

## **Clinical Practice Section Forensic Subcommittee**

Forensic psychology involves applying psychological methods, research and expertise in the legal system. Since 2001, the American Psychological Association has recognized that forensic psychology is a specialty area in psychology. According to the APA, forensic psychology “is the professional practice by psychologists within the areas of clinical psychology, counseling psychology, school psychology, or another specialty recognized by the American Psychological Association, when they are engaged as experts and represent themselves as such, in an activity primarily intended to provide professional psychological expertise to the judicial system.”

The Forensic Subcommittee of the Clinical Practice Section at IPA hopes to serve as a resource to the broad membership of IPA and specifically to forensic psychologists in the following ways:

- 1) Educate IPA members about the roles and functions a forensic psychologist might perform
- 2) Highlight and inform IPA membership about best practices for psychologists when facing matters that might lead to interaction with the legal system including, but not limited to, the jurisdictions of criminal, civil or family court, delinquency, abuse and neglect.
- 3) Offer peer support to IPA members who are forensic psychologists as defined by the APA and the current version of the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists.
- 4) Provide opportunities for continuing education credits specifically in the area of forensic psychology.