

Outline
(Times listed in Central)

Table with 3 columns: Time, Session Title, and Presenter/Facilitator. Rows include Session 1 (8:30), Break (10:00), Session 2 (10:15), Lunch (12:00), Session 3 (1:00), Break (2:00), Session 4 (2:15), and Program Evaluation (4:00).

Objectives

- 1. Evaluate the legal considerations when opening and maintaining a private mental health practice.
2. Determine the potential role of mental health professionals in legal proceedings related to client care.
3. Assess client confidentiality issues and when clinicians are obligated to disclose protected health information.
4. Determine how to navigate the legal and ethical issues related with the use of technology as related to clinical practice, and considerations during a public health crisis.
5. Investigate recent changes to the law that affect mental health services, providers, and patients.
6. Differentiate and determine various options when presented with high-risk clients and situations.

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Target Audience:
Psychologists • Social Workers
Marriage and Family Therapists
Counselors • Risk Managers
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As a mental health professional, you not only deal with critical clinical matters with your clients – you must also stay up-to-date on seemingly **ever-changing laws and procedures**. Keeping up-to-date is essential in order to protect your clients and yourself. At this comprehensive one-day seminar you will gain an understanding of confidentiality, risk management, recent legislation and trends in mental health law in Illinois, guardianship, commitment, practical legal options-and more, that will help you stay on top of issues that arise in everyday clinical situations.

## Speakers

**Joseph T. Monahan, M.S.W., A.C.S.W., J.D.**, is the founder of **Monahan Law Group, LLC** and one of the preeminent mental health law attorneys in Illinois. Under Mr. Monahan's direction, Monahan Law Group, LLC provides legal services to over 80 hospitals and numerous mental health clinics, child welfare agencies, and social service agencies. In addition to professional clients, the firm also represents individuals at all levels of administrative and judicial proceedings.

Mr. Monahan has tried countless guardianship, mental health, and child welfare cases over the past 34 years. From confidentiality of mental health records to same-sex adoption, Mr. Monahan has successfully argued cases at every level of the Illinois court system, including the Illinois Supreme Court. He has been appointed by the court to represent persons with disabilities in complex or extraordinary mental health cases. His background as a social worker makes him acutely aware of the legal issues that impact social service professionals and the people they serve. He currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of the NASW Risk Retention Group, the malpractice insurance company for social workers, and has been an active member of NASW for decades.

Speaker Disclosures:  
Financial: Joseph Monahan receives compensation as co-founder and partner with Monahan Law Group, LLC, and as adjunct professor of law from Loyola University College of Law Health Care Institute. He receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.  
Non-financial: Joseph Monahan is a member of the Chicago, Illinois, and the American Bar Association. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers.

**John W. Whitcomb, J.D.**, joined Monahan Law Group, LLC on January 5, 2015 and became a partner in 2018. Mr. Whitcomb has over 25 years of experience representing clients in State and Federal trial and appellate court. Prior to joining Monahan Law Group, LLC, Mr. Whitcomb was a Senior Attorney at Equip for Equality for 15 years. In his capacity as Senior Attorney, Mr. Whitcomb represented clients in issues relating to guardianship, the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act, the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code, and community placement of disabled individuals in the community. Mr. Whitcomb also represented clients in abuse and neglect proceedings in juvenile court.

Mr. Whitcomb is the recipient of the 2012 Recipient of Access Living's "Lead On!" Award, and LAF's 1996 and 1994 Equal Justice Award. Mr. Whitcomb is the former and currently Chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Mental Health and Disability Law Committee. Mr. Whitcomb has a Teacher Training Certificate with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and has trained other lawyers in trial advocacy and deposition taking. John teaches Mental Health Law for Children as an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Speaker Disclosures:  
Financial: John W. Whitcomb is a partner with Monahan Law Group, LLC. He receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.  
Non-financial: John W. Whitcomb is a member of the Chicago Bar Association and Illinois Bar Association. He chairs the Chicago Bar Association Mental Health and Disability Law Committee.

**Joseph C. F. Willuweit, J.D.**, joined Monahan Law Group, LLC on November 11, 2016. Mr. Willuweit concentrates his practice in mental health law and confidentiality, risk management, health care law, professional licensure, and representing mental health and social services professionals in private practice. Prior to Monahan Law Group, Joe interned in the general counsel's office at a Chicago-area hospital and a national health care professional association. Additionally, he interned for the City of Chicago and volunteered at the Pro Se Adult Guardianship Help Desk for the Cook County Circuit Court. Mr. Willuweit currently serves as the Program Liaison for the Cook County Civil Mental Health Pro Bono Pilot Program.

Speaker Disclosures:  
Financial: Joseph C. F. Willuweit is an associate attorney with Monahan Law Group, LLC. He serves as the Program Liaison for the Cook County Civil Mental Health Pro Bono Pilot Program. Mr. Willuweit receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.  
Non-financial: Joseph C. F. Willuweit is a member of the Chicago Bar Association and Illinois Bar Association. He is also a member of the Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys.

**Monique C. Patton, J.D.**, joined Monahan Law Group, LLC on January 14, 2019. Ms. Patton's practice consists of complex litigation, risk management, mental health law and confidentiality, health care law as well as guardianship and probate matters. Prior to Monahan Law Group, Monique was an Assistant State's Attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She was initially assigned to the Criminal Appeals Division, where she authored approximately two dozen appellate briefs on various criminal law issues and successfully presented oral arguments before the First Judicial District of the Appellate Court of Illinois. After the Criminal Appeals Division, Monique was assigned to the Juvenile Justice Bureau Child Protection Division. While in Child Protection, she skillfully litigated contested abuse and neglect trials involving physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect caused by mental illness, drug and alcohol addiction and inadequate supervision or medical care. Subsequently, Ms. Patton served in the Juvenile Delinquency Division. In this division, Monique gained significant experience in motion practice and trial litigation.

Speaker Disclosures:  
Financial: Monique C. Patton is an associate with Monahan Law Group, LLC. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.  
Non-financial: Monique C. Patton is a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Cook County Bar Association and Illinois Bar Association.



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**Illinois Marriage & Family Therapists:** PESI, Inc. has been approved as a provider of continuing education by the State of Illinois, Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation. License #: 168-000156. Full attendance at this course qualifies for 6.0 credits.

**Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and Clinical Nurse Specialists:** PESI, Inc. is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Nurses in full attendance will earn 6.0 contact hours. Partial contact hours will be awarded for partial attendance.



**Illinois Psychologists:** CE credit is available. PESI, Inc is an approved provider with the State of Illinois, Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation. License #: 268.000102. Full attendance at this course qualifies for 6.0 contact hours.

**Social Workers:** PESI, Inc., #1062, is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved as ACE providers. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. PESI, Inc. maintains responsibility for this course. ACE provider approval period: January 27, 2020 - January 27, 2023. Social Workers completing this course receive 2.0 Clinical Practice and 4.0 Ethics continuing education credits. No more than 6.0 total CE hours may be awarded for this activity. Course Level: Intermediate. Full attendance is required; no partial credits will be offered for partial attendance. A certificate of attendance will be awarded at the end of the program to social workers who complete the program evaluation.



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