



Swimming with Sharks, The Sequel

When: August 25, from 12:00PM - 2:00PM

Where: Zoom

Summary: The Maine Commission on Public Defense Services invites you to attend a training on adolescent development with Dr. Stephen Thorne and Prof. Christopher Northrop. This two hour CLE will cover the basics of the science behind adolescent development and how defenders have utilized this science in representing children and emerging adults accused of criminal behavior. Our session will focus on how to effectively use this science in defending sex charges and building voluntariness arguments for the suppression of police interrogations.

*The course title is a nod to Prof. Abigail Baird who, long before *Roper v. Simmons*, came to Maine to train defenders, judges, and prosecutors about adolescent development. Her work here led to a significant sea change in our delinquency courts. One of her most effective and most memorable bits was *Swimming with Sharks*.

Admission Restrictions: To attend this training, you must be eligible to accept PDS case assignments or a student at Maine Law.

Registration: Register [here](#).

Cost: Free!

CLE: This training has been approved by PDS for CLE credit and is eligible for payment in accordance with [Chapter 301-A](#). This training is approved by the Board of Overseers for two hour of CLE credit.

Faculty Biography

Northrop, Christopher:

Professor Christopher Northrop started defending system involved youth over thirty-five years ago. After a number of years in private practice concentrating on indigent defense work, Chris joined the faculty at the University of Maine School of Law. In 2006 he developed and launched their Youth Justice Clinic, a program he directed for 16 years. Chris has been involved with the Gault Center since its inception; he was part of Gault's first cohort of Youth Defender Advocacy Program (YDAP) certified trainers. He was recertified as a YDAP trainer last year. Additionally, Chris has served as a consultant for the Gault Center's assessments of statewide juvenile defender systems in twelve states. In 2018 Professor Northrop was awarded the Robert E. Shepherd Jr. Leadership Award for Excellence in Juvenile Defense. Chris is a graduate of Grinnell College (1983) and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law (1989).

Thorne, Stephen A.:

Stephen A. Thorne, PhD is a licensed psychologist in Austin, Texas, where he works in a private practice setting, and performs forensic evaluations, consults in legal cases, and provides court testimony. He has testified in civil and criminal cases for over 20 years, including in both state and federal court, about issues relating to civil commitment of sex offenders, risk assessment, sexual recidivism, competency to stand trial, sanity, sentencing, mental retardation/intellectual disability, trauma, brain development, psychiatric diagnoses and impairment, interview techniques in child sexual abuse investigations, issues/dynamics commonly seen in alleged cases of child sexual abuse, the relationship between child pornography consumption and sexual offending, transfer to adult court, and child custody. Dr. Thorne has co-authored journal articles and book chapters addressing forensic issues, served as a consultant for multiple state agencies, taught graduate-level courses in group therapy and psychological assessment, spoken at various continuing education conferences/seminars, and supervised doctoral students seeking training in the area of forensic psychology.