ANNUAL REPORT 2024



NATIONAL CRIMINAL DEFENSE COLLEGE

MISSION

Pursuing justice by delivering the highest standard of trial skills training, through a diverse faculty, to criminal defense attorneys across the United States to ensure that people accused of crimes are represented by client-centered, trial-focused, and zealous counsel.

Pursuing justice by preparing defense counsel to recognize and confront racism and bias in the criminal legal system.

Pursuing justice by inspiring and empowering a diverse community of criminal defense attorneys to transform the criminal legal system to ensure due process of law, effective assistance of counsel, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures, and equal protection of law for all people.

VISION

We envision a world in which all individuals who come in contact with the legal system are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness, regardless of wealth, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, or status in any marginalized group.



ABOUT US

The National Criminal Defense College (NCDC) was incorporated in 1985 by a dedicated group of committed and talented criminal defense attorneys from all over the United States. Since then, NCDC has empowered over 9,000 defense attorneys with transformative trial-skills training through its comprehensive Trial Practice Institute and shorter weekend programs on specific trial skills topics, all staffed by faculty who are talented and successful courtroom lawyers, trainers and coaches.

We believe that those facing criminal accusations by their governments, the consequences of which are often life-shattering, deserve to be represented by client-centered, trial ready, zealous counsel dedicated to the highest caliber of legal defense.

Today NCDC is the premier and longest-established provider of trial skills training for criminal defense practitioners in the United States.

The functions of the chief executive and operating officers are performed by the Deans of the College. The College is governed by a Board of Regents.



DEANS' REFLECTION



The 2024 Deryl Danzler Trial Practice Institute was an enormous success. Over two sessions, we trained 255 participants from all over the country as well as Tbilisi, Georgia and St.Thomas, Virgin Islands. We also welcomed a visiting faculty member, Daniel Gonzalez Stier, from Argentina.

In the fall,we hosted 25Participants who zoomed in from around the country to participate in our online cross examination Program. Our yearly forensic cross examination program was rescheduled to January, 2025 (See Below). In the spring, we returned to our roots and hosted 70 participants at our popular Cross-Examination program in Macon, Georgia at Mercer University School of Law. We simultaneously honored Daryl Dantzler and all of her contributions to NCDC, the law school where she taught for many years and her tireless pursuit of justice. with bench dedication on the lawn of the law school.

DEANS' REFLECTION CONTINUED...

2024 Programming

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DEANS' REFLECTION CONTINUED...

Looking Ahead

2025 began with quite a bit of excitement as NCDC welcomed a new Operations Manager, Brett Equals, following the departure of the fabulous Frances Boyes. Brett joins us with a ton of experience, great innovative ideas and an incredible work ethic. Since his arrival, NCDC has been busy!! We traveled to Miami to the University of Miami School of Law to run NCDC's Forensics Cross Examination program in partnership with the Innocence Project. We had lectures, demos and on your feet breakout sessions utilizing a case problem involving toolmark evidence,that was shell casings from a firearm. The goal of the program is to teach a host of portable chapters of cross that will ultimately be useful in cases involving a variety of forensic disciplines.

The following week, NCDC was back on the road in Jackson, Mississippi with a brand new program, NCDC's Trial School, focused on basic trial skills. In a few short weeks we will head to Iowa City for our awesome Cross-Examination program. The year is off to an amazing start!

As we step into our final summer in Fairfax, VA. I am excited that the search committee for our next location for the Trial Practice Institute is hard at work and that we hope to announce the new location soon.

As I look down the road, I am extremely excited about the future of the College! For the first time in many years, NCDC is expanding programming, while our arts faculty is growing in leaps and bounds thanks to the generous financial support from an anonymous donor. We are also looking to support under-resourced areas of the country with our new and successful Trial School.

I am humbled and proud to lead this remarkable organization!

