

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS IN ATTORNEYS

Early Stages

- **Professional:** client neglect, unreturned phone calls, late for depositions, cancelled appointments, numerous "sick" days
- **Legal:** 1st DUI, open container, disorderly conduct
- **Ethical:** late for hearings, "technical" trust violations (reconciliations, ledger cards,) "last minute" filings, failure to diligently prosecute/defend

Late Stages

- **Professional:** failure to come to the office and/or appear for hearings, intoxicated in court, unprofessional appearance/hygiene, inappropriate mood (depressed, angry, withdrawn,) abandonment of practice
- **Legal:** 2nd DUI+, controlled substance charge, domestic violence
- **Ethical:** Substantive trust violations (misappropriation), statute of limitations violations, dishonesty to tribunal