



Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Section – 2006

I6 Science, Law, and the SVP Controversy

*Amy Phenix, PhD**, PO Box 325, Cambria, CA 93428; *David Hackett, JD**, District Attorney, Washington State SVP Civil Commitment Program; *Michael J. Aye, JD**, 117 J Street, Suite 202, Sacramento, CA 95814-2212; *Dennis Carroll JD**, Office of the Public Defender, Washington State, 5724 35th Avenue NE; Seattle, WA 98105; and *Mohan Nair, MD**, 433 North Camden Drive, Suite 600, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

After attending this presentation, attendees will understand the SVP Civil Commitment laws and processes; assessment instructions such as the STATIC 99.MNSOST-R, SORAG; and paraphilias.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by demonstrating the relevant controversies of commitment programs from both a psychological and legal perspective.

Few issues in a community draw the kind of concern that sex offenders do. An increasing number of states (and nations) have instituted programs aimed at identifying and civilly committing those perceived as being at high risk to repeat violent sexual crimes. Critics see the programs as sacred cows, driven by fear rather than pragmatism and riding slipshod over civil liberties and backed by questionable science. The workshop will give a balanced education on this issue for the mental health, the legal community as well as for individuals who work with sex offenders.

Sexually Violent Predators (SVP), Paraphilia, Psychopathy