

# On Trial with Judge Kazanjian

*An intensive, comprehensive thirteen-week course in the law of trial technique*

*On Trial with Judge Kazanjian* is an unparalleled learning opportunity for the attorney who is preparing for or currently engaged in trial practice. Judge H el ene Kazanjian of the Massachusetts Superior Court guides practitioners toward confident, practical mastery of trial technique and the law of trial evidence. Taking this course gives you a deep knowledge of the skills and experience required for trial practice—insight that can only come from an in-depth, expert examination of the actual trial process.

In addition to a careful discussion of trial technique and tips, each weekly meeting includes an hour-long observation of actual trials in progress. Participants have the opportunity to discuss and observe first-hand motion practice, impanelment of juries, arguments concerning directed verdicts, closing arguments, and the judge’s charge. As the program proceeds through active discussion in the judge’s lobby and clinical courtroom observation, enrollment is limited to ensure the greatest degree of individual participation.

## Agenda

- The Theory of Relevance; Logical and Legal Relevance; Burdens and Standards of Proof; the Prima Facie Case; the Burdens of Production and Persuasion
- Trial Preparation; Interrogatory and Deposition Practice; Video Depositions; Physical Examinations, Requests for Entry on Land, and Requests for Admission; Litigation Support Services; Preparation of Charts, Summaries, and Demonstrative Aids; Preparation of the Trial Book
- Motion Practice; Forum Shopping; Presumptions and Judicial Notice
- Trial Procedures: Jury Impanelment; Objections and Making the Record; Motions for Directed Verdicts; Requests for Jury Instructions and Findings and Rulings; Time Limits; Role of the Courtroom Clerks and How They Can Help You
- Courtroom Techniques: Direct and Cross-Examination; Impeachment and Grounds for It
- Arguments at Trial; Opening Statement; Timing; Closing Argument; Argument in Rebuttal
- The Theory of the Rule Against Hearsay
- Experts and the Law of Expert Testimony
- Evidentiary Foundations; the Submission and Use of Tangible Evidence
- “Ask the Judge” Q&A Session

## Instructor

HON. H EL ENE KAZANJIAN is an associate justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court. She was appointed to the bench by Governor Charlie Baker on April 21, 2016. Judge Kazanjian earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Stanford University in 1982. She then completed a J.D. at Boston University School of Law in 1986. After graduating from law school, Judge Kazanjian began her legal career as a law clerk for Hon. William G. Young of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The following year, she entered into private practice, working as a civil litigation association at Goodwin, Proctor & Hoar. Judge Kazanjian worked in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Washington D.C. from 1991-1994, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Maine from 1994-2010. From 2010 until she was sworn in as a Superior Court judge, Judge Kazanjian served as chief of the Trial Division at the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office. Judge Kazanjian has also taught evidence and trial practice at Boston College Law School and New England Law | Boston.

## Dates & Location

Register at [www.mcle.org](http://www.mcle.org)

### ORIENTATION

Tuesday, September 10, 2024  
4:00 pm–5:30 pm

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 17 & 24, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am  
Tuesday, October 1 & 8, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am  
Tuesday, October 15, 2024  
1:00 pm–3:00 pm  
Tuesday, October 22 & 29, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am  
Tuesday, November 5, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am  
Tuesday, November 12, 2024  
1:00 pm–3:00 pm  
Tuesday, November 19, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am  
Tuesday, December 3, 2024  
8:30 am–10:30 am

### FINAL MEETING

Tuesday, December 10, 2024  
4:30 pm–6:00 pm

Suffolk County Superior Court  
Judge Kazanjian’s Lobby  
Courtroom 1015—10th Floor  
3 Pemberton Square, Boston

Program # 2250104P01

## Tuition *(includes written materials)*

- \$1,495
- \$1,345.50 MCLE Members
- \$747.50 New Lawyers admitted to law practice within 5 years, Pending Admittees, and Law Students

This limited-enrollment program is not included in the MCLE OnlinePass.

To apply for a need-based scholarship, email [scholarships@mcle.org](mailto:scholarships@mcle.org).

## Materials

*Massachusetts Superior Court Civil Practice Manual*, plus speaker materials

- Complimentary print book for all registrants

## CLE Credits

Earn up to 25 CLE credits