



Office of the State Public Defender
Indigent Defense Improvement Division

IDID Bulletin
June 2026

Public Defense Updates

California Supreme Court's First Rulings on the RJA

This morning the California Supreme Court issued opinions in [Bankston](#), [Barrera](#), [Chhuon/Pan](#), and [Demolle](#). As these opinions impact Racial Justice Act (RJA) practice across the state, OSPD will be circulating resources and scheduling a webinar for indigent defenders as soon as possible to discuss strategies for effectively litigating RJA violations in light of today's decisions.

Stanford Trial Advocacy & New Defender Uplift Program (STANDUP) 2026 Scholarships

Application Deadline: June 19, 2026

Stanford Law School's Criminal Defense Clinic will host a four-day training in foundational trial skills for early and mid-career indigent defense attorneys. **Stanford Trial Advocacy & New Defender Uplift Program (STANDUP) 2026** will take place **Tuesday Aug 11 - Friday Aug 14, 2026**, on the Stanford Law School campus. The 2026 agenda will be available shortly; last year's website is available for reference [here](#).

The Office of the State Public Defender is offering a limited number of scholarships to attend STANDUP 2026. Costs covered include registration, on-campus lodging and meals, and reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses. *A travel memo outlining the reimbursement rules will be sent after the scholarships have been chosen.*

Attorneys who work as public defenders, alternate defenders, or court-appointed indigent defense counsel are encouraged to apply. *Applicants in their first five years of criminal defense practice, those in counties without a statutory public defender, and those who have not previously attended a live trial-skills training will receive priority.*

Scholarships will be allocated on a rolling basis so please apply as soon as possible using the attached form. Applications submitted after 5pm on Friday June 19 will not be considered.

To apply to the conference independently of the scholarship, please contact Carlie Ware Horne at carlie@law.stanford.edu for more information.

National Public Defense Well-Being Study

Public Defenders in all job roles are invited to participate in a research survey conducted by the Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health at the University of Utah, in collaboration with BeSustained, a national nonprofit with the mission of improving access to justice by advancing the well-being of public defenders. This study seeks to deepen our understanding of the real, day-to-day factors that impact well-being across the public defense profession.

Learn more at the [National Public Defense Well-Being Project page](#) and register [here](#).

Statewide Summer Defender Series

The Statewide Summer Defender Series is a free virtual training program designed for law school interns, post-bars, and new attorneys in public defender offices. Webinars run from May through early August and are focused on the grounding concepts and fundamental skills critical to all new defenders. See the below *IDID Training Events* section for our June offerings.

IDID Connection Hours

Monday 6/8/2026 3pm-4pm [Join Meeting](#)

Monday 6/22/2026 3pm-4pm [Join Meeting](#)

These connection hours happen on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 3-4pm. They are an open 'drop-in/drop-out' space where defenders can come to learn about IDID defense training and ask questions about connecting with our resources. Technical questions about getting on the IDID Training SharePoint and registering for online resources are welcome, and you can get guidance in real time as you complete your enrollment. Bring your questions, suggestions, and ideas!

Public Defense Opportunities

Executive Director - California Youth Defender Center (formerly PJDC)

California Youth Defender Center is seeking its next Executive Director to lead the organization in shaping the future of youth defense in California through training and policy advocacy on behalf of California's youth. [More Information](#) and [Link to Apply](#)

June 2026 IDID Training Events

Unless otherwise noted these trainings are intended for criminal defense team members only, including attorneys, investigators, social workers, paralegals, mitigation specialists, law office professionals, and other job roles on defense teams.

6/4

Summer Defender Series: Ethics and Professionalism in a Public Defender Office

CHELSEA BOND, Training Attorney, Office of the State Public Defender
HAYLEY DEWEY, Training Attorney, Office of the State Public Defender

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

This training is an essential introduction to the fundamental ethical and professional rules that new defenders will encounter in their practice. Participants will learn practical, client-centered frameworks for navigating common ethical scenarios involving protecting client confidentiality, duty of candor to the court and handling physical evidence. Participants will also learn the duties owed to clients beyond confidentiality and what professionalism is in a public defender office.