- *Karen*

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Meet Our New Faculty



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Robert Bank



Amelia Blyth



Kim Green



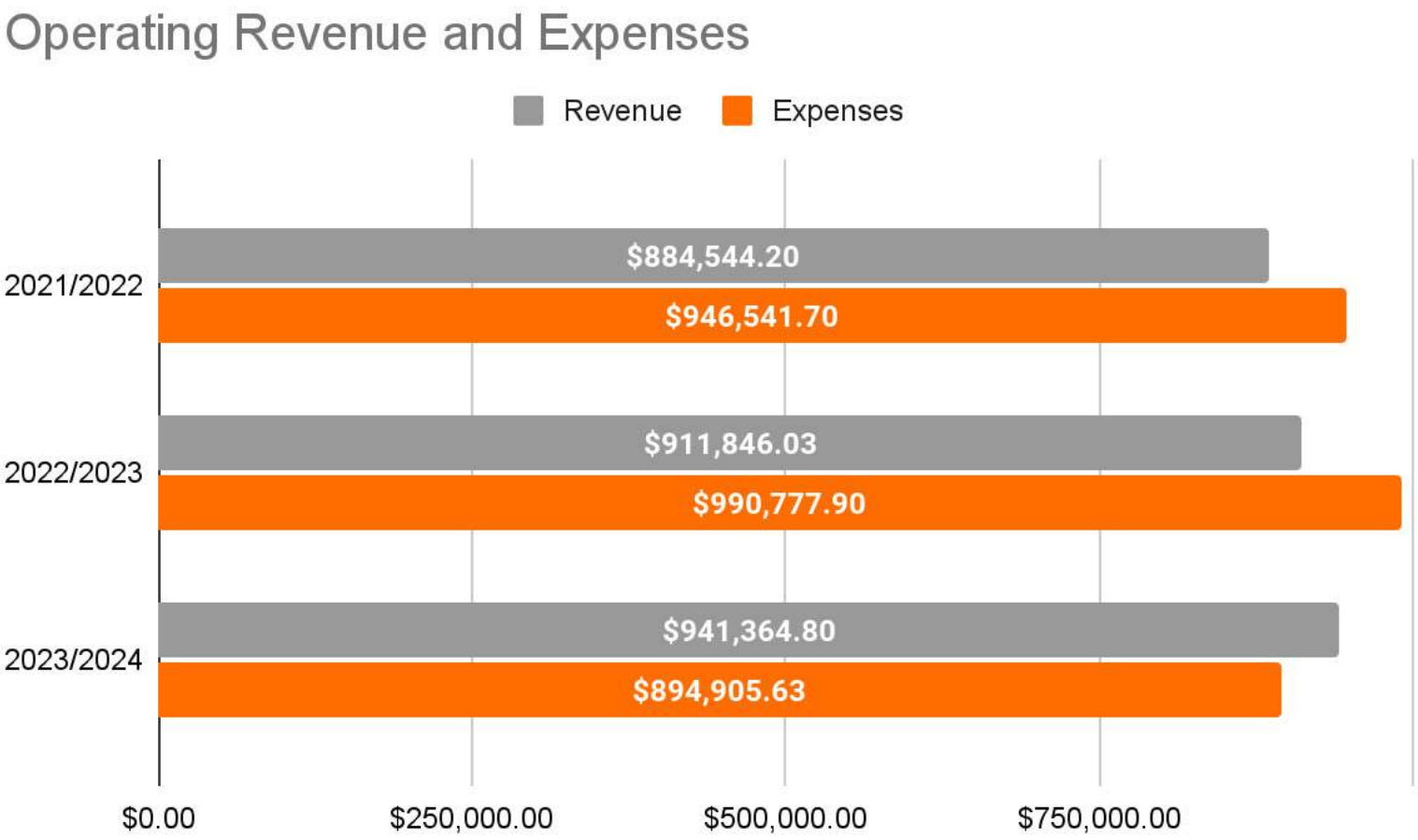
Sylvie Levine



James Rael



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



PROGRAMS

DERYL DANTZLER TRIAL PRACTICE INSTITUTE

The newly renamed Deryl Dantzler Trial Practice Institute is the original, transformative, two-week trial skills program designed exclusively for criminal defense practitioners. In place for over 35 years, NCDC is proud to call over nine thousand criminal defense attorneys its alumni.

SHORT PROGRAMS

IN PERSON & ONLINE CROSS WORKSHOPS

For decades, NCDC has presented weekend workshops that teach NCDC's trial-tested cross-examination techniques.



TPI
THE DERYL DANTZLER
TRIAL PRACTICE INSTITUTE

2024

Graduates: 253

Deryl Dantzler Scholarships:
$40,837

ACTL Scholarships:
$35,000

60% WOMEN

37% LAWYERS OF COLOR

48% PUBLIC DEFENDERS

21% FEDERAL DEFENDERS

21% PRIVATE DEFENDERS

10% MILITARY DEFENDERS



NCDC CROSS-EXAMINATION WORKSHOP

Macon, GA

66% WOMEN

37% LAWYERS OF COLOR

54% PUBLIC DEFENDERS

24% FEDERAL DEFENDERS

20% PRIVATE DEFENDERS

2% MILITARY DEFENDERS



NCDC ONLINE CROSS EXAMINATION WORKSHOP

54% WOMEN

38% LAWYERS OF COLOR

50% PUBLIC DEFENDERS

25% FEDERAL DEFENDERS

25% PRIVATE DEFENDERS

0% MILITARY DEFENDERS



NCDC & THE INNOCENCE PROJECT FORENSIC CROSS-EXAMINATION WORKSHOP

Miami, FL

50% WOMEN

25% LAWYERS OF COLOR

58% PUBLIC DEFENDERS

15% FEDERAL DEFENDERS

15% PRIVATE DEFENDERS

12% MILITARY DEFENDERS



NATIONAL CRIMINAL DEFENSE COLLEGE

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025...



MARCH 20-23
NCDC Cross-Examination Workshop
Iowa City, IA

JUNE 15– 28
Deryl Dantzler Trial Practice Institute
Fairfax, VA

JULY 13-26
Deryl Dantzler Trial Practice Institute
Fairfax, VA