

# THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO

The ADR Department of The Bar Association of San Francisco presents



**ADR Speaker Series presents**

## Breaking the Cycle

How Trauma Informed Principles are Transforming Prisons  
Across California

**Friday  
October 17, 2025**

MCLE Registration: 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Virtual Program: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
Q & A: 1:00 – 1:15 p.m.

### Speaker



#### **Fritzi Horstman**

Founder and Executive Director, The Compassion Prison Project

This program explores the intersection of trauma, incarceration, and restorative justice through the work of the Compassion Prison Project (CPP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming prisons into centers for healing. Fritz Horstman, Founder and Executive Director of CPP, will present on the organization's trauma-informed approach to reducing recidivism and fostering rehabilitation within California's prison system.

Participants will learn about the neuroscience of trauma and its impact on behavior, how Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) correlate with incarceration, and the role that education, empathy, and trauma-responsive practices can play in breaking the cycle of criminality. The program will also highlight CPP's initiatives for both incarcerated individuals and prison staff—addressing unhealed trauma and PTSD through workshops, circles, and peer-led support structures.

Attendees will gain insights into restorative justice principles and how trauma-informed frameworks can inform legal advocacy, mediation, and sentencing alternatives. The content is particularly relevant for lawyers and mediators working in criminal law, juvenile justice, reentry services, prison law, and alternative dispute resolution.

### Topics

- Understand the link between childhood trauma and patterns of incarceration
- Learn how trauma-informed interventions are being applied in California prisons
- Explore how restorative justice practices and trauma healing reduce recidivism
- Examine implications for attorneys and mediators in criminal and restorative justice contexts
- Gain tools for identifying and addressing trauma in clients or parties to a dispute

### MCLE: 1 Hour

To receive MCLE credit, you must sign in during the designated MCLE registration period. This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California. BASF is a certified provider. Provider #103

**Pre-registration is required.**

### Location

Virtual

Zoom link will be provided prior to the program

### Cost

Free for BASF Law Student  
\$60 BASF Member  
\$75 Non-Member

All are welcome. For half or full scholarships, please write to Jared Fontenette at [jfontenette@sfbar.org](mailto:jfontenette@sfbar.org).



Live Webcast available, register at [www.sfbar.org](http://www.sfbar.org)



Webcast Recording will be available.  
Register separately on our online platform.

### Special Requests:

People with disabilities should contact BASF regarding reasonable accommodations at [adr@sfbar.org](mailto:adr@sfbar.org).



Register online: [www.sfbar.org/calendar](http://www.sfbar.org/calendar)

**Event Code** ADR252044