



Professionalism In and Out of the Courtroom: A Webinar for New Prosecutors

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Disclaimer

The panelists are offering opinions based on their own individual experiences, state rules, and office protocols.

Always adhere to the chain of command, rules, and protocols applicable to you in your jurisdiction or office.



Roadmap



**Inside
the
Courtroom**



**Outside
the
Courtroom**



**Professional
Relationships**



Inside the Courtroom

- How should a judge be addressed in court? “Judge,” “Your Honor,” etc? What if you know them personally?
Alana
- What do you consider to be appropriate court attire?
Julie
- As a rule of thumb, how early should attorneys get to the courtroom before the start of the docket?
Shawn



Inside the Courtroom

- How important do you think it is to work up your cases ahead of time for pretrial dockets? Time permitting should prosecutors have discovery completed, an offer drafted, etc?

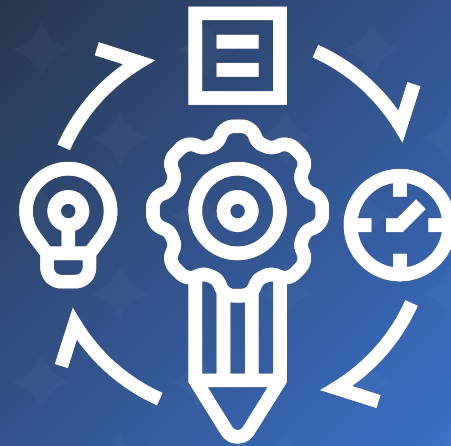
Shawn

- Some offices require new prosecutors to complete a trial advocacy course (either in house or elsewhere). Do you have any course or resource recommendations?

Julie

- It's an adversarial process. How do you maintain composure in high stress situations?

Alana



Roadmap



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Outside the Courtroom

- As a junior prosecutor is it ever appropriate to comment on an ongoing case in a professional or personal capacity?

Julie

- I was always told that “You never stop being a “Deputy District Attorney.” What is and is not appropriate to post on personal social media (related or unrelated to your work)?

Alana



Outside the Courtroom

- There are tons of law enforcement discounts out there, in your opinion does it apply to prosecutors?

Julie

- Is it ever okay to flash your credentials to get into an event or venue that's not a crime scene?

Julie

- Is it ever okay to accept gifts from victims families or from another entity? What's an example of something that could not be accepted?

Shawn



Roadmap



**Inside
the
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**Outside
the
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**Professional
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Mentors / Professional Relationships

- For new prosecutors who have yet to find a mentor, how would you suggest they get to know senior attorneys in the office?

Brittany

- When you're in a prosecution office, you don't have to go out and network to get cases. How do you feel about prosecutors getting involved in state or local young lawyer bar organizations?

Julie



Mentors / Professional Relationships

- How can prosecutors develop and maintain good working relationships with the criminal defense bar? Is it really just about winning and losing?

Alana

- Should everyone be encouraged to intern on both sides before becoming a prosecutor or defense attorney?

Shawn



Final Thoughts

- Nothing is more important than your credibility.
Brittany

Johnson, Victor S., National District Attorney's Association, *The Prosecutor*, *Advice for New Prosecutors* (November/December 2007).





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