



HISTORY

The Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan (CDAM) was formed in 1976 by criminal defense attorneys from around the State for the purpose of providing an educational and resource sharing forum for criminal defense practitioners in Michigan.

MISSION

TO PROMOTE EXPERTISE in the area of criminal law, constitutional law and procedure and to improve trial and appellate advocacy; and to improve the quality of legal representation for persons brought into the criminal and quasi-criminal justice system.

TO EDUCATE the bench, bar and public of the need for quality and integrity in defense services and representation; and to promote enlightened thought concerning alternatives to the present criminal justice system.

TO GUARD against erosion of the rights and privileges guaranteed by the United States and Michigan Constitution and laws.

CDAM LEGAL EDUCATION

- Seminars with a “nuts and bolts” approach to continuing legal education.
- Two and three day training conferences for an intensive refresher approach to continuing legal education, including trial advocacy workshops.
- Five-day residential Trial College advocacy training.
- Evidence Boot Camp all-day continuing legal education seminar.
- One-day Summer Training on cutting edge legal issues.

CDAM ACTIVITIES

- Appear as Amicus Curiae in important precedent setting cases.
- Contribute legal expertise to death penalty issues in Michigan.

CDAM ADVOCACY

- Monitor legislative changes through the developing CDAM legislative network.
- Represent the criminal defense bar’s views before state and legislative bodies.