

Continuing Legal Education Program
Co-Sponsored by the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County &
Allegheny County Bar Association Federal Court Section

The Honorable Arthur J. Schwab Trial Advocacy CLE

Effective Courtroom Advocacy for Civil and Criminal Trial Practitioners: Cross-Examination and
Trial Tips for Both Beginners and Veterans

(Approved for 2 substantive credits and 1 ethics credit by the PA CLE Board)

**“Integrating Cross-Examination and Your Trial Themes—From the Big Picture to
the Firing Line”**

Joseph J. Mueller, Co-Chair, Trial Practice
WilmerHale

A pragmatic presentation by a national trial lawyer on the role of cross-examination at trial and how to employ it as part of an effective trial strategy. Mr. Mueller has played a leading role in dozens of high-stakes trials in courts across the country. Just since 2020, Mr. Mueller has first-chaired the trial teams in eight trials that each involved billion-dollar stakes, as well as two other trials that each involved multi-hundred-million-dollar stakes.

He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the preeminent professional organization for North American trial lawyers, and he has repeatedly been named among the top 100 trial lawyers in the country by Benchmark Litigation.

“Building Your Cross-Examination Plan as You Build Your Case”

A dynamic panel of experienced trial lawyers who will share their personal approaches and insights to preparing for and conducting cross-examination, as well as a veteran trial judge who will provide his observations from the bench on the importance of a theme-based cross-examination to a successful trial outcome.

Panelists

Kathryn Dyer

*Assistant Federal Public Defender, W.D. PA
Former Clinical Professor of Law, University of Texas*

John Gismondi

Gismondi & Associates

The Honorable Mark R. Hornak

*U.S. District Court
Western District of Pennsylvania*

Tina Miller

Comber Miller LLC

Joe Mueller (moderator)

WilmerHale

“The Rules of the Road-Thorny Ethics Issues Arising During Cross-Examination”

An expert panel which will focus on the ethical issues which may arise during cross-examination and provide a refresher on the relevant ethical rules (civil and criminal) to be aware of and to take into consideration as you prepare for and conduct your cross-examinations.

Panelists

Thomas J. Farrell

*Chief Disciplinary Counsel, The Disciplinary Board of the
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania*

Bethann Lloyd

Burns White

The Honorable Elliot Howsie

Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County

Each year this program focuses on a key aspect of trial preparation and trial advocacy to highlight that the opportunity for effective trial advocacy is present at virtually every stage of litigation.

Thursday, March 12, 2026

8:30am - 12:00pm

Grand Ballroom – 2nd Floor

Pittsburgh Fairmont Hotel

510 Market Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Registration Fees*

\$195 Registration Fee \$140.00 Government Attorney \$75.00 Law Clerk
\$130.00 In practice 5 years or less

For additional information, please contact the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County at academy@atlac.org or call 412.343.9266.

**if paying by credit card, please provide email address below. A small processing feel will be charged.*

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Print Name

Firm/Address

Email *(for sending materials prior to program)*

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