



JAMES C. DUFF  
Director

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE  
UNITED STATES COURTS

LEE ANN BENNETT  
Deputy Director

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

CAIT T. CLARKE  
Chief  
Defender Services Office

April 12, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Attorneys Representing Death Sentenced Inmates**

**FROM: Lori A. Green, Chief, Defender Services Office Training Division**

**SUBJECT: *June 2019 Anthony G. Amsterdam Supreme Court Advocacy Institute***

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New York University School of Law, in conjunction with The Habeas Assistance and Training Counsel (HAT) and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO) Defender Services Office Training Division, are pleased to announce the Anthony G. Amsterdam Supreme Court Advocacy Institute. The Institute will be held at NYU Law School, Furman Hall, 245 Sullivan Street, New York, New York. The program will begin on Friday, June 14, 2019, at 12:30 p.m., and conclude on Sunday, June 16, 2019, at 12:00 p.m.

Please be sure to register before April 24 to increase your chance of securing a spot. Given the nature of the program, attendance is limited to 48 participants. Registration confirmation emails will be sent out informing registrants whether they have been accepted or placed on a waiting list.

The goal of this training initiative, designed by Professor Amsterdam, is to improve the quality of strategic planning and advocacy on behalf of death-sentenced inmates in the Supreme Court of the United States and in the process of obtaining or avoiding Supreme Court review. While all facets of Supreme Court practice will be addressed, the emphasis of the program will be on the pre-merits stages of Supreme Court litigation, including tactics and techniques for writing persuasive petitions for certiorari, opposing certiorari when the client won below, handling *amici curiae*, etc. The program will combine lectures with small-group case-planning sessions. In addition to HAT counsel (John Blume, Mark Olive, Wendy Peoples and Keir Weyble), the faculty generally consists of experienced Supreme Court practitioners. Past faculty has included former Solicitor General Seth Waxman, Bryan Stevenson (Executive Director of EJI), former Supreme Court clerks and law professors James Liebman (Columbia Law School), Trevor Morrison (NYU Law School), Michael Dorf (Cornell Law School), and Jordan Steiker (University of Texas Law School).

### SEMINAR REGISTRATION:

We are now using a new registration system which does not require a log-in and password to register for our events. We ask that you use your work email address for registration purposes and to help eliminate duplication. For registration, please use this [REGISTER HERE](#). You will be placed in “pending” status until we have an opportunity to confirm your eligibility for the program, and we will notify you within one week about whether you have been accepted for the program. If you are accepted, you will receive a confirmation email of your enrollment in the program, and you will be provided information on how to make your hotel reservation.

We expect that on-site registration and materials pick-up will start at 11:00 a.m. and the program will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, June 14, and that the seminar will conclude at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 16, 2019.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Limited funds are available to cover airfare and/or lodging costs for individuals who require financial assistance to attend this seminar. You must be currently appointed to, or expect to soon be appointed to, a federal capital habeas case to be eligible for payment of your travel costs. **If your registration is approved, you will receive a link to the financial assistance application in the confirmation email.** Requests will be prioritized by financial need and the extent of the applicant’s involvement in federal capital habeas corpus representation. **Please be sure you provide all required information and your application reaches us by the indicated due date. Incomplete requests and those received after the deadline will not be considered.** If you apply for financial assistance, please do not make airline reservations until you are notified about a decision on your application and furnished with information on how to secure those reservations. Applications are due no later than **Monday, April 22**. You should receive notification about your financial assistance request by end of April.

### HOTEL:

Details on how to make hotel reservations will be provided in the confirmation email. The hotel is within walking distance of NYU School of Law.

Thank you for your interest in this very important program. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Chastain Smith via email at [Chastain\\_Smith@ao.uscourts.gov](mailto:Chastain_Smith@ao.uscourts.gov).