

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: The Use and Abuse of  
Expert Witnesses”**

**Learning Objectives**

After viewing this webinar, you will be able to:

- Compare and contrast the impact of subjective judgment and implicit cognitive bias in expert decision making
- Explain the relationship between bias blind spot and the illusion of control
- Define the term cognitive neuroscience
- List at least three factors that can influence expert decision making
- Explain how irrelevant case information can negatively impact expert decision making
- Discuss how the linear sequential unmasking approach can mitigate cognitive bias in decision-making
- Summarize factors that can help determine whether or not expert witness opinions are supported by data and/or evidence
- Describe strategies for recognizing suspect/target driven bias

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