

BAD CHARACTER

COURSE INFORMATION

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the principles, procedures, and practical implications of introducing bad character evidence in criminal proceedings. Delegates will examine relevant legislation under the Criminal Justice Act 2003, including statutory gateways, case law developments, and the delicate balance between admissibility and prejudice.

We know that bad character frequently arises in trials at both the Magistrates and Crown Court. Often focus is placed on defendant's bad character and ambiguity arises about the parameters and sources of information required for applications. Non-defendant's bad character can sometimes be an afterthought later at trial particularly as a tactical move.

As with all our courses we develop our subject matter to focus in on the practical tips for handling such challenges. Our emphasis on ensuring a defined strategic approach throughout the life of a case to withstand scrutiny.

Delegates will focus on how bad character evidence can impact throughout the course process. By understanding how such evidence is dealt with during evidence in chief and cross examination it will provide delegates with context in which the nature of material gathered can influence trial outcomes.

We will also cover safeguarding of non-defendants' bad character applications as well as remit under the Act. Handling of disclosure in terms of previous convictions, safeguards and processes.

Through practical case studies and guided analysis, attendees will develop an in-depth understanding of effective and practical application of using bad character effectively.

AUDIENCE

Suitable for investigators, legal professionals, and criminal justice practitioners, this course supports confident, lawful, and effective decision-making around one of the most challenging areas in evidential practice.

training@consiliumtrainingandsupport.co.uk
www.consiliumtrainingandsupport.co.uk

Registered Office: Upper Floors, 2 New Rents, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1JH
Company Number: 14696816 - Registered in England and Wales

COURSE LENGTH AND DELIVERY METHODS

The course is a one-day event. It can be delivered virtually or in-person.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Gather effective bad character evidence.
- Align bad character evidence with appropriate Gateways.
- Define tactical considerations for prosecution and defence.
- Draft effective MG16s and applications.
- Define an effective trial strategy.
- Have confidence in using bad character evidence efficiently.
- Develop effective safeguarding measures, processes and procedures.