

How to Plan a Supercalifragilistic CLE Event



I. Speakers:

- **BLSE Policy 5.01(a) Standards (3)** be conducted by an individual or group qualified by practical or academic experience.
- Do not have to be Attorneys, i.e. Child Psychologists or Certified Public Accountants.
- **Judges**- including the Judiciary is attractive to members looking for quality presentations.
- **BLSE Policy 5.11 Accreditation Revocation:** CLE credit may be rescinded by the BLSE if it is determined that the course content or speaker credentials do not reflect the accreditation standards in these policies i.e. court-imposed disciplinary sanctions.

II. Topics:

- **General:** current issues that will enhance an attorneys' professional competence and skills.
- **Professional Responsibility:** including professional responsibility topics will bolster attendance as the credits are a factor in completing CLER cycles.
 - **Ethics:** courses that explore standards of conduct in the legal profession.
 - **Bias Elimination:** courses that address standards of conduct in the legal profession related to recognition and elimination of bias, i.e. age, race, gender.
 - **Substance Abuse:** courses that enhance awareness and understanding of substance abuse and dependence disorders.
 - **Mental Illness Awareness:** courses that enhance awareness and understanding of mental illness.
 - **Professionalism:** courses that explore and reflect on the meaning and application of professionalism in the daily practice of law.
- **Technology:** courses that include information on technology tools, programs or applications to assist lawyers in their law practice. Including technology topics will bolster attendance as the credits are a factor in completing CLER cycles.

- **Board Certification:** highest level of evaluation and recognizes special knowledge, skills and proficiency in various areas of law. Advertise certification credits in addition to general credits and more certified members will attend.

- **Topics to Avoid:**
 - Marketing of legal services (except the discussion of ethical restrictions on marketing & advertising)
 - Increasing profitability
 - Networking with prospective clients
 - Training on non-legal presentation skills, writing, financial management, or organization skills
 - Marketing of technology consulting services

III. Recommendations:

- Topics should be relevant to attorney's knowledge and experience
- Detail a summary of intent of program
- Provide a thorough description of topics being addressed
- Avoid programs for paralegals only- no credit
- Advertise all credits being awarded: general, professional responsibility, technology and board certification
- Make it social, i.e. Lunch and Learn with Judges
- Advertise through Committee Chairs, Communications Managers and Social Events
- Host free events to boost membership