

**March 6, 2025 at Noon Virtually**

**Law & Psychology Committee Presents:  
Juvenile Capacity to Proceed: The New Law  
with Robert Cochrane, PsyD, ABPP and Peter Kuhns, PsyD**

This presentation will review the new North Carolina statute pertaining to juveniles' capacity to proceed. The statutory requirements for evaluations and reports will be discussed. There will also be review of the credentialing standards and procedures for evaluators as well as the remediation process for those juveniles deemed incapable to proceed.

**Fee:** NCPA Members - \$20.00; Non-members - \$45.00

**Instructional Level:** Intermediate

**Educational Format:** Lecture with PowerPoint slides

**Learning Objectives:**

**By the end of the institute, participants will be able to:**

1. identify the new standard for capacity to proceed for juveniles and at least four required elements of the forensic report,
2. name the four standards for becoming credentialed as a court appointed evaluator of a juvenile's capacity to proceed, and
3. name at least two elements of capacity remediation.



**Instructors:**

**Dr. Bob Cochrane** is the Statewide Director of Forensic Services for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, where he oversees the planning and implementation of forensic services in North Carolina. He previously served as the training director for the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, and he worked for 21 years for the Federal Bureau of Prisons where he was the internship training director and forensic evaluator at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina. Dr. Cochrane is board certified in Forensic Psychology. He is past president of the American Academy of Forensic Psychology, former board member and examination faculty for the American Board of Forensic Psychology, and a member of the North Carolina Psychology Board.



**Dr. Peter Kuhns** is the Director of Clinical Services and Programs for the NC Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (DJJDP), where he oversees the social work, behavioral health, and medical health services within all state run DJJDP secure custody facilities. Dr. Kuhns began his career in 2003 as a psychologist at C.A. Dillon Youth Development Center where he worked with adjudicated youth who had primarily had charges of sexually aggressive behavior. He accepted a promotion in 2010 to serve at Central Prison in Raleigh, NC as the Psychological Program Manager. At Central Prison he served for two years in the inpatient behavioral health center and then transferred to oversee the treatment services in the outpatient prison population where he worked with the populations on death row, restrictive housing, and general population. He transferred back to DJJDP in 2017 and has worked closely with Divisional leadership to improve treatment delivery in the legislative sphere, policy and training, and direct care in facilities.

**Continuing Education Information:** This workshop is sponsored by the North Carolina Psychological Association (NCPA). NCPA is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer Continuing Education (CE) for psychologists. NCPA maintains responsibility for this program and its content. **This workshop is offered for 1 hour of Category A credit.**

**Attendance Requirement for CE Credit:**

To receive CE credit, you must attend the entire workshop. No credit will be given to participants who are more than 5 minutes late at the beginning of the workshop. You must be present at the close of the workshop and sign-in and sign-out. You may not be excused early. Partial credit is not provided.

**Citations:** Available upon request.