

Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies

June 1-5, 2009

Sanibel Harbour Resort, Ft. Myers, Florida

Neuroscience in the Florida Courtroom: *Illusion or Reality?*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Are brain scans more or less reliable than other scientific evidence?

Is it a legitimate defense to claim that a tumor or a brain injury “*made me do it?*”

Can neuroscience be used to prove competence or lack of capacity?

Can brain scans prove factual innocence or guilt?

Who should have access to information about our brains?

How should juries and judges assess neuroscientific information since most behaviors are driven by brain systems that we cannot control?

What does neuroscience reveal about eye-witness identification?

After examining the core approaches and recent developments in neuroscience and brain imaging, attendees of this course will explore how these developments impact legal proceedings and judicial decision-making. Hands-on problem-solving exercises, based on actual cases and controversies, provide the attendees with the opportunity for challenging analysis and practical application of this fascinating scientific and legal synthesis!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Summarize the basic elements and core approaches of neuroscience.
- Distinguish between the potential and the limitations of neuroscience in the context of criminal and civil cases.
- Identify the situations in which brain injury may impact responsibility for criminal behavior.
- Determine whether brain imaging evidence is relevant and should be admitted.
- Analyze evidence in order to make informed decisions on legal issues that involve neuroscientific matters.

COURSE LENGTH

Thursday, June 4: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FACULTY

Adina Roskies, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

Barry R. Schaller

Former Associate Justice, Connecticut Supreme Court, Hartford, Connecticut