



Office of the State Public Defender
Indigent Defense Improvement Division

IDID Bulletin
July 2026

Public Defense Updates

Kowalczyk: On-Demand Training and Defender Resources

[Kowalczyk: Understanding California's Landmark Pretrial Ruling](#)

This free, on-demand training discusses the key holdings of *Kowalczyk*, as well as the challenges and opportunities presented by the ruling. To view, register at [Advancing Pretrial Policy & Research](#). Further *Kowalczyk* resources for defenders on can be found in the [Pretrial Release Litigation folder](#) of the IDID Training SharePoint, including a one-page handout on handling bail hearings post-*Kowalczyk*. Access to the Training SharePoint is limited to indigent defense practitioners and is free (registration is required: <https://bit.ly/OSPDRag>).

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 July offerings.

IDID Connection Hours

Monday 7/13/2026 3pm-4pm [Join Meeting](#)

Monday 7/27/2026 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

Public Defender - Del Norte County

Del Norte County is seeking an experienced criminal defense attorney to serve as the County's first Public Defender, a board-appointed position responsible for overseeing and developing the County's indigent defense program. [More Information and Link to Apply](#).

June/July 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, and law office professionals.

6/30

Housing Advocacy 101 for CARE Court Counsel

CLAUDIA CENTER, Legal Director, DREDF

1:30 PM - 02:45 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Housing is often one of the most significant challenges facing CARE Court respondents and other system-involved individuals with mental health disabilities. California's county-administered behavioral health system offers a variety of housing programs, services, and supports that may be accessible to eligible clients. Some resources have existed for years, while others have been newly implemented or are continuously evolving. This session is the first of a three-part housing advocacy learning series designed to support indigent defense practitioners/teams, including CARE Court teams, in supporting clients with housing related issues.

Join this webinar, in partnership with Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), for an overview of the housing programs and supports available through county behavioral health systems, including emerging resources and benefits. Defense and CARE teams will learn practical strategies for identifying available services, advocating for housing-related supports, and helping ensure that eligible clients receive the housing resources and assistance to which they are entitled.

****1.25 hours of MCLE is offered for this training****

7/8

Statewide Summer Defender Series - Racial Justice Act for Summer Defenders

BROOKE MCCARTHY, Racial Justice Act Attorney, Office of the State Public Defender

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

The Racial Justice Act is a groundbreaking law that allows people to raise issues of bias or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, or national origin; it is a powerful tool to help defend your clients. This session will introduce the foundational framework of the RJA, including: the purpose of the law, an overview of the statutory language, developing case law, and common defense strategies to apply the RJA in your cases. The session will also describe where to find RJA resources and active defense communities focused on RJA advocacy.

****1 hour of MCLE in Recognition and Elimination of Bias is offered for this training****

7/21

Statewide Summer Defender Series - Defending the Whole Client: Holistic Defense and Collateral Consequences

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

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

ABIGAIL-RESENDIZ-ZUNIGA, Social Services Specialist, Office of the State Public Defender

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

A person ensnared in the criminal legal system will often face significant collateral consequences impacting their housing, parental rights, employment, or immigration status. Holistic defense practice not only addresses a client's immediate criminal

charges: the defense team strives to address a client's underlying needs and the potential consequences they face as a result of their criminal case. In this webinar, participants will be introduced to the fundamental principles/benefits of holistic defense and steps defenders can take to incorporate holistic defense models in their practice. Participants will also learn to identify common collateral consequences of criminal cases, how to properly advise clients regarding these consequences, and how to mitigate these consequences through alternative case resolutions.

1 hour of MCLE is offered for this training

7/28

Litigating 1473.7 Motions to Vacate a Conviction or Sentence

MARTIN LIJTMAER, Owner, Law Offices of Martin Lijtmaer

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM [Zoom Registration Link](#)

Learn when to use a Motion to Vacate a Conviction or Sentence in California (PC 1473.7 motion) and what a successful motion can do for a client, especially in the realm of immigration. Join this webinar to strengthen your skills in filing and arguing PC 1473.7 motions to maximize chances of success.

1 hour of MCLE is offered for this training

Other Training Opportunities

Provided for information only and are not affiliated with OSPD



The Deryl Dantzer Trial Practice Institute

National Criminal Defense College

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.

CALIFORNIA LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Fresh or Burnt? Search and Seizure Law Governing Cannabis in California after Sellers v. Superior Court

California Lawyers Association

July 8, 2026

Zoom Webinar

[More Information and Registration](#)



Compassionate Release Advocacy: Building Strong Cases for Relief

Advancing Real Change Inc.

August 11, 2026

Zoom Webinar

[**More Information and Registration**](#)

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).
