



NDA's 2025 Conference on Child Abuse

September 9-11, 2025
Sonesta Columbus Downtown
Columbus, Ohio

*Attendees must wear their name tags to all events.
Please turn off cell phones during all sessions.*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF INSTRUCTION*

DAY 1: Tuesday, September 9, 2025:

8:00 AM	Check-in and Registration
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Welcoming Remarks <i>Allysa Gambarella</i>
9:15 – 10:30 AM	Finding Your Beat, the Rhythm of Life <i>Tim Eggebraaten</i>
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 – 12:00 PM	AHT Awareness and Prevention: Successful Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration <i>Melissa Kelly & Danielle Vazquez</i>
12:00 – 1:15 PM	Lunch (on your own)
1:15 – 2:30 PM	House of Horrors: The Path from Darkness to Justice - Zulock Case Study <i>Alicia Chandler & KristiLee Cavoretto</i>
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Break
2:45 – 4:00PM	Is the Sky Really Falling or are the Courts Chicken Little: A Review of Recent Appellate Decisions on the Validity of the AHT Diagnosis <i>Matt Torbenson</i>
4:00 – 5:00PM	Effective Use of Motion Practice in Child Abuse Cases <i>Melissa Kelly</i>

Adjourn for the day.



DAY 2: Wednesday, September 10, 2025:

- 8:30 – 9:45 AM Child Torture as a Form of Child Abuse: A Guide for Recognition and Response
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Behavioral Analysis Unit – Crimes Against Children
- 9:45 – 10:00 AM Break
- 10:00 – 11:15 AM Child Torture Case Study
John Gillespie
- 11:15 – 12:00 PM Understanding the Importance of Child Abuse MDTs
Det. Mike Johnson (Ret.)
- 12:00 – 1:15 PM Lunch (on your own)
- 1:15 – 2:30 PM Building a Multi-Disciplinary Team from the Ground Up with Moderated Discussion
Chris Daniel, Allysa Gambarella, Det Mike Johnson (Ret)
- 2:30 – 2:45 PM Break
- 2:45 – 4:00 PM Cross Examination of Defense Experts in Child Abuse Cases
Matt Torbenson
- 4:00 – 5:15 PM Sustaining the Flame: Avoiding Burnout in Special Victims Cases
Alicia Chandler & KristiLee Cavoretto

Adjourn for the day.

DAY 3: Thursday, September 11, 2025:

- 9:00 – 10:15 AM Is Minimal Facts Interviewing Really Best Practice
Det. Mike Johnson (Ret.)
- 10:15 – 10:30 AM Break
- 10:30 – 11:45 AM Direct Examination of Child Abuse Experts
Robert Rodemeyer
- 11:45 – 12:00 PM Closing remarks

Course Concludes.



* Please note that this is a tentative schedule. Course titles, content and speakers may be subject to change.

No part of this schedule may be duplicated by any means. No audio or videotaping of any presentation is allowed during this course. Statements, points of view or opinions stated during this course or in publications distributed during the course are those of the speakers or authors and do not represent the official position of the National District Attorneys Association. Information dealing with a specific legal matter should be researched in original and current sources of authority.