

Decision Analysis for Lawyers I: Introducing the Basics

UC College of Law
Room 204

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Continental Breakfast at 8:30; Program: 9:00 – 5:00 p.m.
(6.5 CLE hrs. applied for, approval anticipated)

Participants will learn the basics of decision analysis through a practical, interactive, hands-on presentation designed for lawyers or mediators (even the most math phobic). The method's underlying logic will be natural to anyone who thinks about risks and results when assessing a case and discussing it with a client. The math is arithmetic, accessible to a third grader. Through a series of exercises and problems, *everyone* will master the "how to's" of decision tree analysis for simple cases, and will see its application in more complex cases. We will also discuss the ethics of using decision analysis, how to avoid potential for manipulation and distortion in the method.

Agenda

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| 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. | Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. | Why Trees When We've Been Making Decisions and Muddling Through Without Them?! Assumptions, Assertions, and Disclaimers. |
| 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | THE BASIC HOW To's!!!! Interactive Lecture |
| 12:00 – 12:45p.m. | Lunch |
| 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. | Building and Checking Defense-Plaintiff's Trees |
| 1:45 – 2:45 p.m. | The Values and Limits of Decision Trees |
| 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. | More Trees and Applications in a Decision Tree and Counseling Exercise; Debriefing and Demonstration on Both Sides. |