

**Missouri Office of Prosecution Services,
The Greene County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
&
Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center**



When the Victim is Absent ... or reluctant ... or recanting A Step by Step Guide From Booking to Trial

**September 30, 2025
9 AM to 4 PM**

**Mid-States Organized Crime
Information Center**

2255 West Sunset Blvd
Springfield, MO 65807

See page 2 for
registration link
to copy) paste
into your browser

This class is designed for prosecutors and investigators as an instructional guide for preparing and trying a case when victim is unwilling or unable to assist with the investigation or prosecution. Victim advocates, support staff and other allied professionals are also invited to attend.

PLEASE NOTE Persons needing special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should notify MOPS at catherine.vannier@prosecutors.mo.gov or (573) 644-2409 on or before September 1, 2025.

When the Victim is Absent

In this class, presenters will offer information & guidance while weaving their own case studies and case studies from around the state into the conversation, while seeking audience participation on how to put the best case forward.

9 AM to 10 AM: Why Should We Care & What to Look For

10 AM to 11 AM: Prepping the Case, Gathering Evidence

11 AM to 12 PM : Witnesses & Pretrial Motions

1 PM to 2 PM: Jury Selection & Opening Statements

2 PM to 3 PM: Presentation of Evidence & Closing Argument

3 PM to 4 PM: On Fighting the Good Fight

Please Note!

Course materials will be electronically mailed to all registered participants via a web link a few days prior to the session.

This training will be CLE and POST certified for 6 hours continuing education credit.

To register please copy & paste this link into your browser:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/xxpagw9>

or find the link at [Event Calendar](#)

About the Presenters

Emily Shook Emily is the First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney of the Domestic Violence Unit in Greene County, Missouri. She has been an assistant prosecutor for 15 years . Emily has tried all types of criminal cases, including homicides, domestic assaults, sex offenses, drug offenses, and serious traffic matters. Emily currently serves as a community leader in the areas of prevention and prosecution of domestic violence. She is on the Leadership Team for the Greene County Family Justice Center and the Board of Directors for the Harmony House Domestic Violence Shelter. Emily was also one of the featured community experts on domestic and intimate partner violence in the Springfield Daily Citizen's 6 month long in-depth report on domestic violence in Greene County, which included numerous interviews, public forums and participation in roundtable discussions with community stakeholders in the fight to protect families and vulnerable individuals in Southwest Missouri.

Catherine Vannier After almost 11 years as a line prosecutor, Catherine became the first ever MOPS Family Violence Resource Prosecutor. For more than 18 years, Catherine has developed and expanded the program, continually adapting and improving her presentations based on feedback from past audiences. Catherine serves as an appointed member of the Missouri Supreme Court's Commission to Combat Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence. Catherine currently chairs the Risk Assessment Subgroup for the Commission. Catherine also staffs the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' Best Practices Special Victims Sub-Committee. As the Special Victims Resource Prosecutor, she also sits on several other groups and committees, acting as a liaison between prosecutors and our allied professionals.

Questions? Catherine Vannier
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(573) 644 2409