Rise of the Machines, Death of Expertise: Skeptical Views of Scientific Evidence

Friday, Oct. 20, 2017 • 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
State Bar Center, Albuquerque

$99 Non-members not seeking CLE credit (Materials and meals included in price)
$209 Early-bird registration fee (live attendance only). Registration must be received by Sept. 20, 2017.
$249 Government and legal services attorneys and Paralegal Division members
$279 Standard and Webcast fee

What’s included in programs offered by the Center for Legal Education?

Center for Legal Education programs include distinguished faculty with expertise in the subject matters presented, relevant program materials, CLE credits filed with New Mexico MCLE within 30 days of the program, morning refreshments and lunch the day of the program.

Why should you attend a CLE program offered by the Center for Legal Education?

- To gain a better understanding of current legal issues in a broad range of practice areas
- Center for Legal Education programs include an overview of substantive law, technical skills and ethics and professionalism training
- Networking opportunities and access on-site legal resources such as New Mexico One-Source

This CLE program is designed for:

- Solo and small firm attorneys
- Paralegals and legal assistants
- New attorneys or those adding this type of law to their current legal practice

Registration and payment for the program must be received prior to the program date. A $20 late fee will be incurred when registering the day of the program. This fee does not apply to live webcast attendance.

This program directly addresses the New Mexico Supreme Court’s “scrivener” fallacy when assessing machine generated evidence. The question of “witness” cognitive bias as they relate to the linguistic environment in which they work, and the linguistic disconnection between lawyers and their witnesses is also a topic for discussion. The basics of hair testing for drugs is fraught with much misinformation, and will be the subject of discussion by the toxicologist who worked on Lady Diana’s death investigation. Last, the news of the Baby Gard case out of Great Britain concerning the extent to which extraordinary medical measures to keep a child alive, are ethically warranted or even permissible. This program will also discuss the paradox of woefully inadequate funding for public defender experts against the constitutional mandate for adequate assistance of counsel. Attendees will see how scientific thought is generated and evaluated for use in court. The methods of skeptically evaluating the quality of scientific evidence and the procedures by which it is used in the law are applicable to civil and criminal attorneys alike.

**Agenda Full Day CLE – 3.5 G and 2.5 EP CLE Credits**

8:45 a.m. Registration and Refreshments
9 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
Judge Roderick T. Kennedy (ret.), New Mexico Court of Appeals

9:15 a.m. Ghost in the Machine: Who is the Declarant When a Computer Testifies?
Andrea Roth, University of California Berkley

9 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
Judge Roderick T. Kennedy (ret.), New Mexico Court of Appeals

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. The Emperor’s New Wig: Hair Analyses and Evidence-Based Forensic Science Regulation
Professor Robert Forrest, University of Sheffield School of Law

10 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. When Words Deceive You—Finding Clues to Justice Through Linguistics
Cristina Aggazzotti, Harvard University

11 a.m. Lunch (provided at the State Bar Center)

12:45 p.m. Speculation on Theoretical Outcomes is no “Evidence:” The Charlie Gard Case (1.0 EP)
John J. Paris, Boston College

12:45 p.m. When Words Deceive You—Finding Clues to Justice Through Linguistics
Cristina Aggazzotti, Harvard University

1 p.m. Annual Case Roundup (1.5 EP)
Judge Roderick T. Kennedy (ret.), New Mexico Court of Appeals, Fred Smith (ret.), Department of Justice

2:45 p.m. Break

3 p.m. Adjourn