

# **NATIONAL DEFENDER TRAINING PROJECT 2017 PUBLIC DEFENDER TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

University of Dayton School of Law, Dayton, Ohio  
Friday, June 2, 2017 to Wednesday, June 7, 2017

## **A MISSISSIPPI CLOSING ARGUMENT**

**by Kendall Hill**

1. Deny committing the crime
2. State your theme and theory
3. Tell the jurors what's at issue and what's not at issue
4. Humanize your client
5. Tell the story of your case
6. Address reasonable doubt and presumption of innocence
7. Address any other relevant jury instructions
8. Pose questions for the prosecutor
9. Apologize for any offense
10. Conclusion – Go back to your theory of defense; tell the jurors what you want