



NEWS FROM:
Office of the Public Defender
Matt Shirk, Fourth Judicial Circuit
www.MattShirkPublicDefender.com

Contact: Matt Bisbee, Public Information Officer (904) 718-3616 or MPB@PD4.COJ.net

‘Veterans of the Court’ Draws Upwards of 70 Attorneys

PD Office Program Features Presentations from Area Legal Leaders, Free Education Credits

Jacksonville, FL (November 7, 2011): Public interest lawyers and private attorneys alike are the beneficiaries of a day-long, Continuing Legal Education seminar that featured some of Northeast Florida’s leading and most distinguished practicing attorneys. The Law Office of Public Defender Matt Shirk hosted ‘Veterans of the Court’ in the auditorium of their new office building on November 3, 2011. The event attracted members of the Clay, Jacksonville and Nassau County Bar Associations as well as numerous Assistant Public Defenders; more than seventy people attended some portion of the seminar.



The presentations at ‘Veterans of the Court’ covered several facets of the law with different experts speaking in their areas of expertise. Those included; Hugh Cotney, P.A. *Ethics and Professionalism*, Richard Kuritz, P.A. *Jury Selection, Opening and Closing*, Keynote Speaker William ‘Bill’ Sheppard, P.A. *Veterans Issues and Constitutional Law*, David Robbins, P.A. *DUI Defense*, Bryan Gowdy, P.A. *Preservation of Error*, Tad Delegal, P.A. *Administrative Issues with Pleas and Convictions*, and Hal Bennett, Defense Investigator and retired JSO ‘*A View from the Badge.*’

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The seminar was organized and emceed by Chief Assistant Public Defender Refik Eler (pictured at the podium). He indicated that the PD Office intends to offer similar CLE programs in the future; “we had a great turnout and we have received positive feedback on our Veterans of the Court event. Our office truly appreciates those who took time from their busy schedules to share their knowledge and expertise with the attendees. Also, I want to thank those who took advantage of the free educational opportunities and we hope regularly offer similar events.”

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