



# Thursday Seminar

## WE'RE BACK!

The first Office-Wide Seminar of 2021, hosted by the Training Division, will be conducted via Zoom (please see instructions below) and will include 1 hour of Bias – MCLE and 1 hour of Ethics – MCLE.

### **A Wheeled Chair, A Chair with Wheels: The Life and Times of a Severely Disabled DDA**

What would life be like with severe disabilities? How different would it be? This seminar will provide some insight with the firsthand perspective of DDA Mathew Rudes as he chronicles how his multiple, severe disabilities challenge every facet of life—from birth to college to his last jury trial (and everything in between). He will describe how he copes with, triumphs over, and sometimes surrenders to the adversity inherent in severe disabilities. He will also explore common assumptions, unconscious biases, and instances of discrimination he has faced, and how they can be avoided going forward. Finally, Carol Rudes, mother of DDA Rudes, will share her perspective on being the primary caretaker, support system, and advocate for her severely disabled son.

**Mathew Rudes, DDA**, joined the Office in 2014. He has worked assignments in Metro, Van Nuys, San Fernando, and Sylmar Juvenile. After more than a year of working remotely, he is eager to gradually return to work at his current assignment in San Fernando.

### **Fables for Prosecutors**

This presentation will focus on national developments in the discipline of prosecutors and defense attorneys. It is a curated collection of cases where our brethren on both sides of the aisle have been sanctioned for social media usage, candor and other unusual conduct, which will include takeaways and best practices.

**Cynthia Nakao, DDA**, serves as the Professional Responsibility Advisor at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. Ms. Nakao was the founding Deputy-in-Charge of the E-SCARS (Electronic Suspected Child Abuse Report System) Unit. Ms. Nakao has worked in a variety of assignments, including the Health Care Fraud Division, Training Division, Asset Forfeiture Section, White Collar Crime Division, Victim Impact Program, Hardcore Gang Division (where she served as the first designated Asian Gangs Prosecutor), Juvenile Division, Central Trials, and Branch and Area.

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**Date/Time:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 (1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

**Zoom Registration Link:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_h7XoYT73TqyAwbynFvP3VA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h7XoYT73TqyAwbynFvP3VA)

You must register in advance and, to receive MCLE live/participatory credit, must attend the training by using the “Click here to join” link you receive in your registration email.

Attorneys and Paralegals must sign in on Zoom with their full name and D.A. email address to document attendance for MCLE. The MCLE Certificate will be sent, via email, after the seminar. Please submit your completed MCLE certificate, within 30 days, to the Training Division at [mcarpenter@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:mcarpenter@da.lacounty.gov).

**This seminar is open to prosecutors and peace officers only.** Retired prosecutors and peace officers may attend. Individuals who represent criminal defendants or represent plaintiffs suing law enforcement may not attend. Former District Attorney law clerks may not attend.

**MCLE:** 2 Hours MCLE (1 hour – Elimination of Bias; 1 hour – Ethics)  
(Must sign-in and complete Certificate of Attendance for credit)

**Cost:** FREE

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This seminar has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California in the amount of 2 hours. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office certifies that this seminar conforms to the standards for approved educational activities prescribed by the rules and regulations of the State Bar of California governing MCLE. **Please note, there is no compensatory overtime for attending this seminar.**