A TEACHING RESOURCE FOR PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS

VIEW FROM THE JURY BOX:

Clark v. Stover

A Psychiatric Malpractice Mock Trial

CAST

LIZA GOLD, MD in the role of Defendant Psychiatrist, Dr. Joanna Stover

Liza H. Gold, MD is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Georgetown University Medical Center and has a private practice in general and forensic psychiatry in Arlington, Virginia. She is the co-editor of the American Psychiatric Publishing Textbook of Forensic Psychiatry, and has edited and authored a number of books, book chapters, and peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Gold has twice won the American Psychiatric Association and American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Guttmacher Award for best contribution to forensic psychiatric literature. She has also won the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Seymour Pollack Award for outstanding contributions to the field of forensic psychiatry. She teaches and lectures nationally on a variety of subjects, including psychiatric disability evaluations and psychiatric evaluations in employment litigation. She has authored numerous articles and book chapters on these and other clinical and forensic psychiatric topics.

JEFFREY METZNER, MD in the role of Defense Expert, Dr. John Jones

Jeffrey L. Metzner received his M.D. from the University of Maryland Medical School in 1975 and completed his psychiatric residency at the University of Colorado’s Department of Psychiatry during 1979. He is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, Colorado, where he is also Associate Director of the forensic fellowship program.

Dr. Metzner has written extensively on the psychiatric care of prison populations. He has provided consultation to judges, special masters, monitors, state departments of corrections, city and county jails, U.S. Department of Justice, the National Prison Project, and others involved in the field of correctional psychiatry in over 38 states. Dr. Metzner was a member (2006) of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Ethical Considerations for Revisions to DHHS Regulations for Protection of Prisoners Involved in Research.

Dr. Metzner remains very active at the national level in the American Psychiatric Association (APA), the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. (ABPN). He is a former president of AAPL. He is a former chair of the American Psychiatric Association’s Council on Psychiatry and Law and a former chair of the APA’s Committee on Judicial Action. Dr. Metzner is a chair of the ABPN’s committee that writes the questions for the forensic subspecialty board examination.
BARRY WALL, MD in the role of Plaintiff’s Expert, Dr. Elliott Greene

Dr. Wall received a B.S. in Biology from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C. and received his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, S.C. He completed residency training at the Brown Medical School Residency Program in Psychiatry in Providence, Rhode Island and completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Dr. Wall is Director of the Forensic Service at Eleanor Slater Hospital in Cranston, Rhode Island and is in the private practice of psychiatry in Providence. He is Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at Brown Medical School and is on the faculty of Brown University’s Center for Biomedical Ethics. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in both psychiatry and forensic psychiatry. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Wall has expertise in psychotherapy, psychopharmacology and forensic psychiatry. His publications focus on forensic issues, including disability and competency to stand trial. He has interest in mental health and forensic services in the public sector and has had leadership roles in local and national professional societies.

ANN MCNARY, JD in the role of Plaintiff, Mary Carter Clark
Senior Risk Manager, PRMS

Ms. McNary received her BA in Political Science from the University of Kansas and her JD from Washburn University School of Law. Following four years in private practice, Ms. McNary served eight years as in-house counsel at Kansas Medical Mutual Insurance Company (KaMMCO) working in both the claims and risk management departments. She later served as Vice President, Risk Management for NCRIC, Inc., a Washington D.C. based medical professional liability insurance carrier. She has written and lectured extensively on various healthcare law and risk management topics.

SCOTT HAMMER, ESQ. in the role of Defense Counsel
Of Counsel, Wilson Elser, Chicago

Scott Hammer is one of the few attorneys in the country who focuses on the defense of mental health professionals in medical malpractice cases. Scott became well-known is this field through his work on psychiatric cases in the 1990s involving multiple personality disorder and repressed/false memories, including the famous Patricia Burgus case.

In his current practice, Scott handles malpractice cases arising from suicides, alleged boundary violations, adverse reactions to medications, and breach of confidentiality claims. He has extensive experience and frequently represents mental health professionals in licensure matters before the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and in ethics hearings before various professional associations’ ethics committees. He also provides counseling on risk management issues such as the duty to warn and has handled Medicare compliance audits as well.
As an authority in his field, Scott frequently presents risk management lectures to professional organizations, mental health institutions and graduate students in the field of psychiatric counseling, and he has held leadership positions on the Mental Health Law Committees of the Illinois State and Chicago Bar Associations.

MICHAEL ZIDEK, ESQ. in the role of Plaintiff's Counsel
Of Counsel, Wilson Elser, Chicago

Michael Zidek has conducted a diverse civil defense practice throughout his career, with a focus on medical malpractice, lawyer and other professional liability, and general liability litigation. Michael strives for an early and economical resolution through settlement or motion whenever possible, but also has the skills and experience to take a case to trial if needed to meet client objectives.

In the medical malpractice area, Michael regularly defends long-term acute care facilities in claims primarily arising from respiratory issues, the development of decubitis ulcers, or the worsening of a patient’s medical overall condition. He also has represented and tried cases on behalf of surgeons, obstetricians, radiologists and other physicians involving a variety of medical malpractice claims. Michael and his colleagues frequently mentor and coach younger associates on the medical malpractice team regarding case handling strategies and lessons learned.

Michael has a strong background in the professional liability field as well, defending numerous attorneys in claims involving a range of underlying issues from patent law to divorce law. His experience also includes the representation of real estate title agents, architects and other construction professionals. In addition, Michael has handled construction accident litigation, general and trucking liability cases, and admiralty/maritime law matters.

MICHELLE BERAULT, ESQ. in the role of the Judge
Associate, Wilson Elser, Chicago

Michelle Berault focuses her legal practice on complex medical malpractice and psychiatric malpractice defense. Her clients are primarily hospital administrators, nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists and other mental health professionals.

Over her ten-year career, Michelle also has gained experience in drafting and negotiating independent contract agreements and other related agreements for mental health professionals, including non-compete agreements, independent contractor agreements, consent agreements, policies and procedures, waivers and consent to treatment. In addition, she has experience with respect to risk management matters and advising clients on both ethical and legal issues relating to voluntary and involuntary admissions to long-term care facilities and hospitals, medical and legal power of attorney and “do not resuscitate” orders.

Before she became an attorney, Michelle worked as a legal and regulatory analyst for a telecommunications company where she was heavily involved in the day-to-day legal transactional support for the Midwest region. Today she works full-time while balancing family life with a variety of
volunteer activities. Michelle serves as a board member for The John Marshall Alumni Association, speaking on panels concerning networking and professional development, attending alumni-student functions, serving on committees and volunteering her time to mentor law students.

DAVID CASH, JD, LLM in the role of Moderator
Assistant Vice President, Risk Management PRMS

Mr. Cash joined PRMS after serving as an Assistant Public Defender for several years in the Mental Health Division of Maryland’s Public Defender Office. He provided trial consultation and representation in cases involving significant mental health issues and represented clients in civil commitment proceedings. Mr. Cash has been responsible for educating professionals on a variety of mental healthcare topics, including training defense attorneys to represent mentally-ill/developmentally disabled clients. He also worked as a paramedic on the critical care transportation team of a major hospital.

Mr. Cash received his law degree from Quinnipiac College School of Law and his Master of Laws in Health Law from DePaul University School of Law. He speaks nationally on risk management and insurance topics and coordinates educational presentations for The Program’s Online Education Center.