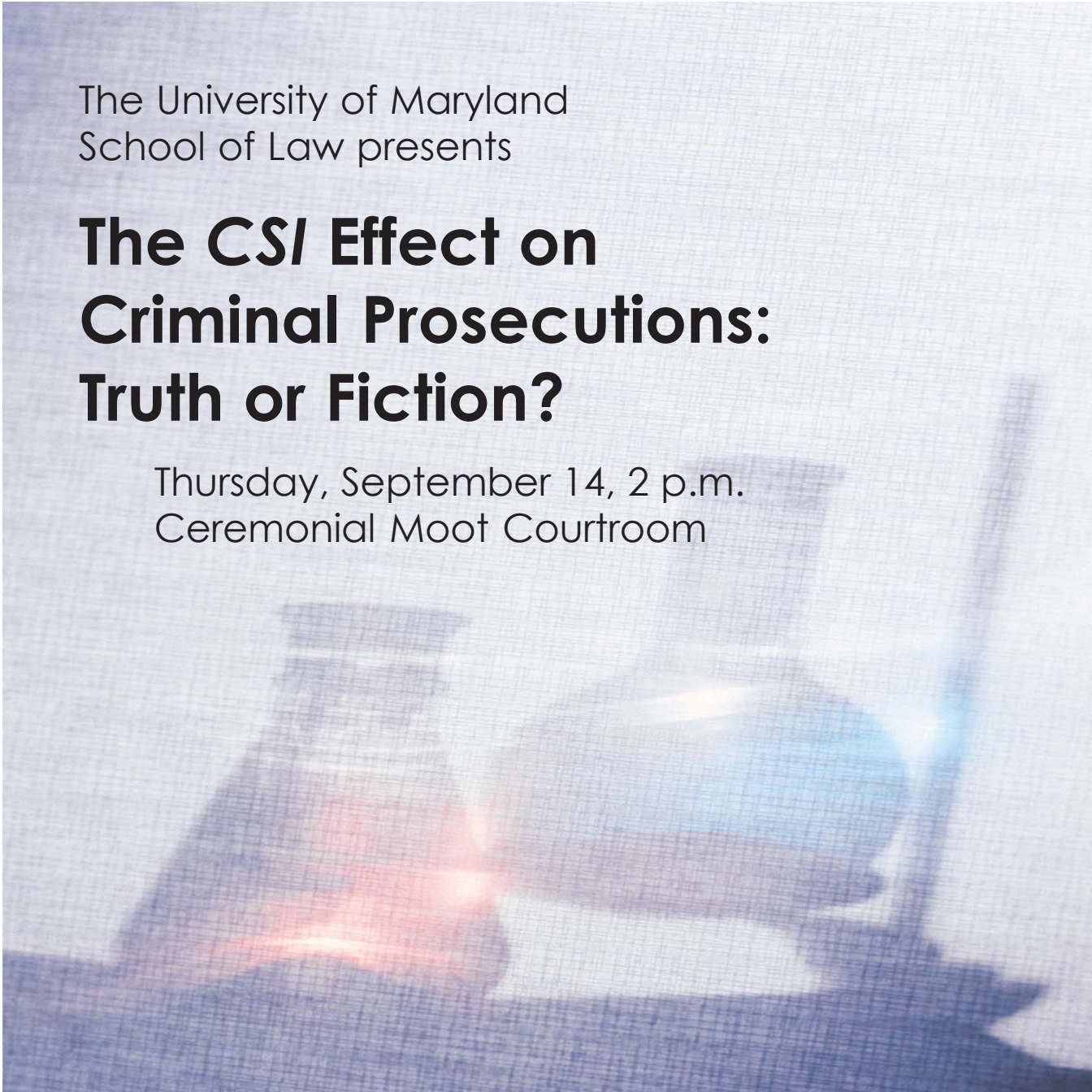


The University of Maryland
School of Law presents

The CSI/ Effect on Criminal Prosecutions: Truth or Fiction?

Thursday, September 14, 2 p.m.
Ceremonial Moot Courtroom



The CSI Effect

“CSI,” short for Crime Scene Investigation, is a top-rated television show on CBS whose popularity has spawned two spin-offs as well as similar shows on other television networks. In a classic example of the blurring of fiction and reality, some criminal prosecutors and academics now claim that these shows are adversely affecting prosecutions nationwide. They argue that exposure to these television shows generates expectations about the availability and importance of forensic evidence in establishing guilt or innocence, and jurors who are fans of these programs enter the courtroom with these expectations. Not everyone agrees that there is a “CSI Effect,” and even those who believe it exists disagree about whether the “CSI Effect” is a good or bad thing in criminal trials.

As part of its “Linking Law and Arts” initiative, the University of Maryland School of Law is hosting a discussion on the effect of these programs, what Maryland prosecutors and criminal defense attorneys are doing to combat jurors’ expectations, and the pitfalls of over-reliance on forensic evidence.



This program is funded in part by a generous grant from the France Merrick Foundation to the University of Maryland School of Law's *Linking Law & Art Series*.

Program Schedule

2 p.m. Introduction and Welcome

Taunya Lovell Banks, JD

*Jacob A. France Professor of Equality Jurisprudence and Francis & Harriet Inglehart Research Professor of Law,
University of Maryland School of Law*

2:15 p.m. Panel Discussion

Is there a "CSI Effect?" If so, does it operate in favor of the defense or the state?

The Prosecution

Paul W. O'Connor, Esq.

*Office of the State's Attorney
Baltimore, MD*

The Defense

Kenneth W. Ravenell, Esq.

*Partner
Schulman, Treem, Kaminkow, Gilden & Ravenell, P.A.*

The Empirical Evidence

Diane Hoffmann, JD

*Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Director of the Law & Health Care Program and Professor of Law
University of Maryland School of Law*

4 p.m. Panel Discussion

Are there pitfalls in relying on forensic evidence in proving guilt or innocence?

The Forensic Specialists

W. Lawrence Fitch

*Director of Forensic Services, Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration
Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Maryland
School of Medicine
Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland School of Law*

Robert T.M. Phillips, MD, PhD

*Medical Director, Forensic Consultation Associates, Inc.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Maryland School
of Medicine
Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland School of Law*

The Judge

The Honorable Paul W. Grimm

*Chief Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the
District of Maryland
Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland School of Law*

5:30 p.m. Reception in the Atrium

**To RSVP, please call 410-706-2067 or visit
www.law.umaryland.edu/CSI**

Additional Information

DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

From I-95 take route 395 (downtown Baltimore) and exit on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Turn right at fourth traffic light onto Baltimore St. Turn left at second traffic light onto Paca St. Go 1/4 block and turn right into the Baltimore Grand Garage at 5 N. Paca St. The law school is directly across the street from the garage, at the corner of Paca and Baltimore Streets. Parking fees are the responsibility of the participants.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require special accommodations to attend or participate, please provide information about your requirements to Lu Ann Marshall at 410-706-4128 (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice) at least five business days in advance.