1 hour of MCLE and LSCE in Ethics is offered for this training

6/5

Fundamentals of Kowalczyk: Nuts and Bolts of Bail Motions and Pretrial Writs

In partnership with Civil Rights Corps.

SALIL DUDANI, Senior Attorney, Civil Rights Corps
CARSON WHITE, Supervising Attorney, Civil Rights Corps

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

In the recently issued Kowalczyk opinion, the California Supreme Court held that pretrial detention of anyone charged with a misdemeanor or a nonviolent or nonsexual felony is unconstitutional. This includes detention through unaffordable or unattainable bail. Join us to learn more about the Kowalczyk holding and how to enforce this important decision even in resistant jurisdictions. The webinar will

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include the basics of arguing Kowalczyk in your trial court, as well as a primer on how to file pretrial writs to challenge unconstitutional pretrial detention. Civil Rights Corps, experts and leaders on pretrial bail and detention issues, will lead the presentation and offer key insights on the writ process.

1 hour of MCLE and LSCE in Substantive Criminal Law and Procedure is offered for this training

6/9

New Defense Tool: RJA Disparity Screener

In Partnership with QSIDE.

BROOKE MCCARTHY, Racial Justice Act Attorney, Office of the State Public Defender
ZOFIA STANLEY, Director of Research, QSIDE

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Join us to learn about OSPD's RJA Disparity Screener set to launch on June 9th. Developed in collaboration with QSIDE, the screener allows any individual to anonymously input a conviction and sentence to determine if publicly available CDCR data may support a disparity argument under the Racial Justice Act (RJA). The screener is intended to provide data that can satisfy the low threshold for appointment of counsel under the RJA by generating a plain language report with visuals of each disparity found. This webinar will walk through use of the screener, including a demonstration of sample reports. Please join us to learn about this useful addition to the RJA litigation space.

1 hour of MCLE is offered for this training

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6/11

Motions to Suppress for Summer Defenders

TERESA DEAMICIS, Resource Attorney, Office of the State Public Defender

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

This 60-minute webinar is a foundational presentation for newer attorneys, interns, and post-bars who want a solid, practical toolkit for litigating motions to suppress pursuant to California Penal Code section 1538.5. Participants will learn how to issue spot Fourth Amendment violations in a case, understand and apply California's Harvey-Madden rule, how to research, write, and file your motion, and practice tips for presenting and arguing the motion. Participants will also learn the basic timeline and procedure for appealing denials of motions to suppress. Reference materials, including OSPD's MotionReady Motion to Suppress template will be provided to participants.

1 hour of MCLE is offered for this training

Other Training Opportunities

Provided for information only and are not affiliated with OSPD



Defending Access Learning Labs

Activating Change

June 9, 2026

Zoom Webinar

[More Information and Registration](#)



Minneapolis 2026: Contemporary Issues in Forensic Psychology

American Academy of Forensic Psychology

June 10 - June 14, 2026

Hilton Minneapolis, Minneapolis, Minnesota

[More Information and Registration](#)



The Deryl Dantzler Trial Practice Institute

National Criminal Defense College

Session I - June 14 - June 26, 2026

Session II - July 19 - 31, 2026

Located in Iowa City, IA at the University of Iowa School of Law

[More Information and Registration](#)

STANDUP

Stanford Trial Advocacy & New Defender Uplift Program

Stanford Trial Advocacy & New Defender Uplift Program (STANDUP) 2026

Stanford Law School's Criminal Defense Clinic

Tuesday Aug 11 - Friday Aug 14, 2026

Stanford, California

[More Information](#) or contact Carlie Ware Horne carlie@law.stanford.edu.

The Office of the State Public Defender is a state agency founded in 1976 to represent indigent criminal defendants on appeal. Today, the agency has two divisions. The Appellate Division provides high quality appellate representation for those convicted of capital offenses. The Indigent Defense Improvement Division supports trial level indigent defense systems across California by providing defense attorney training and assistance to counties with public defense systems. See Gov. Code Section 15420(b).
