

## May 21 CLE Speaker Bios

### COVID Litigation Panel:

**Eric Wolpin** is a federal defender in the New Hampshire Office. He worked for the NHPD prior to joining the federal defender.

**John Newman** has been representing criminal defendants since 1991. He has tried more than one hundred cases before juries. For the majority of his career he worked at the New Hampshire Public Defender as a Staff Attorney, Managing Attorney and then Deputy Director. Since 2018, he has been in private practice and has a statewide federal and state criminal defense practice.

**Matt Zahn** is a staff attorney at the NHPD.

### Voir Dire Panel:

A graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law, **Steve Mirkin** has been practicing criminal defense for 41 years, divided between Kentucky and New Hampshire. He has been a staff attorney at the New Hampshire Public Defender for about 15 years. He was previously a public defender in Frankfort, Louisville and Elizabethtown, Kentucky, where he also maintained a private practice for several years before returning to New Hampshire.

**Margaret Kettles** is a public defender in Grafton County, New Hampshire. She graduated from Harvard Law School, where she was the executive director of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau.

**Jason Novak** is a staff attorney with the New Hampshire Public Defender. He represents indigent adults and juveniles charged with all levels of criminal offenses. He is a graduate of School of Law at Wake Forest University.

### Effective On-Line Litigation:

**James McDermott**, the Chief Public Defender at the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender Office. He attended the University of Texas School of Law and has been practicing for almost 20 years. Here him on NPR talking about being a public defender and some of the changes in practice that COVID has brought. <https://www.npr.org/2021/03/16/977911992/ask-a-public-defender>