



# SUPPORTING CLIENTS IN CRISIS: TRAUMA-INFORMED LEGAL PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION COURSE

## DELIVERY METHOD:

Three online modules and 1 day onsite intensive- 9 am to 5 pm

## PROGRAM DETAILS:

The Trauma-Informed Legal Professional Certification is the first of its kind- offering legal professionals the tools to work with clients in crisis and to safeguard themselves from the impacts of secondary trauma. This certification blends trauma-informed care theory with real-world application customized to the realities of what lawyers and their clients face in navigating legal systems and judicial realities.

The National Center for Equity and Agency offers the only Trauma-Informed Law Certification for attorneys and law firms in the United States. This certification goes far beyond trauma-informed 101 and gives participants a number of unique advantages:

- Participants leave as distinguished experts in how trauma impacts their clients and how to use TI principles for self-preservation and sustainability.
- Legal professionals who use these practices can increase client satisfaction, improve case outcomes, increase client retention and referrals.
- Certified professionals differentiate their practice and become the go-to source for referrals from advocates in their area while sharing with potential clients a core reason to choose them as their representation.

Read the program's featured article in Law360 magazine [here](#)

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion participants will be able to:

- Explain what the neurobiological impacts of trauma are and how they intersect with client response.
- Describe the 5 core tenets of trauma-informed lawyering.
- Use coping and compartmentalizing strategies to improve side-effects from vicarious/secondary trauma.
- Create clear messaging around what being a trauma-informed certified attorney is/is not for marketing, networking, and lead generation purposes.

## ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Laura McGuire is a nationally recognized sexuality educator, trauma-informed specialist, inclusion consultant, and founder of The National Center for Equity and Agency. She has worked as an instructor, presenter, educator, consultant, and trainer. In 2015, she served as the first Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Program Manager at the University of Houston, and in 2017, she became the first Victim Advocate/Prevention Educator at the US Merchant Marine Academy. In both roles, she worked simultaneously as a victim-advocate and restorative practice provider for respondents. As a survivor navigating the legal system, Dr. McGuire saw the major gaps between what research showed and what those reporting experienced. She utilizes her experience and scholarly expertise to give insight and actionable tools to attorneys and providers across the country.

## SCHEDULE

Online Module Topics	In-Person Intensive 9 am-5 pm
Understanding Trauma-Informed Care	Welcome and Meeting & Greet
Types of Trauma	Unconscious Bias
Intersectionality & Inclusion	Restorative Practices & Mediation
Vicarious Trauma & Resiliency	Co-regulation & Effective Communication
Application of ACE Scores and Polyvagal Theory	Case Study Exercises
De-escalation	Resiliency & Spoon Theory
	The Trauma-Informed Workplace
	Using Your Certification
	Graduation Closing Activity

## SOURCES

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Gohara, M. S. (2018). In defense of the injured: How trauma-informed criminal defense can reform sentencing. *Am. J. Crim. L.*, 45, 1.

Katz, S., & Haldar, D. (2015). The pedagogy of trauma-informed lawyering. *Clinical L. Rev.*, 22, 359.

Levin, A. P., & Greisberg, S. (2003). Vicarious trauma in attorneys. *Pace L. Rev.*, 24, 245.xt