded contracts from the Office of Mental Health, and Federal Probation. She serves on the board of NYS ATSA. Her current research interests are in gender specific issues in the forensic psychology field. She has a co-authored book chapter on pregnancy and forensic work, forthcoming in *Women in Criminal Justice: A Guidebook for Navigating Professional Challenges*.