



## WSBA Practice Primer: Criminal Law

### Track 1 – Criminal Law and Procedure

#### ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATES

January 14, 2026

January 21, 2026

January 28, 2026

#### REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

This on-demand program was a live seminar presented in three parts on January 14, 21 & 28, 2026. If you attended or viewed the original presentation, please note that WSBA members may not claim credit for the same CLE sessions if repeated within their three-year reporting period.

#### DESCRIPTION

The WSBA Practice Primer is a CLE series of three learning tracks that build upon one another to provide a solid educational foundation for practice in a substantive area of law. This series is designed for new members (and offered at a substantial discount for new members) but may also be of interest to those looking to transition into additional practice areas.

Our 2026 Practice Primer series will cover the practice area of Criminal Law. Taught from the defense perspective, the topics covered by the three tracks include:

- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Motions, Negotiations, and Trial
- Introduction to Felonies

Optional homework is assigned between sessions, giving you an opportunity to apply the concepts learned and earn extra CLE credit. The homework must be completed in order to claim the additional credits offered.

#### AGENDA

##### 1 Rules of Engagement

Faculty discuss how a criminal defense attorney would initially approach and build a case, including release arguments (CrR 3.2), confidentiality, client communication, the initial client visit, and assessing client competency. Optional homework is assigned.

##### 2 Building a Defense

This session will examine the defense attorney's primary considerations at this stage of a criminal case, including reading and managing discovery documents, investigations, and basic legal defenses. Optional homework is assigned.

## WSBA Practice Primer: Criminal Law Track 1 – Criminal Law and Procedure

*(agenda continued from previous page)*

---

### **3 Collateral Consequences and Alternatives**

In this last session of Track 1, faculty provide an overview of collateral consequences of a criminal conviction, including a brief discussion of immigration consequences as well as diversion and treatment alternatives. Faculty will touch upon considerations around local rules and court cultures.

### **PRESENTERS**

*Austin Field – King County Department of Public Defense, Seattle, WA*

*Rachel Forde – Snohomish County Public Defender Association, Everett, WA*