

Mental Health Law

Christ Community Health Center
2595 Central Avenue
Memphis, TN 38104
November 15, 2019
8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Educational Objectives:

Upon completion, participants will be able to:

1. List required and preferred steps in the voluntary admissions process.
2. Contrast and compare types of cognitive impairment for good decision-making.
3. Explain why alleged murderers with a severe, medically documented mental illness deserve the death penalty, or not.
4. Discuss the intersection between law, mental health, and medical ethics.
5. Discuss the importance of remaining “neutral” during mediation and conflict resolution.

Agenda:

8 a.m.	Registration	
8:30 a.m.	Cognitive Impairment and the Decision-Making Process	Donna Harkness, JD
9:30 a.m.	Break	
9:45 a.m.	Voluntary Admission Options and MH Treatment	Virginia W. Griffee, JD
10:45 a.m.	Ethical Issues at the Intersection of Mental Health and the Law	Amy T. Campbell, JD
11:45 a.m.	Lunch (provided)	
12:45 p.m.	Capital Punishment & Mental Illness	Sarah McGee, JD
1:45 p.m.	Break	
2 p.m.	Conservatorship	Judge Kathleen N. Gomes
3 p.m.	Mediation Ethics	Stephen Shields, JD
3:30 p.m.	Evaluation and Adjournment	

Speakers:

Donna Harkness, JD, is a professor of Clinical Law and the Director of the Elder Law Clinic at The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She is a certified elder law attorney and listed on the roll of certified legal specialists in Elder Law in Tennessee. She is a member on the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA), as well as, a member of the editorial board of the NAELA journal. She is the author of *Elder Law Essentials* (Knowles, 2018), numerous elder law related articles, and a frequent speaker of elder law issues.

Virginia W. Griffee, JD, owner of the Law Office of Virginia W. Griffee, has over 30 years of legal experience. She provides asset protection, preservation and transfer planning for all ages and stages with comprehensive solutions to help you protect yourself and your family. Virginia is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association (Elder Law, Estate Planning & Probate Sections; Current West TN Delegate for the Elder Law Section; Former West TN Delegate for the Estate Planning & Probate Section; and past Editor of the Estate Planning & Probate Section Newsletter), the Memphis Bar Association (2016-2018 Board of Directors, Wills/Probate Section), the Association for Women Attorneys, the Estate Planning Council of Memphis, the Professional Network on Aging

(2016-2018 Board of Directors, Parliamentarian), and the Professional Advisory Group for the Jewish Foundation of Memphis. She is also a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA), Elder Counsel, and is an Accredited Attorney with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Amy T. Campbell, JD, MBE is Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Institute for Health Law & Policy at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. Professor Campbell teaches Health Law Survey, Mental Health Law, Health Law Seminar, Bioethics & the Law, and Public Health Law, as well as an interdisciplinary policy skills course she developed—the Health Policy Practicum. Her current scholarly interests focus on how to develop health policy from a therapeutic, evidence-informed, and ethical perspective, and how best to translate evidence into policy; and how to advance health equity through a multisector structural reform strategy directed at racial and economic inequities. Professor Campbell is a member of the International Scientific Committee of the International Academy of Law & Mental Health, and of the Founding Board of the International Society for Therapeutic Jurisprudence; and is consultant to the Advocacy Committee, Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine. Professor Campbell received her law degree from Yale Law School, her Master's in Bioethics from the University of Pennsylvania, and her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Sarah McGee, JD, is the statewide coordinator for TASMIE, the Tennessee Alliance for the Severe Mental Illness Exclusion. TASMIE is a coalition of mental health advocates and other organizations that seek to educate Tennesseans about their concerns with sentencing those who have a severe mental illness to death. Through TASMIE, Sarah has been on the front lines of drafting, lobbying, and building diverse and bipartisan support to advocate for legislation prohibiting the state from seeking the death penalty for people with severe mental illness. From 2012-2014, Sarah completed the E. Barrett Prettyman Fellowship at Georgetown University Law Center where she earned her LL.M. with Distinction, focusing primarily on representing juveniles accused of serious crimes. Prior to Georgetown, Sarah earned her J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law. Sarah served as an assistant public defender for the Nashville Defenders representing both juveniles and adults charged with a variety of offenses, where she learned first-hand the effects of mental illness in the criminal justice system. Sarah has also served as a victim-witness coordinator for the Davidson County District Attorney's Office. She has extensively researched and written about the nationwide movement to exclude people with severe mental illness from the death penalty.

Kathleen N. Gomes, JD, is a Shelby County Probate Court Judge. After earning her BA in Political Science from UT-Chattanooga in 1974, Gomes moved to Washington, D.C., and spent a year working as a staff assistant for a member of Congress until moving to Nashville to become Assistant to the Director of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. Gomes made her final move to Memphis after enrolling at The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, where she earned her JD in 1980. Gomes has been a lawyer for more than 38 years. Prior to taking the bench, Gomes practiced exclusively in the area of Probate law. She has extensive experience in Probate litigation, focusing on conservatorships, guardianships, wills and estates. With her extensive Probate expertise, she has received numerous referrals and consultations from other attorneys, and successfully handled many Probate cases with the Court of Appeals. Judge Gomes has been asked to speak at many seminars both during her years of practice and as Judge, regarding all aspects of Probate law.

Stephen Shields, JD, is the founding member of Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute and a Partner in the Memphis law firm of Jackson, Shields, Yeiser & Holt. He is a Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Rule 31 General Civil Mediator as well as Rule 31 General Civil Mediation Trainer. Mr. Shields was recently appointed for a three-year term as a Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission Commissioner. He is a Listed Mediator in the Mediator Profile Directory of the United States District Court Western District of Tennessee. Mr. Shields is a frequent speaker and author regarding alternative dispute resolution topics. He is also a founding member as well as the Chair of the Mid-South Community Justice and Mediation Center (CJAM). He is the immediate Past-Chair of the Tennessee Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Executive Council and the immediate Past-President of the Tennessee Association of Professional Mediators. In 2015, Mr. Shields was chosen as the recipient of the Grayfred Gray Public Service in Mediation Award. He is an adjunct professor at The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law where he is the Director of the Mediation Clinic. He has been listed in Best Lawyers since 1991.