

Webinar Series
Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Capital Litigation Initiative:
Crime Scene to Courtroom Forensics Training

Webinar #11: “Cognitive Bias Essentials”

- I. Introduction
 - A. Welcome
 - B. Speaker introduction
 - C. How to participate in the Chat Feature

- II. Decision Factors and the Court
 - A. Challenging task
 - B. Decisions based on partial evidence
 - C. Perception factors that affect decisions

- III. Expert Opinions and Cognitive Bias
 - A. Ideal expert characteristics
 - B. The human element
 - Defense/Prosecution perspectives
 - Cognitive bias
 - C. Examples of cognitive bias
 - D. Current research
 - Studies
 - Impact on forensic science disciplines

- IV. Hierarchy of Human Performance
 - A. Conclusions
 - Biasability between
 - Biasability within
 - Reliability between
 - Reliability within
 - B. Observations
 - Biasability between
 - Biasability within
 - Reliability between
 - Reliability within

V. Taxonomy

A. Influencing factors

- Case specific information
- Environment, culture and experience
- Human nature

B. Hierarchy

- Case evidence
- Reference materials
- Irrelevant case information
- Base rate expectations
- Organizational factors
- Training and motivation
- Cognitive architecture and the brain

Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Capital Litigation Initiative:
Crime Scene to Courtroom Forensics Training

This project was supported by Grant No. 2015-CP-BX-K006 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.